#### Working Wounded:

# Preventing and Managing Professional Burnout and Impairment

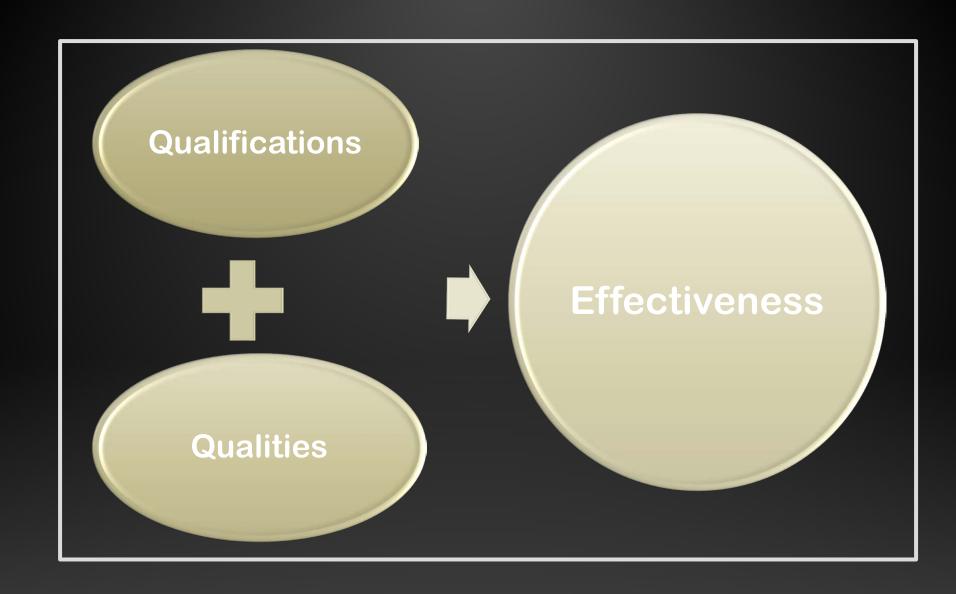
Terrence D. Walton, MSW, CSAC

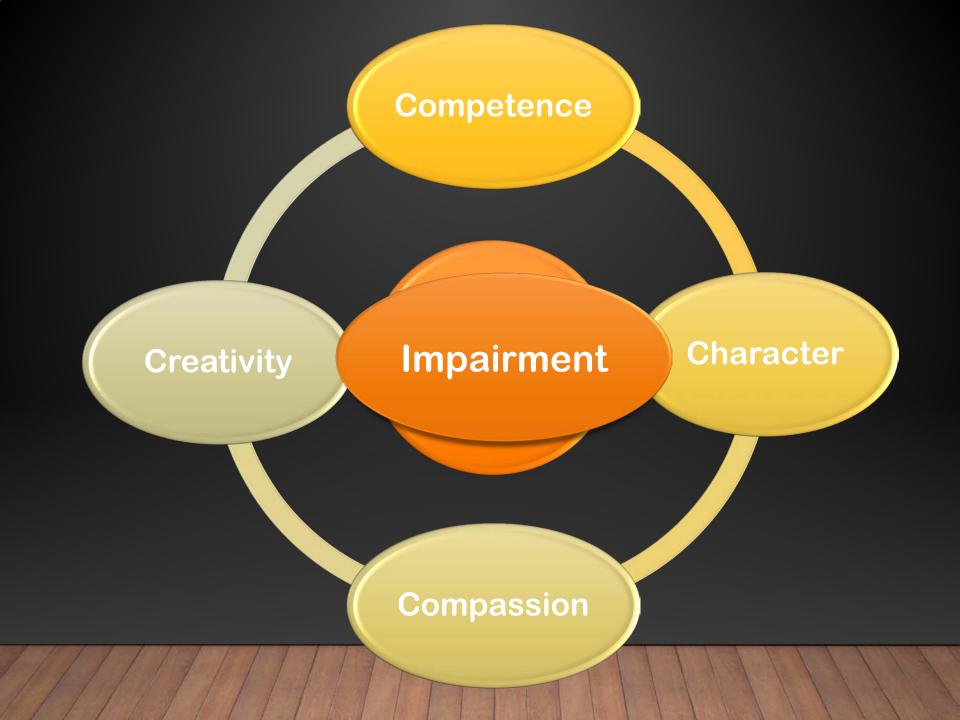
**Chief Operating Officer** 

**National Association of Drug Court Professionals** 

#### HERE'S WHAT'S COMING

- 1. Job Effectiveness & Satisfaction
- 2. Impairment
- 3. The Disorders
- 4. The Warning Signs
- 5. The Train Wreck
- 6. Wellness





#### TWO ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE SKILLS



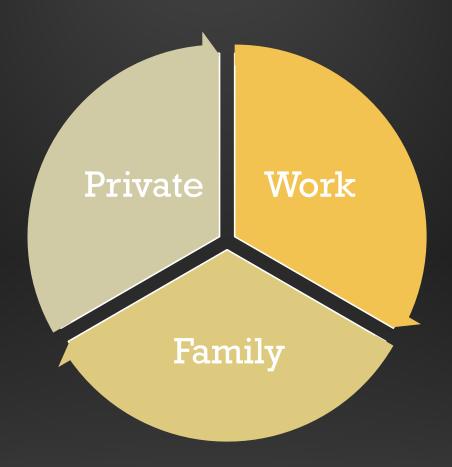
Burnout is a state of emotional, mental, physical exhaustion caused by excessive and prolonged stress.

#### Stress and Burnout

### Too Much or Not Enough

An impaired professional is one who has an illness or problem that prevents him or her from adequately performing required occupational duties.

#### IMPAIRMENT ARENAS



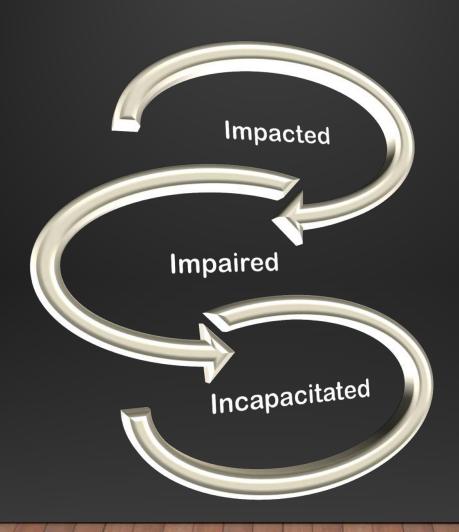
#### PROFESSIONAL IMPACT

Not as good as I used to be

Not as good as I could be

Not as good as I need to be

#### IMPAIRMENT LEVELS



#### SOURCES OF IMPAIRMENT



#### **Disorders**

- Depression
- Drinking

#### **Dysfunction**

- Delinquency
- Divorce

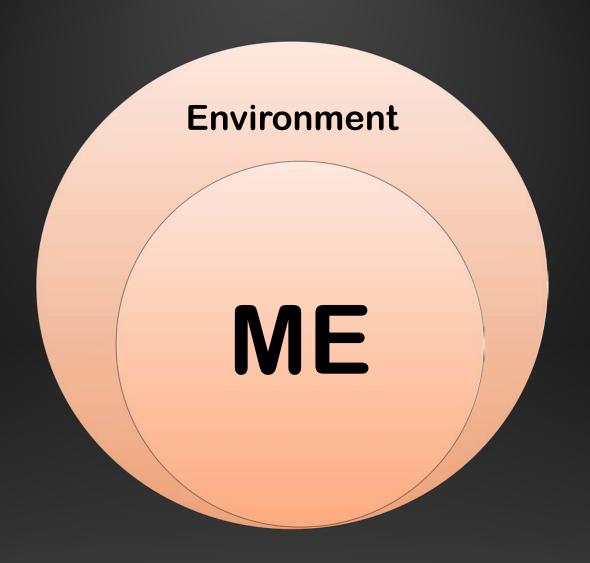
#### **Drama**

- Disputes
- Disarray

#### 7 WORK-RELATED CONTRIBUTORS

- 1. Excessive, un-realistic demands
- 2. Monotony
- 3. Compassion fatigue
- 4. Bullied or rejected
- 5. Workplace conflict
- 6. Lack of mechanisms for resolution or venting
- 7. Triggering events (counter transference)

#### AND ONE MORE...





#### 10 WARNING SIGNS

- Increased incidence of professional errors; missed deadlines; procrastination
- 2. Shows decreased concern for customers, colleagues, or company
- 3. Increased complaints about the work product; quality of service or manner, style, and tone of communications

#### 10 WARNING SIGNS

- 4. Increasingly negative
- Increased absence from work or work social functions
- 6. Frequently disappears for extended periods during the day
- 7. Deterioration of personal hygiene and/or appearance

#### 10 WARNING SIGNS

- 8. Appears exhausted, sleep deprived or distracted
- 9. Crying spells or uncharacteristic outburst
- 10. Appears under the influence at work

#### **FIVE WAYS TO WRECK YOUR CAREER**

- 1. Deny
- 2. Deflect
- 3. Deceive
- 4. Detach
- 5. Detonate

#### AND ONE MORE...

# Mellness

# Act responsibly in defense of your own health and wellness.

#### FIVE WAYS TO PRESERVE YOUR CAREER

- 1. Decompress
- 2. Deliberate
- 3. Depend
- 4. Delegate
- 5. Deposit

#### GET SUPPORT

- Employee Assistance Program
- Human Resources
- Professional Treatment
- Faith Community
- Support Groups
- Trustworthy Colleague
- Colleagues

#### Am I My Brother's Keeper?

#### REACHING OUT

- Established, positive working relationship:
  - Raise the issue
  - Encourage them to get help
  - Discuss with trusted colleague or expert
  - Don't gossip
  - Honor your professional obligations

#### HEALTHY COMPANIES...

- Encourage personal wellness and work-life balance
- 2. Create safe environments for staff to acknowledge impairment
- 3. Don't punish disclosure
- 4. Provide support
- Expect the impaired to take responsibility for restoration

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