



The Advocacy Institute Is Pleased to Announce

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

DIVISION OF LAW IN-SERVICE TRAINING

June 28, 2012

9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.¹

**New Jersey State Police Academy
Sea Girt, New Jersey**

Program Summary

The Division of Law will be providing various presentations during this program. The topics and presenters are listed on the following pages. These programs will cover a variety of substantive and ethics topics.

Who Should Attend?

The In-service training is for Division of Law attorneys, Division of Consumer Affairs staff with mandatory CLE obligations, and Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control attorneys **only**. The Advocacy Institute has provided, or will provide, certain of these presentations for other government attorneys. **If you are not a member of these divisions, please do not attempt to register for any of these programs.**

Who Is the Faculty?

See attached.

CLE Credit

NJ CLE Credit: These programs have been approved by the Board on Continuing Legal Education of the Supreme Court of New Jersey for up to 4.0 hours of total CLE credit. Of these, up to 4.0 qualify as hours of credit for ethics/professionalism, and up to 4.0 qualify as hours of credit toward certification in civil trial law and/or workers compensation law.

NY CLE Credit: Up to 4.0 substantive credits and up to 4.0 ethics credits (pursuant to the approved jurisdiction policy).

¹ Registration and breakfast begin at 8:30 a.m.

PA CLE Credit: Up to 3.0 substantive credits and up to 3.0 ethics credits (\$1.50 mandatory registration fee required per credit. **Also, a separate check is needed for each program you attend.**).

How Do I Register?

State Employees

Most State employees are able to register for this course by going to <http://reg.dcj.lps.state.nj.us/login.aspx?portalid=2> and creating an AGAI Course Registration account. To do so, your computer **must** be attached to the government's Garden State Network. Upon opening the AGAI Course Registration System home page, you will see the Create Account link in the Login Box. Click on it and create your account, which will include you selecting a user name and password. Once you create your account, you can access the AGAI Course Registration System at <http://reg.dcj.lps.state.nj.us/login.aspx?portalid=2> to register for future courses or to manage your account. Please retain your user name and password for your records.

Non-State Employees or State Employees not Connected to the Garden State Network

If you are not a State employee, or are otherwise unable to access the AGAI Course Registration System through the Garden State Network, kindly email the Advocacy Institute at: AdvocacyInstitute@lps.state.nj.us for an authorization code to allow you access to the AGAI Course Registration System through the My New Jersey portal. **Setting up your account through the portal is a two-step process, the details of which are set forth in the next two paragraphs.**

Once you receive the portal authorization code you will be prompted to go to the My New Jersey portal at <http://www.state.nj.us/> and create a portal account. This is Step 1 of the process, which you need only do once.

Upon setting up your portal account, you need to set up your AGAI Course Registration System account. This is Step 2. To do so, log on to the My New Jersey Portal <http://www.state.nj.us/>. Upon opening the AGAI Course Registration System home page, you will see the Create Account link in the Login Box. Click on it and create your account, which will include you selecting a new user name and password. Once you create your account, you can access the AGAI Course Registration System at <http://reg.dcj.lps.state.nj.us/login.aspx?portalid=2> to register for future courses or to manage your account. Please retain your user name and password for your records.

2012 DOL IN-SERVICE CLE COURSE OFFERINGS

(Courses Listed Alphabetically)

THE ABC'S OF EMINENT DOMAIN

This presentation will focus on the basic principles of condemnation law. It will be comprised of four basic parts: 1) the power of eminent domain, concept of just compensation and overall purpose of the Eminent Domain Act, *N.J.S.A. 20:3-1 et seq.*; 2) Litigation Phase I: through the final judgment appointing commissioners; 3) Litigation Phase II: through the final judgment fixing just compensation; and 4) the distinguishing features of an inverse condemnation. Approximately four recent condemnation decisions will be woven into the discussion. The presentation is intended for lawyers with limited knowledge of eminent domain law. **(9:40 a.m. to 11:20 a.m.)**

AAG Alvin Ricardo Little currently serves in the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety's Division of Law as the Assistant Attorney General in Charge - Administrative Practice (Newark). He received his law degree in 1982 from the Catholic University School of Law, and after graduation became an associate at the Kraft & Hughes law firm. He worked there as bond counsel until 1984 when he became the New Jersey Department of Transportation's Chief Regulatory Officer. After a few more years as bond counsel – at the Riker Danzig firm - and then after serving as an NJDOT Assistant Commissioner working with independent transportation authorities and overseeing the State's transportation financing authority, Mr. Little became a Deputy Attorney General in the Division of Law in 1991. His assignments at the Division have included condemnation cases, construction claims litigation, environmental cost recovery cases, electric utility rate cases, complex commercial leases, real estate and transit-oriented development transactions, tax appeals, and maritime pilot regulation. Mr. Little has been counsel - either as the litigator who defended, or the transactional lawyer who facilitated – on various major public projects, including: the electrification of the Morris and Essex Rail Line; improvements to the Edna Mahan Women's Correctional Facility; construction and operation of the Hudson Bergen Line Light Rail Project, the River Line Light Rail Project, the Montclair Connection Rail Project, and the Newark Liberty International Airport Monorail Project. Some of the cases he has litigated have resulted in reported decisions, most notably: (a) *DeCamp, Inc. v. New Jersey Transit Corp.*, 396 *N.J. Super.* 151 (Law Div. 2007) (inverse condemnation claim based on state's alleged predatory pricing is not sustainable without plaintiff showing investment backed entitlement to revenue loss); and (b) *Elizabeth Board of Education v. New Jersey Transit Corp.*, 342 *N.J. Super.* 262 (App. Div. 2001) (general grant of power to condemn does not extend to State property, and an express legislative grant of such power is required – even if the State property in question is not in use). As an Assistant Attorney General, Mr. Little now manages the Deputy Attorneys General whose respective sections within the Division of Law represent the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities, the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, and New Jersey Transit Corporation.

DAG George Ljutich is a 1984 graduate of Seton Hall Law School where he served as Notes and Comments Editor of the *Seton Hall Law Review*. He served as a Law Clerk for the Honorable Wilfred P. Diana, Mr. Ljutich has been a member of the Transportation, Construction and Condemnation Section of the Division of Law where he has primarily handled eminent domain

matters for the past 20+ years representing such agencies as NJDOT, the NJ Economic Development Authority, NJ Transit and NJ Schools Development Authority. He has worked with outside counsel representing the Schools Development Authority and other State agencies in condemnation matters and currently serves as Assistant Section Chief of the Transportation, Construction and Condemnation Section. He has participated in a number of condemnation cases that have resulted in reported decisions, most notably: 1) *CRDA v. Hauck*, 162 N.J. 576 (2000) (finding that interest runs from the date of condemnation or taking, not all dates of value); 2) *State v. Weiswasser*, 149 N.J. 320 (1997) (finding that a condemnor may utilize land owned by a third party to cure damages caused by a taking); 3) *State v. Shein*, 283 N.J. Super. 588; *certif. denied* 143 N.J. 325 (1996) (finding that the physical condition of land discovered after the condemnation is filed must be considered by a jury in determining just compensation; and 4) *State v. F & J Partnership*, 250 N.J. Super. 19 (App. Div. 1991) (finding that the value of improvements made in bad faith in anticipation of condemnation is not to be considered in determining just compensation).

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NY CLE Credit: 2.0 substantive credits (pursuant to the approved jurisdiction policy).

PA CLE Credit: 1.5 substantive credits (\$3.00 mandatory registration fee required)

ANATOMY OF A MEDICAL MALPRACTICE CASE

This presentation will guide attendees through all of the major elements of medical malpractice litigation, from screening and case selection to trial. Evaluation of potential claims, discovery and depositions will be emphasized through the use of real-life cases. Relevant statutes, case law and rules of court will be discussed. **(9:40 a.m. to 11:20 a.m.)**

Peter Bergé, Esq. is practices law with the litigation firm of Bendit Weinstock in West Orange, New Jersey, with a focus on medical malpractice. He also represents plaintiffs/claimants in personal injury and workers' compensation cases. Mr. Bergé, is a licensed physician assistant (PA) in New York State. Peter lectures on medicolegal topics at Pace University and to local, regional, national and international healthcare and legal organizations. He has published textbook chapters on medical and nursing malpractice.

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PA CLE Credit: 1.5 substantive credits (\$3.00 mandatory registration fee required).

THE BUDGET CYCLE: FROM BUDGET TO APPROPRIATIONS ACT

The Annual Appropriations Act is, arguably, the most significant act passed by the Legislature each year. This presentation provides an overview of the budget process in New Jersey, from the formulation of budget requests by agencies, through the adoption of the Annual Appropriations Act by the Legislature. It also discusses the role of the Governor, the legislative budget committees and the Legislature in the process. Finally it discusses the constitutional provisions governing the annual appropriations act and how the courts have construed these provisions. **(1:40 p.m. to 2:40 p.m.)**

AAG John P. Bender has been with the Division of Law for 30 years, serving most recently as Deputy Director, AAG in Charge of Administrative Agency Advice, and head of the Administrative Practice Group (Trenton). He counsels state agencies on OPMA questions and, along with AAG Fischer, budget/ appropriations questions. AAG Bender has also represented the Domestic Security Task Force, the Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness and heads the Division of Law On-Call Program.

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NY CLE Credit: 1.0 substantive credit (pursuant to the approved jurisdiction policy).

PA CLE Credit: 1.0 substantive credit (\$1.50 mandatory registration fee required).

ETHICS REQUIREMENTS FOR STATE EXECUTIVE BRANCH EMPLOYEES

This course will examine ethics requirements for employees of the Executive Branch of State government, which includes State departments, agencies, authorities, boards, commissions, colleges and universities. The course will cover the Conflicts of Interest Law, *N.J.S.A. 52:13D-12 et seq.*, ethics rules, *N.J.A.C.19:6.1 et seq.*, the Uniform Ethics Code and ethics-related ethics executive orders. The presentation will address the most recent changes to the State executive branch ethics law and focus on specific subject areas most likely to affect executive branch attorneys, including how to comply with the ethics rules regarding gifts, attendance at events, outside activities, secondary employment, conflicts of interest and post employment restrictions. Ethics requirements will be illustrated with case studies from the files of the New Jersey State Ethics Commission as well as recent court cases of special interest. **This session will satisfy the mandatory ethics training requirement for State Executive Branch employees. (9:40 a.m. to 11:20 a.m.)**

Margaret A. Cotoia, Esq. is the Ethics Training Officer for the New Jersey State Ethics Commission. Since she joined the Commission, Margaret has designed and provided ethics training for State employees and Special State Officers at 26 State departments and over 75 authorities, boards and commissions. Margaret is also an ethics instructor for the New Jersey Attorney General's Advocacy Institute and the National Institute of Attorneys General Training and Research Institute. Prior to joining the Commission, Margaret worked for the New Jersey Department of Labor and the Public Employment Relations Commission as a staff attorney, hearing officer, labor

mediator and trainer. Margaret holds a B.S. from Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. and a J.D. from the Penn State University Dickinson School of Law in Carlisle, PA, where she was a member of the law review.

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PA CLE Credit: 1.5 ethics credits (\$3.00 mandatory registration fee required).

HOW TO BE PROFESSIONAL WHEN DEALING WITH YOUR ADVERSARY

The demands of litigation are seemingly never ending. Despite the pressures of these demands attorneys are both ethically and professionally obligated to treat other members of the Bar with whom they deal with courtesy and respect. This presentation will focus on what is expected of attorneys in terms of civility when dealing with their peers and will discuss strategies for doing so in those difficult situations where an adversary may not be acting in a confrontational or inappropriate manner. **(9:40 a.m. to 11:20 a.m.)**

DAG Jim Harris has served as a Deputy Attorney General in the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety for more than 25 years. During that time, he has worked in criminal justice, juvenile justice, and civil law. DAG Harris is currently Chief of the DYFS South section. In the past, he has litigated cases for clients that include the State Police, the New Jersey Judiciary, the Department of Corrections, the Division of Youth and Family Services and the Bureau of Parole. He has had numerous jury and non-jury trials involving civil rights, employment discrimination, whistle blowers, child abuse and parental termination. He has successfully argued numerous cases before the New Jersey Supreme Court and the Third Circuit Court of Appeals. He is a graduate of Rutgers University of Law, Camden, where he was Managing Editor of the Law Journal. DAG Harris also has an LL.M from Columbia School of Law in New York City.

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NY CLE Credit: 2.0 ethics credits (pursuant to the approved jurisdiction policy).

PA CLE Credit: 1.5 ethics credits (\$3.00 mandatory registration fee required).

INTRODUCTION TO DEPOSITIONS

Depositions are one of the most powerful tools for ascertaining the truth and for limiting the ability of your adversary to maneuver at trial. This presentation will cover techniques and strategy that will

assist you in getting the most out of your deposition. Among other things the presentation will cover topics such as basic procedure, organization of the deposition, how to conduct yourself and handle your adversary, the funnel approach to eliciting information and preparing for cross, theory testing, generating admissions, and defending the depositions of your own client and witnesses. **(9:40 a.m. to 11:20 a.m.)**

AAG Brian F. McDonough is the Assistant Attorney General-in-Charge of the Affirmative Civil Enforcement Practice Group. Prior to joining the Division of Law, he was in private practice with a national law firm for twenty nine years where he specialized in securities and commercial litigation in the New York and New Jersey state and federal courts, as well as in arbitration tribunals throughout the country. Throughout the course of his career he has also devoted significant amounts of time to pro bono civil rights and capital post-conviction litigation. He began his career as a law clerk to former New Jersey Supreme Court Justice Robert Wilentz.

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ISSUES, CASES AND EXAMPLES CONCERNING THE PROVISIONS OF THE NEW JERSEY CONTRACTORS' REGISTRATION ACT, *N.J.S.A. 56:8-136 ET SEQ.*, AND RELATED STATUTES AND REGULATIONS

This program will provide a basic overview of the New Jersey Contractors' Registration Act, *N.J.S.A. 56:8-136 et seq.*, the Regulations Governing Contractor Registration, *N.J.A.C. 13:45A-17.1 et seq.*, and the Regulations Governing Home Improvement Practices, *N.J.A.C. 13:45A-16.1 et seq.* Multiple provisions will be highlighted, with discussion and analysis of the provisions, relevant case law, and examples from a Deputy Attorney General's practice prosecuting violations and revoking contractors' registrations with the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs. **(1:40 p.m. to 3:20 p.m.)**

DAG Nicholas Kant is a Deputy Attorney General in the Consumer Fraud Prosecution Section within the Division of Law's Affirmative Civil Enforcement Practice Group. He has spent the last four years prosecuting a variety of cases under the New Jersey Consumer Fraud Act, from home improvement matters to kosher enforcement, pet protection and health club cases, among others. He recently settled an action against Wal-Mart for \$775,000 and injunctive relief, and won a \$17 million judgment against a group that had been performing substandard driveway paving throughout southern New Jersey.

Cindy K. Miller is currently the Deputy Director of the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs overseeing all of the Division's consumer protection units. She was appointed as Bureau Chief of the Division's Office of Consumer Protection in 2009 wherein she served as the administrator in charge of the consumer protection agency that investigates conduct in violation of New Jersey's Consumer Fraud Act and its accompanying administrative regulations. As Deputy Director, Cindy also serves as the liaison with Division of Law Deputy Attorneys General regarding pending investigation and litigation matters and reviews and provides recommendations regarding settlements of pending administrative and civil disputes, pending legislation and proposed administrative regulations. Prior to her appointment at Consumer Affairs, Cindy spent several years engaged in the private practice of law at her office in Westfield (Union County), New Jersey. Before establishing her law practice, Cindy served as a Deputy Attorney General/Assistant Section Chief and Senior Deputy Attorney General for the State of New Jersey for 17 years representing the Board of Public Utilities, the Division of Consumer Affairs, the Bureau of Securities, and the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey among other agencies of state government. Before state service, Cindy spent time developing her skills and talents as a legal services attorney in Mercer County, as an assistant deputy public defender in Middlesex County and as an associate at a small general practice law firm in Union County. Cindy is a trained Mediator and served for several years mediating civil action matters for the New Jersey Superior Court Presumptive Mediation Program. Cindy is a member of the New Jersey State Bar Association and has served as a member and as the Chairperson of the Bar Association's Consumer Protection Law Special Committee and as a member of the Bar Association's Legislative Standing Committee and Special Civil Part Special Committee. Cindy has served as a faculty member at the New Jersey Judicial College where she taught consumer protection law to New Jersey trial judges. She has also served as a member of the Supreme Court of New Jersey District Ethics Committee for Union County (District XII). She received her B.A. degree from Indiana University in 1975 where she was also elected as a member of The Phi Beta Kappa Society, the nation's oldest and largest academic honor society. She received her J.D. degree from Temple University School of Law in 1978.

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NY CLE Credit: 2.0 substantive credits (pursuant to the approved jurisdiction policy).

PA CLE Credit: 1.5 substantive credits (\$3.00 mandatory registration fee required).

LAWYERS' ETIQUETTE IS NOT AN OXYMORON

Etiquette is the way that people conduct themselves in polite society. This presentation deals with civility and professionalism in the ways attorneys interact with co-workers, clients and adversaries and offers practical tips on difficult work situations. In addition, it will review some basic manners applicable to all professional situations. **(1:40 p.m. to 2:40 p.m.)**

Carol Jacobson, Esq., who recently retired from State service, joined the Division of Law in 1990. At the time of her retirement, Carol was an Assistant Attorney General in the Affirmative Civil Enforcement Litigation Practice Group and the Ethics Officer for the Division of Law in Newark. Prior to joining the Division of Law, she was in private practice. Carol is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and Seton Hall University School of Law.

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NY CLE Credit: 1.0 substantive credit (pursuant to the approved jurisdiction policy).

PA CLE Credit: 1.0 substantive credit (\$1.50 mandatory registration fee required).

LEGAL ETHICS FOR THE HEALTH CARE LAWYER

This program will address the distinct but overlapping demands of ethics, morality, and the law as well as some of the key responsibilities of lawyers involved in the health law arena. A general overview of the relevant professional duties will provide a foundation for a more detailed scrutiny of the practical interpretation of those duties in specific factual circumstances. In particular, participants will collaboratively work through several hypothetical fact situations to appreciate the complex ethical and professional issues that arise in medical-legal partnerships. The session also will consider attorney vulnerability due to, for example, increased government reliance on the responsible corporate officer doctrine in enforcement prosecutions. **(1:40 p.m. to 2:40 p.m.)**

DAG Kim D. Ringler: is a Deputy in the Professional Boards Prosecution Section of the Division of Law. She graduated from Oberlin College and Georgetown University Law School where she was a Law Fellow. She had her own law firm in Hackensack, New Jersey concentrating on attorney ethics, representing attorneys at all stages of the disciplinary and admission processes, and counseling lawyers, law firms and other regulated professionals on ethics and licensure matters. A former assistant district attorney in Kings County (Brooklyn), New York, she served as Special Trial Counsel to the New York Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Departmental Disciplinary Committee for Manhattan and the Bronx. She has been a member of the New York State Bar Association Committee on Professional Ethics, the New York City Bar Committees on Professional Responsibility and on Professional Discipline; the New Jersey Supreme Court District IIB Ethics Committee, as well as Chair of the Fee Arbitration Committee and *pro bono* counsel for indigent attorneys in disciplinary cases. She is a member of the New Jersey State Bar Association Standing Committee on Professional Responsibility and Unlawful Practice. She currently serves as President of the Association of Professional Responsibility Lawyers. DAG Ringler has been listed in *Best Lawyers in America* in the area of Ethics and Professional Responsibility Law and rated AV Preeminent by Martindale Hubbell.

Tara Adams Ragone, Esq. joined the Center for Health & Pharmaceutical Law & Policy as a Research Fellow and Lecturer in Law at Seton Hall University Law School in 2011. Her research and writing for the Center focuses on implementation of health care reform, accountable care

organizations, health care access, bioethics, and issues related to the representation of health care professionals. Ms. Ragone also advises the health law moot court team and regularly contributes to Seton Hall Law's Health Reform Watch blog. Ms. Ragone is a former Deputy Attorney General with the State of New Jersey, Office of the Attorney General, Division of Law, Professional Boards Prosecution Section. She primarily prosecuted licensing actions before the State Board of Medical Examiners and the Office of Administrative Law and represented the State in federal civil rights actions brought by licensees. She also twice appeared before the Supreme Court of New Jersey in a case of first impression involving a commercial speech challenge to the Court's Rule of Professional Conduct governing attorney firm names. She received her B.A. in Government and Philosophy, *summa cum laude*, from the College of William and Mary in 1996, where she was a member of *Phi Beta Kappa*. After college, she worked on a variety of domestic policy issues, including campaign finance reform, as a research assistant and verifier at the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C. She graduated *magna cum laude* from New York University School of Law in 2001, where she was a Root-Tilden-Kern Public Service Scholar, was elected to the Order of the Coif, and served as Senior Articles Editor for the New York University Annual Survey of American Law. At graduation, she received the Vanderbilt Medal and the Samuel A. Levy Memorial Award. Before joining the New Jersey Attorney General's Office, Ms. Ragone served as a law clerk to the Honorable Allyn R. Ross of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York and the Honorable Robert A. Katzmann of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

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NY CLE Credit: 1.0 ethics credit (pursuant to the approved jurisdiction policy).

PA CLE Credit: 1.0 ethics credit (\$1.50 mandatory registration fee required).

MORTGAGE FRAUD AND FORECLOSURE

Investigating and litigating mortgage fraud cases requires a keen understanding of the documentation and flow of a typical mortgage transaction, understanding the types of fraud that is typical in mortgage transactions and the ability to identify potential evidence of fraud from the documentation which memorializes the transaction. This seminar will focus upon the roles of the each party in a real estate transaction (*i.e.*, seller, buyer, attorneys, lender and title company), and identification of various types of mortgage fraud. **(9:40 a.m. to 11:20 a.m.)**

SDAG Terrence Hull currently serves as the Chief of the Division of Criminal Justice's Financial and Computer Crimes Bureau. He joined DCJ in 2002, after having served as First Assistant Prosecutor and an Assistant Prosecutor with the Hudson County Prosecutor's Office. He has been a certified by the New Jersey Supreme Court as a Criminal Trial Attorney since 1990.

NJ CLE Credit: This program has been approved by the Board on Continuing Legal Education of the Supreme Court of New Jersey for 2.0 hours of total CLE credit. Of these, 0.0 qualify as hours of credit for ethics/professionalism.

NY CLE Credit: 2.0 substantive credits (pursuant to the approved jurisdiction policy).

PA CLE Credit: 1.5 substantive credits (\$3.00 mandatory registration fee required).

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT IN NEW JERSEY

This presentation discusses the history of the Open Public Meetings Act in New Jersey and the key requirements under the current Act. Among the topics addressed are what a public body is, the several types of public notice, when a meeting occurs, the requirements of keeping minutes and making them available, and the nine exceptions that allow a public body to go into executive session, including the exceptions for personnel matters and the attorney client privilege. **(9:40 a.m. to 11:20 a.m.)**

AAG John P. Bender has been with the Division of Law for 30 years, serving most recently as Deputy Director, AAG in Charge of Administrative Agency Advice, and head of the Administrative Practice Group (Trenton). He counsels state agencies on OPMA questions and, along with AAG Fischer, budget/ appropriations questions. AAG Bender has also represented the Domestic Security Task Force, the Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness and heads the Division of Law On-Call Program.

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TORT CLAIMS ACT FOR THE NON-TORT LITIGATION ATTORNEY: A PRIMER FOR HANDLING TORT CLAIMS ISSUES AND CASES

This program will provide a comprehensive overview of the history of the Tort Claims Act, the policy issues underlying its passage, commonly confronted issues, representation issues, what to consider when appearing before courts or in ADR proceedings, recent cases of note, and DOL processes and procedures for settlement, mediator selection and handling notices of tort claims. **(1:40 p.m. to 3:20 p.m.)**

AAG Jerry Fischer began his career with the Department in 1977 following an Appellate Division clerkship. While with the DOL, Mr. Fischer served as a deputy before being appointed Section Chief

of what is now the Tort Litigation Section in 1981. Mr. Fischer later served as SDAG in Charge of Litigation, and AAG in Charge of Litigation with the DOL, and served in the Office of Counsel to the Governor. Mr. Fischer, was appointed Director of the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control in 2000 and returned to the Division of Law in 2012, is regarded as an expert on the Tort Claims Act.

AAG Leslie Gore is the Litigation Practice Group Head for the Division of Law. AAG Gore served as a judicial law clerk before entering private practice in 1995. AAG Gore joined the Division of Law in 1998, serving as a deputy in the Tort Litigation and Employment Litigation Sections before being promoted to Assistant Section Chief of the Tort Litigation Section in 2004. In 2005, AAG Gore was appointed Section Chief of the Tort Litigation Section, and in 2007, was appointed an AAG. AAG Gore has handled and supervised the handling of a number of complex litigation matters during her career.

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THE TRIAL BOX

Preparation is the key to a successful trial, but even excellent preparation can be negated without equally good organization. You need a system that keeps all of your documents and materials instantly accessible at counsel table. The trial box system is the answer. It is simple to create and maintain, yet it is highly efficient and adaptable to every level of adversarial proceeding. This presentation will demonstrate the proven advantages of the trial box system and how to make it work best for you. **(1:40 p.m. to 2:40 p.m.)**

John Covino, Esq. was a deputy attorney general from 1980 to 2010 and served in various assignments in the Division of Law and the Division of Criminal Justice. He was an assistant section chief in the Division of Law, Environmental Permitting and Counseling Section from 1993 until his retirement in 2010. He has been a practicing attorney since 1978. Mr. Covino's subject areas while with the Attorney General's Office included radiation protection, water quantity, water quality and waste facility siting. He is a member of the Attorney General's Advocacy Institute's faculty, where he has presented on various topics, including negotiations, trial skills, trial preparation, evidentiary issues and legal writing. Mr. Covino is now pursuing a second career in education.

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