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*The Advocacy Institute Is Pleased to Announce*

## **PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT**

### **EXPLORING DEFENSES TO SECTION 1983 LITIGATION: ABSOLUTE/QUALIFIED IMMUNITY AND BEYOND**

**June 16, 2011**

**10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

**Richard J. Hughes Justice Complex**

**Point Meeting Area - Attorney General's Library**

**6th Floor, West Wing**

**25 Market Street**

**Trenton, NJ**

#### ***Program Summary***

This seminar will focus on the various defenses available to state defendants in opposing 42 *U.S.C.A.* §1983 damage actions with the primary emphasis being the absolute and qualified immunity doctrines. In addition, the seminar will explore the *Rooker-Feldman* doctrine, claim preclusion and judicial estoppel theories.

#### ***Who Should Attend?***

This program is intended for those attorneys handling §1983 and other federal actions in which the topics covered may be at issue. Others, however, may find this program of interest.

#### ***Who Is the Faculty?***

**AAG Andrea Silkowitz** clerked during the summer and fall of 1975 for the Division of Law and joined the Division as a Law Assistant in September 1976. She was appointed a Deputy Attorney General in December 1976. In 1981, Andrea assumed the position of Deputy Attorney General in Charge of Appeals in Trenton and in late 1982, transferred to the Newark office, where she has continued to supervise appeals. In July 1987, she was appointed as an Assistant Attorney General. Andrea has argued numerous appeals before the Supreme Court of New Jersey, the Appellate Division, and the Third Circuit.

**Tara Ragone, Esq.** clerked from August 2001 to August 2002, for the U.S. District Court, Eastern District of New York, for the Honorable Allyn R. Ross, as well as from September 2002 to August 2003, at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Honorable Robert A. Katzmann. In October 2003, Ms.

Ragone was appointed Deputy Attorney General in Division of Law. While with the Division, she focused primarily on the State Board of Medical Examiners and other health-related professional boards. Ms. Ragone was actively involved in complex civil litigations in the U.S. District Court for the District of NJ and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. These matters included those filed by doctors seeking federal court intervention in state licensing matters and alleging violations of their civil rights. Ms. Ragone is currently a research fellow and lecturer of law at Seton Hall Law School's Center for Health and Pharmaceutical Law & Policy.

### ***How Do I Register?***

You may [REGISTER HERE](#) or online at [www.njadvocacyinstitute.com](http://www.njadvocacyinstitute.com). Registering ensures that you will receive handout material and that there will be ample space for all attendees.

### ***CLE Credit***

**NJ CLE Credit:** This program had 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, and 2.0 qualify as hours of credit toward certification in civil trial law.

**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)