



The Advocacy Institute Is Pleased to Announce

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

DCF IN-SERVICE

November 23, 2015

9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Department of Children and Families
New Jersey Child Welfare Training Academy
30 Van Dyke Avenue
New Brunswick, New Jersey**

Program Summary

The Division of Law's DCF Practice Group will be providing various presentations during this program. The topics and presenters are listed on the following pages. The presentations will run 80 to 90 minutes long and will cover a variety of substantive topics directly related to the Group's Practice. **You must register for and attend one of the morning sessions of the *CSOC: An Overview* presentation (either the 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. or 11:10 a.m. to 12:40 p.m. session) as well as register for and attend both of the afternoon plenary presentations *Got Adolescents?* and *Defending CSOC's Treatment Authority in DCPD Litigation*.** Participants can earn up to 7.0 New Jersey credits.

Who Should Attend?

The In-service Program is for those attorneys and other legal staff assigned to the Division of Law's DCF Practice Group **only**. ***Please do not attempt to register if you are not a member of the DCF Practice Group.***

Who Is the Faculty?

See attached.

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 up to 7.0 hours of total CLE credit. Of these, 0.0 qualify as hours of credit for ethics/professionalism.

NY CLE Credit: up to 7.0 substantive credits (pursuant to the approved jurisdiction policy).

PA CLE Credit: up to 5.5 substantive credits (\$1.50 per credit mandatory registration fee required).

How Do I Register?

State Employees

Most State employees are able to register for this course by going to <http://reg2.dcj.lps.state.nj.us/lpcreg/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://reg2.dcj.lps.state.nj.us/lpcreg/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. Once your portal account is created you are prompted to enter your authorization code. This is Step 1 of the process, which you need only do once.

If you have already been issued an authorization code in the past you do not need to request another one. You can log into your account on the Garden State Network at <http://www.state.nj.us> and under the heading NJ L&PS Applications you will see the Attorney General's Advocacy Institute's Registration System. Click on that and log into your account on our system.

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://reg2.dcj.lps.state.nj.us/lpcreg/login.aspx?portalid=2> to register for future courses or to manage your account. Please retain your user name and password for your records.

LIST OF COURSES AND PRESENTERS

CHILDREN'S SYSTEM OF CARE (CSOC): AN OVERVIEW (9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.)

This presentation will discuss Children's System of Care (CSOC) as a child welfare support including a look at such practice from a national perspective. This presentation will also highlight the positive impact CSOC has had on reducing overreliance on congregate care, the distinction between treatment (as a clinically indicated medical necessity [including treatment homes]) v. placement (for child protection/permanency purposes). This presentation will further relate how this affects children involved with CSOC who are also in the custody of the Division of Child Protection and Permanency and involved in litigation.

Dr. Allison Blake was appointed Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Children and Families by Governor Chris Christie and was confirmed with a unanimous vote by the Senate on June 21, 2010. As Commissioner, she has emphasized an integrated and strategic approach to serving children and families in the State. For nearly 30 years, Dr. Allison Blake has been working on behalf of children and families, and the social workers who serve them. Prior to rejoining state service, she served as the Director of the Institute for Families at the Rutgers School of Social Work, where she oversaw a portfolio of grants and contracts aimed at strengthening families by building the capacity of the individuals and organizations that serve them. Previously, she spent 18 years at the New Jersey Division of Youth and Family Services, where she worked in various direct service and administrative positions. This commitment coupled with her extensive experience and leadership dovetails with the mission, vision and focus of the Child Welfare League of America to which she has become a board member. Dr. Blake earned her BS in Social Work from University of Dayton, an MS in Social Work from Rutgers University and a Ph.D. in Social Work from Fordham University.

Elizabeth Manley, LSW, is the Director for the Children's System of Care. In this capacity Ms. Manley has direct oversight of the statewide child behavioral health, substance abuse and development/intellectual disabilities systems. This includes a wide range of community base services, inpatient units and residential treatment centers. Prior to joining DCF, Ms. Manley was the CEO of Caring Partners of Morris/Sussex, Inc., a Care Management Organization (CMO) specializing in working with youth with complex behavioral health challenges. Prior to this position, Ms. Manley worked for Capitol County Children's Collaboration, the Mercer County CMO, as the Director of Operations, since its inception in 2002. She came to that position after spending 15 years at SERV Behavioral Health, in various positions with her final position at SERV as the Director of Children's Services for SERV Behavioral Health. Ms. Manley earned a B.S. degree in Health Education from William Paterson University and a M.S.W. from Rutgers University in New Brunswick.

CLE Credit

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NY CLE Credit: 1.5 substantive credits (pursuant to the approved jurisdiction policy).

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

SELECT HOME ADOPTIONS
(9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.)

This presentation will describe the evolution of New Jersey's statewide adoption program to specifically address the needs of youngsters waiting for adoptive families, select adoption home process including information about how children are referred for a select adoption home, functions of the New Jersey Adoption Exchange, how children are transitioned into adoptive families, and services available to recruit and sustain adoptive families including recent initiatives. This presentation will further assist deputies in appropriately organizing their trial strategy so as to address the legal issues around select home adoption. It will provide the deputies with in-depth knowledge regarding legal options for select home cases, so that the termination of parental rights trial is presented in a cohesive and understandable format. Also reviewed will be the importance of permanency to children and youth as well as the effects of not achieving permanency through exploring evidence based social research. The journeys of children who have been adopted in select homes will be presented.

Karen Backiel, L.S.W., has over 35 years of experience in the field of social work including adoption, permanency and resource families and has held a variety of positions with DCP&P, including adoption worker, supervisor, and Case Work Supervisor. For the past 3 years she has provided adoption field support to the local offices of Bergen, Passaic and Hudson counties. She has assisted in the development and presentation of training on Adoption Agency Licensing, Child Summary Writing, Life Books and Factual Witness. Ms. Backiel earned an M.S.W. degree from Rutgers University.

Joanne Fillimon, C.S.W., has close to 40 years of experience working in the field of adoption and has held a variety of positions with DCP&P, including adoption worker, supervisor, Case Work Supervisor and Case Practice Specialist. For the past 10 years she has served as the Adoption Field Support Supervisor who covers the 6 Essex Local Offices. In the mid-1980s she developed, implemented, supervised and coordinated a statewide program initiative to promote the placement of institutionalized children with families for the purpose of adoption. Ms. Fillimon earned a B.S. degree in Social Work from Kean University and an M.S.W. from Rutgers University.

DAG Erin O'Leary is assigned to the Division of Law's DCF Practice Group. Prior to her current assignment, Erin served as the Deputy Commissioner for the Department of Children and Families (DCF). In that role, Erin oversaw the Office of Legal Affairs and Licensing; Institutional Abuse Investigation Unit; Office of Advocacy; and the Office of Policy and Legislative Affairs. Prior to working at DCF, Ms. O'Leary was a Deputy Attorney General initially assigned to represent the Division of Youth and Family Services and later assigned to

represent the Department of Health and Senior Services and Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services. She has served as a guest lecturer at many universities and schools, and has been an Adjunct Professor at the Rutgers School of Law- Camden.

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**FACTITIOUS DISORDER IMPOSED UPON BY ANOTHER
(9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.)**

Factitious Disorder Imposed Upon by Another (formally known as Munchausen Syndrome by Proxy) relates to circumstances where a parent fabricates or induces illness in a child to gain attention. This presentation will provide a basic understanding of the medical and psychological concepts involved in the identification of this syndrome, with focus on the legal plan of action necessary to successfully assist DCPD when these issues are present.

DAG Victoria Almeida Galinski, joined the Division of Law in November, 1998. She graduated with Honors and College Honors from Rutgers University, Newark College of Arts and Sciences in 1991 with a degree in Psychology and course concentrations in both Biology and Criminal Justice. She then graduated with Honors from Seton Hall Law School in 1994. During her final year at Seton Hall, Victoria was the Student Director of the Family Law Clinic and upon graduation received an award for her distinguished service. Upon graduation, Ms. Galinski served a one year judicial clerkship for the Hon. Lawrence Smith, J.S.C., in Bergen County. In 1997, she formally joined the Bergen County law firm of Pescatore and Sauter, LLC, where she remained until realizing her goal to practice exclusively in the area of child advocacy by joining the Division of Law in 1998. Prior to her assignment to the DCPD, Sussex County Local Office in 2003, Ms. Galinski was assigned to the Bayonne Local Office.

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CHILDREN'S SYSTEM OF CARE (CSOC): AN OVERVIEW
(11:10 a.m. to 12:40 p.m.)

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**THE RELEASE OF DCPD RECORDS PURSUANT TO STATUTE AND CASE LAW
(11:10 a.m. to 12:40 p.m.)**

This presentation will discuss the confidentiality requirements of N.J.S.A. 9:6-8.10a for DCPD records, as well as the various exceptions that allow for release. This presentation will also discuss the holdings of DYFS v. P.H., 430 N.J. Super. 220 (App. Div. 2012) and in what instances DCPD records can be released to protect children.

DAG Angela Melchionna joined the DCF section at the Division of Law in 2011. She has appeared in Mercer and Ocean County and has litigated both FN and FG cases. Prior to joining the Division of Law, she clerked for the Honorable Terence P. Flynn, J.S.C., Children in Court, Monmouth County. She received her J.D. from Seton Hall Law School of Law in 2010 and her B.S. from Cornell University in 2007. She is admitted in New Jersey and New York.

Cynthia Schappell has an undergraduate degree from Temple University in 1984. She graduated Seton Hall Law School in 1989 and then clerked for the Honorable David Schroth (deceased) and the Honorable Charles Delehey, J.S.C., Criminal Division, Mercer County. From 1990 to 1995, she worked as a Deputy Attorney General in the Division of Criminal Justice, Casino Prosecutions Section. She was an assistant prosecutor in Cumberland County from 2000 until 2004, when she came to the Division of Law as a Deputy Attorney General in the DCF practice group. DAG Schappell has been with the Division of Law for 10 years as of December. She was initially assigned to Camden County and from there went to Cumberland County. She started in Mercer County in October of 2014 and handles both abuse/neglect proceedings as well as termination of parental rights cases.

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**AN OVERVIEW OF THE MSA: HOW IT AFFECTS DEPUTIES AND HOW
DEPUTIES CAN ASSIST IN COMPLIANCE
(11:10 a.m. to 12:40 p.m.)**

This presentation will give an overview of the requirements of the Modified Settlement Agreement under which DCPD operates pursuant to the federal lawsuit initially filed against the State in 1999. The benchmarks that directly relate to DCPD litigation will be discussed. The

presentation will also provide tips on how deputies can assist DCPD in complying with the benchmarks established by the MSA.

AAG Christian Arnold graduated from Harvard Law School in 1993 and began his legal career as a Deputy Attorney General in the Public Utilities Section of the Division of Law. In 1999, Chris transferred to the DYFS North Section and has represented the Division in both protective services litigation and guardianship matters since that time. Prior to his current position, he was Assistant Section Chief in DCF North.

Joseph E. Ribsam Jr., Esq. is DCF's Deputy Commissioner. In this role, Joe serves as an advisor to the Commissioner and as a liaison between DCF and the Governor's Policy Office, the Office of Counsel to the Governor, the Office of the Attorney General, the Administrative Office of the Courts, the Office of Legislative Services, and legislative offices. He also oversees the DCF offices of: Legal and Legislative Affairs; Policy and Regulatory Development; Communications and Public Affairs; Licensing; Grants Management, Auditing, and Records; Office of Advocacy; Office of Education; and the Institutional Abuse Investigation Unit. Mr. Ribsam also serves as the Northeast State representative on the Executive Committee of the National Association of Public Child Welfare Administrators. Mr. Ribsam joined the Department in 2008, serving as a legal specialist within DCF's Office of Legal Affairs providing counsel to the DCF's leadership on a range of issues. Since then Joe has served as the Department's Director of Policy and Legislative Affairs and most recently as Assistant Commissioner of Legal, Regulatory, and Legislative Affairs. Mr. Ribsam has also worked in the private practice of law where he focused on family law and related matters. Before earning his juris doctorate from Rutgers School of Law - Newark, Mr. Ribsam taught English at Dunn Middle School in Trenton. He earned a bachelor's degree in History/Secondary Education from The College of New Jersey.

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

GOT ADOLESCENTS? (1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.)

This presentation will provide information on the various programs available to adolescents in the custody of DCPD, including independent living, life skills, Medicaid extension for young adults, after care, wrap around services and NJ Scholars. A breakdown of the financial assistance available to adolescents will be discussed, including a hierarchy of the sources of these funds. This information will assist deputies in matters involving adolescents as other parties often make requests of the court to order financial assistance/services.

Niambi S. London, is the Executive Assistant within OAS where she provides administrative and programmatic support to the Director. She has had the opportunity to work in several venues within DCF over the last 12 years. Ms. London's work with the State began with the adoption program where she facilitated adoption placements for children in safe, stable and loving homes. In addition, she worked with the Division of Prevention and Community Partnerships as a Team Leader where she was responsible for working with several counties to create networks of prevention services. She also worked as a generic protective service worker with a caseload consisting of adolescents. Ms. London holds a BA degree from Spelman College and a MA degree from Carnegie Mellon University.

Kelli S. Puryear, LSW, is the Assistant Director of Adolescent Services (OAS) for the NJ Department of Children and Families. The mission of OAS is to support adolescents in the transition to adulthood to achieve economic self-sufficiency, interdependence, and engage in healthy life-styles. Prior to joining OAS, she worked at YouthBuild Newark, Inc. – a youth-development agency – as its Director of Program Development. Throughout Ms. Puryear's career, in both private agencies and public child welfare agencies, she has overseen data collection and analysis efforts in order to measure and sustain program effectiveness. Ms. Puryear holds a Bachelor's degree in Social Work (BSW) from Temple University, a Master of Social Work (MSW) degree from Rutgers University and is a Doctoral Candidate (PhD) at the Heller School for Social Policy at Brandeis University.

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

DEFENDING CSOC'S TREATMENT AUTHORITY IN DCPD LITIGATION (3:10 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

This presentation will discuss CSOC's interaction with the courts. Particular emphasis will be placed on CSOC's involvement in DCPD litigation. Deputies will be taught how to best advocate for CSOC to maintain treatment authority over youth that require mental health services and/or specialized placement, and to coordinate the interaction between DCPD and CSOC when child protection litigation is ongoing.

DAG Peter Alvino graduated from Rutgers Law School in 1987 and joined the Division of Law in 1988. Peter has represented the Division of Youth and Family Services (now DCP & P) in both FN and FG cases in all of the northern counties and has written and argued numerous appeals, including two before the Supreme Court. He is currently Section Chief for DCF-North.

Michael Higginbotham, MSW, LCSW, is the Liaison to the Judiciary for CSOC. In this role, he is the primary point of contact between CSOC and trial court judges in the Family Division of Superior Court. He handles all court related orders and inquiries, as well as collaborates with county Family Division administrators to conduct county partnership meetings ensuring effective communication and cooperation between CSOC programs and the courts. Previously, he was a Regional Coordinator in the Office of School Linked Services, where he provided technical assistance and oversight to school-based programs throughout the state. Before joining DCF, Mr. Higginbotham served in several positions within the Department of Human Services, including Administrative Analyst in the Critical Incident Management Unit, Investigator for the Special Response Unit and a Case Manager within the Division of Developmental Disabilities. Prior to entering state service in 2001, he worked in the non-profit arena for over ten years, as a clinical support specialist for resource homes, clinical coordinator for a county psychiatric emergency screening service, manager of several group homes, and case manager for youth, adolescent and adult programs. Mr. Higginbotham earned a Bachelor's degree in psychology from Rowan University and a Master's Degree in Social Work with a concentration in Direct Practice to Children and Families from Rutgers University.

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 1.6 hours of total CLE credit. Of these, 0.0 qualify as hours of credit for ethics/professionalism.

NY CLE Credit: 1.5 substantive credits (pursuant to the approved jurisdiction policy).

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

SCHEDULE

9:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.	Registration
9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.	Workshops: Children's System of Care (CSOC): An Overview - (Everyone must Attend One of the Sessions) Select Home Adoption Factitious Disorder Imposed Upon by Another
11:00 a.m. to 11:10 a.m.	Break
11:10 a.m. to 12:40 p.m.	Workshops: Children's System of Care (CSOC): An Overview - (Everyone must Attend One of the Sessions) The Release of DCPD Records Pursuant to Statute and Case Law An Overview of the MSA: How it Affects Deputies and How Deputies can Assist in Compliance
12:40 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.	Lunch
1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.	Plenary: (Everyone must attend) Got Adolescents?
3:00 p.m. to 3:10 p.m.	Break
3:10 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.	Plenary: (Everyone must attend) Defending CSOC's Treatment Authority in DCPD Litigation