



The Advocacy Institute Is Pleased to Announce

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

MUNICIPAL BONDS: AN OVERVIEW AND FEDERAL AND STATE LAW IMPLICATIONS

**October 16, 2013
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
New Jersey State House
125 West State Street
3rd Floor, Authorities Conference Room
Trenton, New Jersey**

Program Summary

This presentation will provide students with a general overview of municipal bonds from what they are, what entities can issue them, how they are issued, who buys them to why they exist. Different types of municipal bonds will be discussed, including general obligation bonds, State contract bonds, moral obligation bonds and revenue bonds, with an emphasis being on the bonds issued by New Jersey's state-wide bond issuing authorities. A brief introduction to the documentation required for bonds will be provided, including security provisions.

This presentation will also explore the Internal Revenue Code provisions that permit the interest on certain municipal bonds to be exempt from federal income tax, including the Code sections and related rules and regulations that set limits on tax-exempt municipal bonds. Also to be discussed are federal securities laws and regulations regarding tax-exempt municipal bonds. Finally, the New Jersey constitutional provisions and statutes impacting the issuance of tax-exempt bonds within the State will be discussed. This presentation requires no prior experience or education on municipal bonds.

Who Should Attend?

This program is intended solely for those selected to participate in the *State House Series* programs, notice of which such persons have already received. Please do not attempt to register if you have not been so selected.

Who Is the Faculty?

Mark E. Hopkins is nearing his ninth anniversary as Executive Director of the New Jersey Health Care Facilities Financing Authority, where he has overseen the issuance of over \$6.5 billion of bonds on behalf of New Jersey hospitals and other health care organizations. Mr. Hopkins also worked with the New Jersey Department of Health on the creation of the financial early warning system for hospitals. Prior to joining the Authority, Mr. Hopkins served as a Deputy Attorney General where he represented the New Jersey Educational Facilities Authority and the New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency as issuer counsel on public financing transactions. Before joining the Attorney General's office, Mr. Hopkins was an attorney with the law firm of McCarter & English in the Public Finance Practice Group for six years. Immediately following law school, Mr. Hopkins clerked for the Honorable Eduardo C. Robreno in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. Mr. Hopkins earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Rutgers College in New Brunswick. He earned his Juris Doctor Degree with high honors from Rutgers University Law School at Camden, where he was also Editor-in-Chief of the Rutgers Law Journal.

CLE Credit

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).

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.