



The Advocacy Institute Is Pleased to Announce

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

DCF IN-SERVICE

**April 7, 2014
9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
4 Echelon Plaza
201 Laurel Rd.
Voorhees, 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. These programs, each of which will be one hour to 90 minutes long, will cover a variety of substantive and ethical topics directly related to the Group's Practice. Participants can earn up to 6.6 New Jersey credits and must attend the plenary session and choose one of five morning workshops and one of five afternoon workshops. There will also be an ethics component offered in the afternoon after the workshops.

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**.

Who Is the Faculty?

See attached.

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 up to 6.6 hours of total CLE credit. Of these, up to 1.2 qualify as hours of credit for ethics/professionalism.

NY CLE Credit: up to 4.5 substantive credits and up to 1.0 ethics credits (pursuant to the approved jurisdiction policy).

PA CLE Credit: up to 4.5 substantive credits and up to 1.0 ethics credits (\$1.50 mandatory registration fee per credit is 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. 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://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.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS & FACULTY INFORMATION

CURRENT LEGAL ISSUES IN DCF-SOUTH DAILY PRACTICE

This panel discussion will survey the legal issues of concern confronted by DAGs in the DCF South Section in their daily practice. Issues will include drug use and abuse, the proper use of default judgments, relative placements and rule outs, domestic violence and abuse, and implementation of the new four-prong investigative findings in Superior Court litigation. Recent case law will be reviewed. DAGs will also learn to craft their arguments in court to meet the requirements of this emerging case law. There will also be a question and answer period to discuss best practices in these areas. **(9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.)**

DAG James Gentile is an Assistant Section Chief in the DYFS South Assignment. He is a 1983 graduate of Temple University School of Law where he served on Temple Law Review in his second and third years. He joined the Division of Law in 1990 after being in private practice for 7 years. He has been in the DYFS assignment since joining the Division of Law. His service has been acknowledged through awards by UMDNJ and the Atlantic County Commission on Child Abuse and Missing Children. He represents the Division of Youth and Family Services in an FN and FG Docket, in administrative licensing procedures. He previously represented DYFS in substantial and lengthy litigation involving the Fair Labor Standards Act. He has argued cases before the Appellate Division and State Supreme Court.

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.

Nora Pearce graduated from Seton Hall Law School and has been a member of the New Jersey Bar since 1988. She joined the Division of Law in September 1989 in the DCF practice group and is currently an Assistant Section Chief in the DCF-South Section. Nora has a Masters in Counseling and Personnel Administration from the University of Maryland. Prior to the practice of law, she was employed by A.T.&T. as a Division Marketing Manager.

CLIENT SERVICES AND THE RPCS

Client services are an integral part of the practice of law. To a large degree your success as an attorney is linked to how well you can meet the needs of your client and at the same time adhere to the Rules of Professional Conduct. This program covers issues relating to responsiveness to the client, responsibilities to clients, and Rules of Professional Conduct. In addition, this program will discuss time keeping practices designed to better assist the Deputy and the client. **(11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.)**

Peter Wint is an Assistant Attorney General with the Department of Law and Public Safety. During his tenure with the Department, he has served in a number of positions, including: Section Chief of the Education, Health and Human Services Section of the Division of Law, Special Assistant to the Attorney General and Deputy Chief of Staff. Prior to his employment with the Department of Law and Public Safety, Mr. Wint was an attorney in private practice, with firms in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Mr. Wint received his Bachelor of Science degree in Economics from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and he graduated from Rutgers School of Law.

NJ CLE Credit: This program has been approved by the Board on Continuing Legal Education of the Supreme Court of New Jersey for 1.2 hours of total CLE credit. Of these, up to 1.2 qualify as hours of credit for ethics/professionalism.

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

PA CLE Credit: 1.0 ethics credits (\$3.00 mandatory registration fee required).

MAKE YOUR LIFE EASIER: OPTIMIZE ORGANIZING THE TPR EVIDENCE PACKT

Participants will be provided with a sample TPR file to organize for trial and will learn various techniques and hints to best organize the file based on the particular facts and demands of the case. **(1:15 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.)**

Lisa Landsman attended Cardozo School of Law and graduated in 1984. Lisa became a DAG in the DCF practice group in January 1985, and spent her entire career as a DCF deputy. Prior to becoming a DAG, Lisa was an adoption worker for the Division of Youth and Family Services. Lisa retired in December 2012 and continues to be involved in trainings.

NJ CLE Credit: This program has been approved by the Board on Continuing Legal Education of the Supreme Court of New Jersey for 1.8 hours of total CLE credit. Of these, up to 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: 1.5 substantive credits (\$3.00 mandatory registration fee required).

PRESENTING THE EXPERT WITNESS IN AN ABUSE/NEGLECT AND A GUARDIANSHIP CASE

This presentation will discuss: 1) Preparing your witness; 2) Evidence Rules surrounding use of expert witnesses; 3) Qualifying the expert; 4) Cross-Examination of Defense Experts. Short case scenarios from an abuse/neglect and a guardianship case will be used to invite audience participation. **(3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.)**

Nancy Andre received her undergraduate degree from Hofstra University in Hempstead, NY in 1993 and J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1996. She has been a Deputy since 2004 assigned to the DCF section.

Cynthia J. Schappell is a Deputy Attorney General with the Division of Law DCF South. She began her legal career as a DAG with the Division of Criminal Justice and before coming to the Division of Law she worked as a Prosecutor in Cumberland County. Cynthia graduated from Temple University and Seton Hall University – School of Law.

NJ CLE Credit: This program has been approved by the Board on Continuing Legal Education of the Supreme Court of New Jersey for 1.8 hours of total CLE credit. Of these, up to 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: 1.5 substantive credits (\$3.00 mandatory registration fee required).