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*The Advocacy Institute Is Pleased to Announce*

## **PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT**

### **WHEN YOU'VE HAD ENOUGH...MOVING ON FROM STATE EMPLOYMENT AND VICE VERSA**

**December 1, 2015  
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
New Jersey State House  
125 West State Street  
3rd Floor, Room 319  
Trenton, New Jersey**

#### **Program Summary**

Attorneys preparing to leave State Government must navigate the requirements of the Rules of Professional Responsibility (RPCs), the Conflicts of Interest Law (COIL), and Departmental Supplemental Codes. Attorneys who enter State service must likewise avoid conflicts of interest by complying with recusal and screening requirements established both by the RPCs and State Ethics codes. This presentation will focus on how properly to pursue new employment opportunities while working for the State and how to guard against improper conflicts of interest when coming into or leaving State service.

#### **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?**

**Margaret A. Cotoia, Esq.** is the Ethics Training Officer for the New Jersey State Ethics Commission. Since she joined the Commission in 2005, 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 provides ethics advice to a state-wide network of agency ethics liaison officers and co-designs and conducts quarterly meetings for their continuing education. Margaret is also an ethics instructor for the New Jersey Attorney General's Advocacy Institute and the National 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 an editor of the law review.

**Kim D. Ringler**, a graduate of Oberlin College and Georgetown University Law School, received a certification from Seton Hall Law School in Health Care Compliance. She has re-established her private practice, the Ringler Law Firm, in Waldwick, New Jersey after leaving public service in June of 2015. The firm concentrates on advising and representing professionals and State licensees on regulatory issues. Kim joined the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of Law in 2008, after many years in private practice, as a Deputy Attorney General prosecuting State licensed medical and other professionals for violations of standards of practice. Kim brought in over one million dollars in fines and recovered costs in six years. She led the prosecution of a compounding pharmacy for contamination; established a nationally watched precedent for misleading advertising by dentists; and negotiated the imposition of public sanctions upon three prominent orthopedic surgeons who violated financial disclosure requirements during clinical trials. She also served as the Ethics Officer for the Division of Law providing guidance on conflicts of interest and other executive branch ethics issues to all personnel in Newark. The Attorney General presented an Exceptional Service Award to her in 2014. That year, she was appointed Deputy Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs overseeing the operations of 46 licensing boards, as well as the DCA's investigatory arm, the Enforcement Bureau; the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program; and the Drug Control Unit. She coordinated the Attorney General's Pain Management Council tasked with developing best practices in the areas of education, treatment and diversion of prescription opioid medications. Kim has argued successfully before the New Jersey Supreme Court representing individuals on disciplinary matters, the New Jersey Advisory Committee on Professional Ethics, the Committee on Advertising and the Committee on Extra-Judicial Activities. The New Jersey Law Journal included three cases she argued before the Supreme Court among its 2013 annual top twelve noteworthy cases. Honors include listings in *Best Lawyers in America* in the area of Ethics and Professional Responsibility Law, *New Jersey's Top Legal Minds* and *New Jersey Women Leaders in the Law*, and a Collaboration Award from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for her participation in a joint federal/state investigation. Martindale Hubbell has consistently rated her AV Preeminent. She is a frequent lecturer on professional responsibility, litigation techniques and health care issues. Prior to joining the State, her law practice included representing attorneys at all stages of the disciplinary and admission processes, and counseling lawyers, law firms and other regulated professionals on ethics, disciplinary and licensure matters. A former assistant district attorney in Brooklyn, NY, she served as Special Trial Counsel to the Disciplinary Committee for Manhattan and the Bronx. She also worked as an associate at a mid-town litigation firm. Memberships included the New Jersey State Bar Association Standing Committee on Professional Responsibility and Unlawful Practice, its Health and Hospital Law Section, the New York State Bar Association Committee on Professional Ethics, the New York City Bar Committee on Professional Responsibility and Committee on Professional Discipline and the New Jersey Supreme Court District IIB Ethics Committee. She chaired the District IIB Fee Arbitration Committee. Kim served as president of Women Lawyers in Bergen, president of the international Association of Professional Responsibility Lawyers, and a trustee of the Bergen County Bar Foundation. Kim was a two-term councilwoman and a deputy mayor in Ridgewood, NJ where she also served on the municipal Planning Board.

## 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, 2.0 qualify as hours of credit for ethics/professionalism.

**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).

## 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](mailto: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.