



PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

The Advocacy Institute Is Pleased to Present

DCP&P NOTIFICATION OF “NOT ESTABLISHED” FINDINGS

November 23, 2020
11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

WEBINAR

Program Summary

In *S.C. v. Dep't of Children & Families*, 242 N.J. 201 (2020), the Supreme Court expanded the procedural protections afforded to subjects of DCP&P investigations resulting in “not established” findings. This program will address the Court’s rationale for rejecting the argument for a trial-type hearing, while requiring the Division to articulate its reasoning in each case to satisfy what it characterized as procedural due process notice requirements. The presenters will provide guidance for counseling DCP&P on how to tier its findings when abuse/neglect has not been demonstrated and in drafting findings letters.

Eligibility

This program is only open to Deputy and Assistant Attorneys General in the DCF practice group and DCF agency attorneys invited to attend. Registrants will receive the course materials prior to the program date.

Faculty

DAG Peter Alvino is the Section Chief of the DCF North Section of the Division of Law, where he supervises forty-five Deputy Attorneys General who represent the Division of Child Protection and Permanency in Hunterdon, Somerset, Warren, Sussex, Morris, Passaic, Bergen, Hudson and Union Counties. DAG Alvino has represented the Division of Youth and Family Services (now DCP & P) in both FN and FG cases in all of the northern counties. He has tried hundreds of child protection cases and argued numerous appeals, including six before the New Jersey Supreme Court. Prior to joining State service, DAG Alvino was an associate at Cohn, Lifland, Pearlman, Herrmann and Knopf. He holds a J.D. from Rutgers Law School, where he was an editor of the law review.

DAG Lori J. DeCarlo is a Section Chief in the newly-created DCF Appeals Section of the Division of Law, where she supervises deputies and oversees a large caseload of appellate and Supreme Court cases involving the Division of Child Protection and Permanency, the Institutional Abuse Investigation Unit, and the Office of Licensing. DAG DeCarlo has successfully represented DCF in numerous appeals before the Appellate Division and the Supreme Court of New Jersey. Prior to her current position, she was an Assistant Section Chief and a Lead Deputy Attorney General. DAG DeCarlo received the State of New Jersey Exceptional Service Award in 2005. She earned a J.D. from Seton Hall University Law School and completed a judicial clerkship with the Honorable Robert A. Coogan, J.S.C.

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 1.5 hours of Alternative Verifiable Learning Format (AVF) total CLE credit. Of these, 0.0 qualify as hours of credit for ethics/professionalism.

Registration

Those who are eligible to apply should use the Zoom Webinar registration link in the Program Announcement email. Students who are registered will receive a confirmation email with a link to access the program.

Students must download Zoom before the webinar in order for the AGAI to record polling responses that are required for attendance verification and CLE credit.

The AGAI will be unable to verify attendance or grant CLE credit to students who have not downloaded Zoom before the webinar.