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## PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

*The Advocacy Institute Is Pleased to Present*

### **Ethics Challenges and Solutions for DCF Deputies**

**April 25, 2022**  
**1:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.**

### **WEBINAR**

#### *Program Summary*

This program will address the unique ethics issues faced by Deputy Attorneys General in the DCF practice group. The presenters will discuss representing the Department of Children and Families while adhering to the requirements of RPC 1.13, Organization as a Client. They will address the inherent ethics challenges faced by this litigation intensive practice group, including the requirements of competence (RPC 1.1), diligence (RPC 1.3), communication (RPC 1.4), and confidentiality (RPC 1.6). The presenters will also cover the Division of Law's requirements to report court sanctions, and some selected ethics requirements for State executive branch employees.

#### *Eligibility*

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

#### *Faculty*

**AAG Christian Arnold** is a Deputy Director in the Department of Law and Public Safety's Division of Law. Prior to his current position, Chris was an Assistant Attorney General in Charge of the DCF Practice Group. He was previously an Assistant Section Chief of DCF North, where he represented the Division in both protective services litigation and guardianship matters. Chris began his legal career as a Deputy Attorney General in the Public Utilities Section of the Division of Law. He is a graduate of Harvard Law School.

**AAG Erin O'Leary** oversees the Division of Law's DCF Practice Group with AAG Eleanor Armstrong. Prior to her current position, she served as a DCF DAG, arguing multiple appellate matters, including three NJ Supreme Court cases (YN, EDO and State v. Young). Previously, AAG

O'Leary served as the Deputy Commissioner for the Department of Children and Families (DCF). In that role, she 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, AAG 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 as an Adjunct Professor at Rutgers Law School. AAG O'Leary holds a BA in Speech Communication from Penn State University and a JD from Rutgers School of Law – Camden.

### *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, 1.5 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.