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## **PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT**

*The Advocacy Institute Is Pleased to Present*

### **Guardianship Training**

**April 26, 2022**

**10:00 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.\***

**R.J. Hughes Justice Complex  
4th Floor Conference Room A  
25 Market Street  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625**

**\*Registration opens at 9:30 a.m.**

#### *Program Summary*

This course will provide a comprehensive overview of termination of parental rights/FG litigation, including ten month reviews, permanency hearings, and pleadings. The presenters will discuss the four prongs of the best interests test as set forth in N.J.S.A. 30:4C-15.1(a) and review the new kin legislation with a specific focus on its impact upon the best interests test. The presenters will also provide a primer on the basics of trial presentation, including direct and cross-examination, evidence objections, soliciting expert testimony, and tips for effective trial preparation.

#### *Eligibility*

Attendance at this program is limited to Deputy Attorneys General in the Division of Law's Department of Children and Families Practice Group invited to attend.

#### *Faculty*

**DAG Vonnetta Dixon** is a member of the Division of Law's Department of Children and Families Practice Group, representing various offices of the Division of Child Protection and Permanency in Essex County. DAG Dixon has handled all aspects of child welfare litigation, including protective services, guardianship, kinship legal guardianship, post-termination and appellate matters. She received a J.D. from Seton Hall Law School.

**DAG Kosha Gala** is a member of the Division of Law's Department of Children and Families Practice Group in Cumberland County. She has also served in Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, Middlesex, and Union Counties. DAG Gala has successfully represented the Division in many guardianship trials and appellate matters. She received a B.S. from New York University and a J.D. from Seton Hall Law School

**DAG Amy Klauber** is a member of the Division of Law's Department of Children and Families Practice Group DCF-Central Unit, where she handles FG matters in Ocean, Middlesex and Monmouth Counties and FN matters in Middlesex County. Prior to joining the Department of Law and Public Safety, DAG Klauber was a solo practitioner concentrating in family law, personal injury, real estate and commercial litigation. She was also a pool attorney with the Office of Parental Representation. DAG Klauber holds a J.D. from Washington College of Law.

**DAG Lauren Oliverio** is a member of the Division of Law's Department of Children and Families Practice Group in Hudson County, where she represents DCP&P in termination of parental rights matters. Prior to joining the Department of Law and Public Safety, DAG Oliverio was in private practice specializing in real estate and commercial litigation. She clerked for the Honorable Robert B. Reed, P.J.Cr., Superior Court of New Jersey, Somerset Vicinage. DAG Oliverio received Bachelor of Arts degrees in History and Labor and Industrial Relations from the Pennsylvania State University and a J.D., cum laude, from Roger Williams University, School of Law.

### *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 5.7 hours of total CLE credit. Of these, 2.4 qualify as hours of credit toward certification in civil trial law, 2.4 qualify as hours of credit towards newly admitted lawyers' requirements/civil trial preparation, and 0.0 qualify as hours of credit for ethics/professionalism.

**PA CLE Credit:** 4.5 Substantive Credits (\$7.50 mandatory registration fee required).

### *AGENDA*

9:30 – 10:00 Registration

10:00-10:45 Overview & Pre Guardianship (FG) Litigation

- Goal of FG Litigation, Title 30 and Relevant Definitions
- 10 Month Review Conferences & Permanency Hearings

10:45-11:30 Guardianship (FG) Litigation

- Filing the Complaint & Service
- Types of Hearings and their Components
- Surrenders (Types & Authority)

11:30-11:45 Break

11:45-12:45 4 Prongs and Changes in the Law

12:45-1:45 Lunch

1:45-2:45 Trial Preparation

2:45-3:00 Break

3:00 – 4:00 Trial Practice Tips

- Relevant Evidence Rules
- Direct & Cross
- Expert & Lay Testimony

4:00 – 4:15 Questions & Open Discussion