



PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

The Advocacy Institute Is Pleased to Present

Conflicts of Interest in Litigation Involving Public Entities

August 1, 2022
11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

WEBINAR

Program Summary

Attorneys cannot generally represent parties who have conflicting positions in a litigation. Although a conflict can sometimes be waived to allow an attorney to undertake a joint representation, public entities and employees cannot waive conflicts of interest and deputies in the State Police, Employment & Corrections Section cannot represent persons with conflicting interests. The presenters will review the Rules of Professional Conduct and other applicable authorities, educate deputies about the types of conflicts that can arise in SPEC litigation, explain new SPEC section procedures to identify and respond to conflicts of interest and discuss the negative consequences of failing to identify conflicts early in a case.

Eligibility

Registration for this program is limited to Deputy and Assistant Attorneys General in the State Police, Employment & Corrections Section of the Division of Law. Registrants will receive the course materials prior to the program date.

Faculty

AAG Stephanie Cohen is an Assistant Attorney General in the Division of Law's Litigation Practice Group, where she oversees a substantial amount of litigation handled by the State. She shares overall responsibility for the management of the Division's two litigation sections, State Police, Employment & Corrections and Tort Litigation & Judiciary. She also provides policy direction and advice for handling litigation throughout the Division and oversees outside counsel in employment and tort litigation matters. Prior to joining DOL, AAG Cohen was a partner and

associate at McCarter & English, LLP for over nineteen years, where she worked as a litigation and trial attorney and represented clients in various complex commercial matters including sales practices and securities litigation and represented clients in state and federal courts. She was also the Partner in Charge of Firm-wide Diversity from 2010-2015, overseeing initiatives designed to promote the hiring, retention and advancement of diverse attorneys. AAG Cohen holds a B.A. in Political Science, magna cum laude, from Colorado College and a J.D from the University of Denver, Sturm College of Law, where she was a member of the law review.

DAG Dianne Moratti is the Section Chief of the State Police, Employment and Corrections Section of the Division of Law. She primarily represents the Department of Corrections in federal civil rights lawsuits filed in both federal and State court. She was previously a member of the former FedCor Section of the Division of Law. DAG Moratti worked in private practice for several years before joining the Division. She completed a federal clerkship with the Hon. Jerome B. Simandle, U.S.D.J. and holds a J.D. from Rutgers Law School – 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.