



---

## PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

*The Advocacy Institute Is Pleased to Present*

### **Responding to Complaints: Answers and Defenses**

**October 24, 2022  
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

### **WEBINAR**

#### *Program Summary*

The program will provide an introduction to answering civil complaints in employment, tort and civil rights cases against New Jersey State defendants. It will review the court rules relating to Answers and Defenses, including Affirmative Defenses. Motions to dismiss in lieu of answer will also be discussed.

#### *Eligibility*

Attendance at this program is limited to Deputy Attorneys General in the State Police, Employment and Corrections and Tort and Judiciary Sections of the Division of Law.

#### *Faculty*

**DAG James M. Duttera** is an Assistant Section Chief in the State Police, Employment Litigation and Corrections Section of the Division of Law, where he manages a group of trial attorneys and handles the defense of complex employment litigation and civil rights cases brought against State entities. DAG Duttera's extensive litigation experience includes handling all aspects of civil matters from inception through appeal and trying multiple cases before the New Jersey Superior and United States District Courts. Prior to joining the Division of Law, DAG Duttera served as a trial lawyer working exclusively in employment litigation for over a decade. He has been selected by his peers as a member of Philadelphia Magazine's "Pennsylvania Rising Stars" list and for inclusion as a Philadelphia Super Lawyer. DAG Duttera is a graduate of St. Joseph's University and holds a J.D. from Temple University Beasley School of Law.

**DAG Agnes I. Rymer** is an Assistant Section Chief in the State Police, Employment & Corrections Section of the Division of Law. As an ASC, she handles all aspects of employment law claims in agencies and in State and federal courts. Prior to joining DOL, she was in private practice in general civil litigation. DAG Rymer clerked in the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey for the Hon. H. Lee Sarokin (retired). She holds a B.A. in political science and education from Livingston College of Rutgers University and a J.D. from Rutgers Law School, Newark, where she graduated first in her class.

**DAG Randall B. Weaver** is an Assistant Section Chief in the Tort and Judiciary Section of the Division of Law, where he handles all aspects of civil litigation in both federal and State courts. He has also served as a DAG in the Corrections and State Police Section. Prior to joining the Division of Law, DAG Weaver was an associate in the Law Office of Thomas F. Marshall. He holds an undergraduate degree from Wake Forrest University and a J.D. from Rutgers 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 1.2 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 Gov 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 Gov before the webinar.