



PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

The Advocacy Institute Is Pleased to Present

OAL Practice 101 - A Primer for DCF Deputies

November 21, 2022

11:10 a.m. - 12:25 p.m.

WEBINAR

Program Summary

This program will provide DCF deputies with an introduction to administrative practice. The presenters will discuss administrative procedures, the OAL hearing and decision process, and common administrative practice obstacles. They will also detail what distinguishes administrative practice from that in Superior Court, including representation of the Department of Children and Families' Institutional Abuse Investigation Unit and Office of Licensing.

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 Christina Duclos is the Assistant Section Chief of the DCF Appeals Section in the Division of Law. She was previously the DCF-Central Assistant Section Chief, overseeing OAL practice. She began her career at the Division of Law as a line deputy. Throughout her service in the DCF section, DAG Duclos has successfully represented DCF in numerous appeals before both the Office of Administrative Law and the Appellate Division. DAG Duclos clerked for the Hon. Mary C. Jacobson in Mercer County when she presided over General Equity matters in the Chancery Division. She holds a B.A. in English Literature from the University of Southern California, an M.A. in English from Stanford University, and a J.D. from Rutgers School of Law – Camden.

DAG Joann Corsetto is a DCF line deputy in the Division of Law, where she is assigned to administrative appeals. She has successfully represented DCF in numerous appeals before the Office of Administrative Law and the Appellate Division. DAG Corsetto began her career with

the Division of Law as intern under AAG Andrea Silkowitz, writing guardianship appeals and motions for summary disposition. She earned a B.A. from Rutgers University and a J.D. from Rutgers School of Law – Newark.

Gwendolyn L. Weber manages the Administrative Hearings Unit in the Department of Children and Families Office of Legal Affairs, where she leads a team of Administrative Reviewers. Ms. Weber evaluates agency practices to strengthen decision making and ensure a fair and equitable approach to due process. She has also worked in direct practice, serving families through the Division of Child Protection and Permanency. Ms. Weber holds a Master of Social Work Degree from Rutgers University and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice from Stockton University.

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.