



PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

The Advocacy Institute Is Pleased to Present

How to Handle a Case of Severe Child Abuse of an Infant in the Wake of J.R.-R.

**November 21, 2022
11:10 a.m. - 12:25 p.m.**

WEBINAR

Program Summary

In *DCPP v. J.R.-R.*, 248 N.J. 353 (2021), the NJ Supreme Court found that N.J.S.A. 9:6-8.46(b)(1) does not allow the Division of Child Protection & Permanency to “shift the burden” to the parent in matters where the nature of the child’s injuries show a prima facie case of child abuse, making cases of infant abuse more complicated to prove. This program will provide deputies with methods to work with the client from the onset of the investigation through the trial to support the client’s need to protect the child and enter appropriate findings. The presenters will address advising clients during an investigation, using statutory investigative tools, working with law enforcement, and legal strategies for trial.

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

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.

DAG Jacalyn Estrada is a member of the Department of Children and Families Central Section of the Division of Law’s DCF Practice Group, where she handles protective services litigation. Before joining DCF, she worked in the Division of Criminal Justice handling financial and cybercrimes. DAG Estrada completed a clerkship with the Honorable Daniel J. Yablonsky, J.S.C. She earned a B.A. from Seton Hall University and a J.D. from Loyola University New Orleans College of Law.

DAG Arriel Rubinstein is a member of the Department of Children and Families North Section of the Division of Law’s DCF practice group, where she primarily handles abuse and neglect matters on the FN docket. DAG Rubinstein hold a B.A. in International Relations from Lehigh University and a J.D. from Cardozo School of Law. While attending law school, she interned with the DCF-Essex office.

DAG Elizabeth Wallace is a member of the Department of Children and Families South Section of the Division of Law’s DCF practice group, where she handles abuse/neglect cases in Burlington County. DAG Wallace has tried numerous cases involving serious physical injuries sustained by children while in the care of their parents. She has also handled guardianship and appellate cases. Before joining the DCF Practice Group, DAG Wallace spent a year in private practice and served a Family Part clerkship. She holds a J.D. from Fordham 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 1.5 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.