



PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

The Advocacy Institute Is Pleased to Present

Special Immigrant Juvenile Status in the Child Welfare Setting

**November 16, 2023
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

WEBINAR

Program Summary

This program will provide an overview of special immigrant juvenile status, including eligibility criteria, the family court process, the role of the DAG, and some challenges that deputies might face. It will also include interactive, case-specific scenarios. The presenters will discuss the partnership between DCF and Rutgers and the role of the DCF Immigration Specialist. They will also provide background on how non-citizen children arrive in New Jersey what happens thereafter.

Eligibility

This program is only open to Deputy and Assistant Attorneys General in the DCF practice group.

Faculty

Professor Joanne Gottesman is the Director of the Immigrant Justice Clinic at Rutgers Law School - Camden. Her clinical practice and scholarship focus on the intersections between criminal, family, and immigration law. With Professor Randi Mandelbaum, she established a statewide project to represent New Jersey children in foster care in their immigration matters. Professor Gottesman holds an undergraduate degree from Wesleyan University and a J.D. from Columbia Law School.

DAG Debra Greaney is a member of the Department of Children and Families Central Section in the Division of Law. She handles termination of parental rights and abuse or neglect cases in Middlesex County. Prior to joining DOL, she was a pool law guardian and in private practice focusing on family law, real estate and estate planning. DAG Greaney holds an undergraduate degree from Millersville University and a J.D. from Widener University School of Law.

Professor Randi Mandelbaum is the Annamay Sheppard Scholar and Director of the Child Advocacy Clinic at Rutgers Law School. The CAC provides representation to abused and neglected children, undocumented immigrant children, and low-income children with disabilities. Her scholarship focuses on the legal representation of children, issues concerning undocumented immigrant children, child welfare law and policy, and the intersection of family and immigration law. With Professor Joanne Gottesman, she established a statewide project to represent New Jersey children in foster care in their immigration matters. She holds an undergraduate degree from Brandeis University, a J.D. from American University and an LL.M. from Georgetown University.

Georgiana Romero Ochoa, Esq. is the Immigration Legal Specialist in the Department of Children and Families' Office of Legal Affairs. Prior to joining DCF, Ms. Romero-Ochoa handled the defense of civil cases as in-house counsel and represented individuals in immigration court as an attorney in a private law firm. She holds an undergraduate degree from Drew University and a J.D. from Vermont Law School.

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 2.0 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.