



PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

The Advocacy Institute Is Pleased to Present

Wellness for Government Lawyers: Improving Well-Being and Maintaining Ethical Obligations in Challenging Times

**December 4, 2023
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

WEBINAR

Program Summary

The last several years have presented unprecedented personal and professional challenges for government lawyers. This program will address the warning signs of attorney burnout, including the risk factors lawyers face. The presenters will provide practical solutions for self-care, including addressing and de-escalating conflict and accessing resources and alternatives. The presenters will also explore why attorney well-being bears a significant relationship to meeting ethical obligations under the Rules of Professional Conduct.

Eligibility

This program is open to attorneys in the Department of Law and Public Safety and county prosecutors' offices.

Faculty

Kim D. Ringler, Esq. is the principal of the Ringler Law Firm, in Waldwick, New Jersey. Her law firm concentrates on representing lawyers and other State licensed professionals on regulatory issues, attorney ethics and disciplinary proceedings as well as character and fitness matters. Ms. Ringler previously served as a Deputy Attorney General in the Division of Law, most recently as the Deputy Director of the Division of Consumer Affairs. She oversaw the operations of 46 licensing boards, as well as the DCA's investigatory arm, the Enforcement Bureau; the

Prescription Drug Monitoring Program; and the Drug Control Unit and coordinated the Attorney General's Pain Management Council. As a DAG, she prosecuted State licensed medical and other professionals for violations of standards of practice. She also served as an Ethics Liaison Officer for the Division of Law. Prior to joining LPS, she was in private practice, representing attorneys at all stages of the disciplinary and admission processes, and counseling lawyers, law firms and other regulated professionals on ethics, disciplinary and licensure matters. Before that, she was an assistant district attorney in Brooklyn, NY, and served as Special Trial Counsel to the Disciplinary Committee for Manhattan and the Bronx.

Ms. Ringler has practiced ethics law for more than thirty years, handling matters throughout New Jersey from initial admissions through disciplinary proceedings, providing expert opinions on attorney ethics issues, and advising on government ethics. She has successfully argued numerous attorney ethics matters before the New Jersey Supreme Court, representing individuals as well as the New Jersey Advisory Committee on Professional Ethics, the Committee on Advertising and the Committee on Extra-Judicial Activities. While at LPS, Ms. Ringler received an Attorney General's Exceptional Service Award. She is included in *Best Lawyers in America* in the area of Ethics and Professional Responsibility Law, *New Jersey's Top Legal Minds* and *New Jersey Women Leaders in the Law*, and received a Collaboration Award from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for her participation in a joint federal/state investigation. Martindale Hubbell has consistently rated her AV Preeminent. Ms. Ringler is a graduate of Oberlin College and Georgetown University Law School and holds a certification in Health Care Compliance from Seton Hall Law School.

Shae Shagin, LCSW, is a Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker certified to practice in Maine, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and New Hampshire. She is also a certified Adjustment Counselor (MA) and certified School Counselor (NJ). In addition, she holds certification for EAGALA (Equine Assisted Growth and Learning Association) as both a Mental Health Specialist and an Equine Specialist. Ms. Shagin is an individual therapist for pre-teen through mature clients. Her background includes specialized training in treating adolescent and adult depression and anxiety, self-harming, and suicidality. She has worked as an outreach counselor for youth and families, assisting in establishing a diversion program for youth arrested for minor crimes at the municipal level, and as a school based therapist specializing in behaviorally and emotionally challenged adolescents. Ms. Shagin holds an undergraduate degree with honors from Colby College and a graduate degree from the Fordham University Graduate School of Social Services, where she was a member of the Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society.

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, 2.0 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.