



PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

The Advocacy Institute Is Pleased to Present

FN Court Overview & Fact Finding Training

May 7, 2025
9:00 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.

WEBINAR

Program Summary

This program will provide a comprehensive overview of FN litigation, including the role of a DAG representing a Department of Children and Families Division Local Office and the knowledge and skills a DAG must master to advocate on behalf of the Division in FN matters. The presenters will cover all areas of substantive practice in FN litigation, including OSC, ROSC, case management conferences, Fact Finding trials, stipulations, compliance reviews, dispositional hearings and permanency hearings. The presenters will also discuss the basics of trial presentation, including direct and cross examination, evidence objections and soliciting expert testimony. Deputies will be provided with strategies for effective trial preparation and guidance on managing the client, the adversary and the court.

Eligibility

This program is only open to Deputy Attorneys General in the Division of Law's DCF practice group who have been enrolled by their section supervisors.

Faculty

DAG Deirdre Carver is member of the DCF Central Section of the Division of Law. She handles termination of parental rights and abuse or neglect cases. Prior to joining the Division of Law, she worked as a public defender in Virginia and in private practice, focusing on medical malpractice cases. DAG Carver clerked in the Appellate Division for the late Hon. Arnold M. Stein, J.A.D. She holds an undergraduate degree from Fairfield University and a J.D. from Seton Hall University School of Law, where she was Editor-in-Chief of the Seton Hall Legislative Journal.

DAG Eliezer Sanchez-Silver is a member of the DCF Central Section of the Division of Law. He is assigned to the Division of Child Protection and Permanency Southern Monmouth County Local Office, where he handles an FN docket. He has also represented the Division in both

protective services and guardianship litigation for 19 years. DAG Sanchez-Silver earned a B.A. from Rutgers University and a J.D. from Brooklyn Law School, where he was an Edward V. Sparer Public Interest fellow.

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 6.0 hours of Alternative Verifiable Learning Format (AVF) total CLE credit. Of these, 3.0 qualify as hours of credit toward certification in civil trial law, 3.0 qualify as hours of credit towards newly admitted lawyers' requirements/civil trial preparation, and 0.0 qualify as hours of credit for ethics/professionalism.

Registration

Those who have been enrolled by their section leadership should use the Zoom webinar registration link in the program announcement email to confirm their attendance. 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.

AGENDA

- 9:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m. Log-On/Introduction
- 9:15 a.m.-10:45 a.m. DCF and FN Court Overview
- 10:45 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Break
- 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. The Court Practice of an FN Deputy
- 12:30 p.m.-1:15 p.m. Lunch
- 1:15 p.m.-2:15 p.m. The Court Practice of an FN Deputy cont.
- 2:15 p.m.-3:15 p.m. Managing the Client, the Adversary and the Court