



**ASSOCIATION OF  
FAMILY AND  
CONCILIATION COURTS**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**

Washington Hilton

**June 6–9, 2018**

**55th ANNUAL**

**CONFERENCE**



**Compassionate Family Court Systems:  
The Role of Trauma-Informed Jurisprudence**

# AFCC 55th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

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National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges  
World Congress on Family Law and Children's Rights**

### About the Conference

AFCC strives to offer a wide range of conference sessions highlighting different research, advocacy positions, policies, practices, programs, procedures, and ideas. Some programs may be evidence-based while others may report on works in progress, emerging practices, or policy initiatives. The goal of the conference is to enhance learning while encouraging respectful inquiry, discussion, and debate consistent with AFCC organizational values. AFCC does not necessarily endorse or support the views of conference presenters.

# Compassionate Family Court Systems: The Role of Trauma-Informed Jurisprudence

## Special Features

- ★ **Jaycee Dugard**, author of *A Stolen Life* and *Freedom: My Book of Firsts*, ★ explores the trauma of her abduction and 18 years in captivity.
- ★ The *Washington Post*'s **Bob Woodward** and Yale child psychiatrist **Dr. Kyle Pruett** ★ discuss the loss of civility in institutions ranging from the family to politics.
- ★ **Judge Dan Michael** shares recommendations for improving trauma-informed ★ practice with consumers and administrators of justice.
- ★ **Dr. Shawn Marsh** untangles the trauma from the family court drama. ★
- ★ Laugh at the political satire of **The Capitol Steps** at the AFCC Annual Banquet ★

## You won't want to miss this conference!

- **Interdisciplinary** and **international** attendees include judges, mental health professionals, lawyers, mediators, researchers, academics, and others from all over the world!
- **Special forums** for judicial officers and for researchers and academics.
- Networking and educational opportunities for **AFCC E2Ms** (early-to-mid-career professionals).
- Select from **eight pre-conference institutes** for an intensive learning experience.
- Earn up to **20.5 hours of continuing education** for psychologists, lawyers, mental health professionals, mediators, and social workers (see p. 31 for details.).
- **Network** with your friends and colleagues during dine arounds, luncheon, the 20th Annual Silent Auction, and the AFCC Banquet.

## More than 30 conference scholarships are available!

Apply by the March 9, 2018 deadline at the AFCC website at [www.afccnet.org](http://www.afccnet.org). Recipients will be notified in late March. Scholarship winners who have previously registered for the conference will have their fees refunded.

## Workshop Session Designations

Some sessions designated with **E2M** are suggested for early-to-mid-career professionals, as well as those with experience. All workshops are identified as **G** (General Interests), **I** (Intermediate), or **A** (Advanced). Please note that these designations are made by the presenters. Because experience and education among conference attendees varies, the designation of a particular session may not always meet with everyone's particular expectations.

## Table of Contents

Conference at a Glance .....	3
Pre-Conference Institutes .....	4
Conference Program .....	6
Important Conference Information .....	31
Registration Information .....	32
Travel and Lodging Information .....	32
Registration Form .....	33

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## Invitation from the President

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to invite you to join AFCC for its 55th Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. The conference is June 6-9, 2018 at the Washington Hilton, with the theme, *Compassionate Family Court Systems: The*

*Role of Trauma-Informed Jurisprudence*. I know I am not alone in realizing that family courts are overdue in addressing the role of trauma in our judicial system, and the exceptional quality of the conference sessions, including pre-conference institutes, will go a long way towards advancing our system's response to the needs of families.

It's hard to know where to start when describing this conference. Our opening session features Jaycee Dugard. Ms. Dugard was abducted at the age of 11 and was held by her captors for eighteen years. During her time as a hostage, she gave birth twice and raised the children, in captivity, to the ages of 11 and 15 before they were rescued. She has turned that horror into goodness through the JAYC Foundation, which provides assistance to families dealing with abduction and other traumas.

What is the state of civility in our legal and political systems? Who better than to discuss this topic than Bob Woodward, renowned *Washington Post* journalist, author (most recently of *The Last of the President's Men*) and political writer. Mr. Woodward will have a conversation on civility in our institutions with Dr. Kyle Pruett of Yale University as our luncheon speakers on Thursday June 7. In addition, on Friday, June 8, Judge Dan Michael and Dr. Shawn Marsh will deliver keynote addresses on addressing trauma in our courts.

In addition to these outstanding plenary sessions, more than 100 workshops and pre-conference institutes are offered on topics including parental estrangement, domestic violence, mediation, evaluation, and court programs, along with several workshops on trauma-informed court systems and the recognition of trauma in the people we serve.

With all the talk of trauma, we will need to laugh, so on Friday evening the AFCC Banquet will feature a live performance by the Capitol Steps, who put the mock in Democracy with their hot off the presses' take on all things Washington and political.

Our venue, the Washington Hilton, is located in the heart of the District of Columbia near Dupont Circle, and features everything the US capital city has to offer. Tour the Capitol, Supreme Court or Library of Congress, or walk the National Mall to take in the several Smithsonian Institutions, the National Gallery, the Lincoln Memorial, and the Washington Monument. Enjoy fine dining near Dupont Circle and in Georgetown. You will want to plan extra days before or after the conference to take in as much as possible.

Please don't miss the combination of AFCC's outstanding educational and networking opportunities, combined with everything Washington D.C. has to offer. I hope to see you in Washington in June.

Annette T. Burns  
AFCC President

# Conference at a Glance

## TUESDAY, JUNE 5, 2018

6:00pm–8:00pm Conference Registration

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6, 2018

7:30am–6:00pm Conference Registration  
 8:00am–9:00am Coffee and Rolls for Institute Registrants  
 8:00am–5:00pm Exhibit Forum  
 9:00am–5:00pm Pre-Conference Institutes  
 10:30am–10:45am Break  
 12:00pm–1:30pm Lunch on your own  
 12:00pm–4:30pm AFCC Board of Directors Meeting  
 2:45pm–3:00pm Break  
 5:00pm–6:00pm New Member and First Time Attendee Orientation  
 6:00pm–7:00pm Opening Reception  
 7:00pm–8:00pm AFCC Awards Ceremony  
 9:00pm–12:00am AFCC Hospitality Suite

## THURSDAY, JUNE 7, 2018

6:15am–6:30am Meditation  
 6:30am–7:15am Yoga  
 7:30am–8:30am Chapter Council Meeting  
 7:30am–5:00pm Conference Registration  
 7:30am–8:45am Coffee and Rolls  
 7:30am–5:00pm Exhibit Forum  
 8:45am–10:00am Opening Session  
 10:00am–10:30am Break  
 10:30am–12:00pm Workshops 1-12  
 12:00pm–1:30pm AFCC Luncheon  
 1:45pm–3:15pm Workshops 13-24  
 3:15pm–3:30pm Break  
 3:30pm–5:00pm Workshops 25-36  
 5:15pm–6:15pm International Reception  
 Evening Taste of Washington, D.C.  
 9:00pm–12:00am AFCC Hospitality Suite

## FRIDAY, JUNE 8, 2018

6:15am–6:30am Meditation  
 6:30am–7:15am Yoga  
 7:15am–8:15am AFCC Committee Meetings  
 7:30am–5:00pm Conference Registration  
 7:30am–8:30am Coffee and Rolls  
 7:30am–5:00pm Exhibit Forum  
 8:30am–10:00am Workshops 37-48  
 10:00am–10:30am Break  
 10:30am–11:15am Plenary Session I  
 11:15am–12:00pm Plenary Session II  
 12:00pm–1:30pm Lunch on your own  
 12:00pm–1:30pm *Family Court Review*  
 Editorial Board Meeting  
 1:45pm–3:15pm Workshops 49-60  
 3:15pm–3:30pm Break  
 3:30pm–5:00pm Workshops 61-72  
 5:30pm–7:00pm Silent Auction and Reception  
 7:00pm–9:30pm AFCC Annual Banquet  
 10:00pm–12:00am AFCC Hospitality Suite

## SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 2018

6:15am–6:30am Meditation  
 6:30am–7:15am Yoga  
 8:00am–12:30pm Conference Registration  
 8:00am–9:00am Coffee and Rolls  
 8:00am–12:30pm Exhibit Forum  
 8:00am–9:00am AFCC Membership Meeting  
 9:15am–10:45am Workshops 73-84  
 10:45am–11:00am Break  
 11:00am–12:30pm Workshops 85-96

# Pre-Conference Institutes

(Separate registration fee required. Please see registration information on page 32.)

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6, 2018 9:00AM-5:00PM**

## 1. Becoming a Trauma-Informed Court

Courts are often an overlooked member of the healing community. As a critical point of contact for many who have experienced trauma or substantial adversity, courts and allied systems are increasingly interested in becoming more trauma-informed in working with both consumers and administrators of justice. This institute will provide an overview of how trauma and chronic adversity impacts human development and functioning, outline the role of the court in addressing trauma, and present tips and tools to support trauma-informed practice in a justice context.

*Shawn C. Marsh, PhD, Univ. of Nevada, Reno, NV*

*Hon. Dan H. Michael, Juvenile Court of Memphis and Shelby County, Memphis, TN*

*Isaiah B. Pickens, PhD, National Center for Child Traumatic Stress, Los Angeles, CA*

*Hon. Katherine Tennyson, Multnomah County Circuit Court, Portland, OR*

## 2. Mediation with Personality-Disordered Clients

Clients with personality disorders or traits need more structure, encouragement, and positive skills to use during mediation. This institute will present the steps of *New Ways for Mediation*, a simple, but highly-structured method that teaches and reinforces client skills including asking questions, making agendas, and proposals, and responding appropriately. It discourages storytelling, emotional confrontations, and blaming behavior, based on the belief that many issues are irresolvable for people with high conflict personality disorders. This program will include an explanation of the process, video examples, and practice exercises. These skills can be used with any case.

*Bill Eddy, LCSW, JD, CFLS, High Conflict Institute, San Diego, CA*

## 3. Trauma-Sensitive Early Intervention

Many families enter the court system with histories of trauma, or with disputed allegations of traumatic events as part of the legal conflict. These issues may interact with resistance-refusal dynamics and disputes about the meaning of children's behavior or other parenting issues. Intervention is often delayed based on the questionable assumption that every element of "cause" or blame must (or can) be determined before services are provided. This can result in children's symptoms and developmental disturbances becoming entrenched and difficult to repair. This institute will present innovative strategies for trauma-sensitive, systemic early intervention, to promote healthy adjustment without interfering with the legal process.

*Lyn R. Greenberg, PhD, ABPP, Los Angeles, CA*

*Robin M. Deutsch, PhD, ABPP, William James College, Wellesley, MA*

*Hon. Herman Walker, Anchorage, AK*

## 4. Coercive Control: A Multidisciplinary Skills-Based Training for Family Law Professionals

Survivors of coercive control often say that the worst part of their experience is the non-physical aspects of abuse—those everyday, dehumanizing assaults that are difficult to describe, next-to-impossible to prove, and devastating to their personal autonomy and parental well-being. Using the best from the current social science literature and the clinical and legal experience of the panelists, this institute will focus on those difficult to prove custody cases where severe coercive control leaves no marks. *Co-sponsored by the AFCC Maryland Chapter.*

*Linda Delaney, JD, Delaney McKinney, Chevy Chase, MD*

*Anton Tripolskii, JD, Battered Women's Justice Project, Minneapolis, MN*

*Katie Killeen, PhD, Berman & Killeen, Towson, MD*

*Lisa Nitsch, MSW, House of Ruth, Baltimore, MD*

## 5. Judicial Officers Institute: Developing Skills for Interviewing Children and Dispute Resolution

This institute will help judicial officers sharpen their skills in interviewing children and dispute resolution. Part I will explore the skills and techniques for interviewing children. Presenters will share methods for accessing the child's voice (e.g. drawing, video clips, toys, song lyrics) described in case studies and children's art work. The use of a trained service dog and manipulation of physical space to enhance the interview process will be discussed. Part II will focus on mediation and other dispute resolution skills for judicial officers. The presenters will focus on effective tools, skills, and techniques that judicial officers can use to assist parties (both self-represented and with counsel) in reaching a resolution. They will examine how judicial officers from different jurisdictions approach settlement conferences and how they structure the process so that the case can subsequently be heard by the trier of fact if it is not resolved.

*Magistrate Richard Altman, Napoleon, OH*

*Kathy Clark, PhD, Marion County Family Court, Marion, OH*

*Hon. Emile Kruzick, Toronto, ON, Canada*

*Hon. Denise McColley, Napoleon, OH*

## 6. Deconstructing the Process of Decision-Making

Family law practitioners, including judges, attorneys for parents, children's representatives, child custody evaluators, mediators, and others make decisions daily, but rarely think about the process of doing so. Recognizing that conflicted families are complex, and the dynamics are often challenging, the presenters will deconstruct the process of decision-making in our work. Using a variety of teaching methods, including videos and case discussions, the presenters will guide participants to be curious, avoid oversimplification, manage their personal feelings and projected ideas, and understand critical components in decision-making.

*Hon. Tom Altobelli, Federal Circuit Court of Australia, Wollongong, Australia*

*Darren Mort, Barrister, Melbourne, Australia*

*Philip M. Stahl, PhD, ABPP, Queen Creek, Arizona*

# Pre-Conference Institutes

(continued)

## 7. Trial Bootcamp for Mental Health and Legal Professionals: Deconstructing a Child Custody Case **E2M**

The courtroom can be unforgiving to attorneys and mental health witnesses. This institute will address all aspects of trial preparation and trial of a child custody case, including rules of evidence, the law of expert testimony, the forensic custody evaluation, and direct and cross examination. This program will replicate actual trial situations and will demystify the process. It will explain the different layers of action in the courtroom, how to read it and effectively respond. Additional topics include body language, the importance of what you say *and* how you say it, demonstrative evidence and effective presentation, the trial as theatre, establishing a level of comfort in the courtroom, how to defend yourself as a witness on cross examination and how to protect yourself in the witness box (when no one else will).

*Lawrence Jay Braunstein, JD, Braunstein & Zuckerman, White Plains, NY*

*Andrew Schepard, JD, Hofstra Law School, Hempstead, NY*

*Hon. Cathy Hollenberg Serrette, Upper Marlboro, MD*

*Arnold T. Shienvold, PhD, Riegler Shienvold and Associates, Harrisburg, PA*

## 8. The Unseen Damage: Ambiguous Loss and Vicarious Trauma in Abduction Familial and Non-Familial Cases

This institute addresses the impact of all affected in missing child cases, including family members, the court system, and helping professionals. The roles for judges, therapists, and attorneys will be discussed in the context of their involvement in these cases. Both ambiguous loss and vicarious trauma can present itself in court situations in a variety of ways, leading to health and maladaptive and can take a toll on the world of these families. This topic will highlight the role of the legal field, the helping professional, as well as the signs and accounts. It will provide guidance on ways to recognize the signs of ambiguous loss in families as well as practical self-care techniques to combat symptoms of vicarious (secondary) trauma.

*Duane T. Bowers, LPC, Private Practice Trauma Therapist, Washington D.C.*

*Lanae J. Holmes, LICSW, National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, Alexandria, VA*

*Rebecca Bailey, PhD, Transitioning Families, Glen Ellen CA*

**CANCELLED**

## Join AFCC Today and Save!

AFCC is the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts—an interdisciplinary and international association of professionals dedicated to improving the lives of children and families through the resolution of family conflict. AFCC brings together members of multiple disciplines to create a better understanding of different perspectives. Members value education, research, innovation, and identifying the best practices to achieve the best possible outcomes for children and families.

**Join AFCC when you register for the annual conference and save \$10 on your first year's membership and up to \$185 on your registration.**

*Select "New Membership Special" when completing the registration form.*

### AFCC Member Benefits Include:

- **Family Court Review**, AFCC's quarterly academic and research journal in print and electronic format, with full access to the online archives
- **Online member directory** of over 5,000 colleagues worldwide
- **AFCC eNEWS**, the monthly electronic newsletter, latest developments in the field, updates, interviews, and more directly to your inbox.
- **Parenting Coordination Network Listserv** for AFCC members who are PCs or are interested in the role to share tips, advice, referrals and network with others.
- **Substantial member discounts** on registration for AFCC conferences and trainings, webinars, exhibits and advertising, and publications from AFCC and Wiley-Blackwell.
- **Complete access to AFCC Webinar archives** where you can watch webinars on topics such as the AFCC *Guidelines* on intimate partner violence, issues in relocation cases, parenting coordination, visitation resistance, and more
- **Professional liability insurance** through Complete Equity Markets, Inc. for arbitrators, hearing officers, mediators, parent coordinators, and parent educator.

[www.afccnet.org](http://www.afccnet.org)



# Compassionate Family Court Systems: The Role of Trauma-Informed Jurisprudence

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6, 2018

7:30am-6:00pm	Conference Registration
8:00am-9:00am	Coffee and Rolls for Institute Registrants
8:00am-5:00pm	Exhibit Forum
9:00am-5:00pm	Pre-Conference Institutes (see pages 4 and 5)
10:30am-10:45am	Break
12:00-1:30pm	Lunch on your own
2:45pm-3:00pm	Break
5:00pm-6:00pm	New Member and First Time Attendee Orientation
6:00pm-7:00pm	Welcome Reception
7:00pm-8:00pm	AFCC Awards Ceremony
9:00pm-12:00am	Hospitality Suite

## THURSDAY, JUNE 7, 2018

6:15am-6:30am	Meditation
6:30am-7:15am	Yoga
7:30am-8:30am	Chapter Council Meeting
7:30am-5:00pm	Conference Registration
7:30am-8:45am	Coffee and Rolls
7:30am-5:00pm	Exhibit Forum

### 8:45am-10:00am Opening Session

*Welcome: Annette T. Burns, AFCC President, Phoenix, AZ  
Hon. Robert Morin, Chief Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia*

### A Stolen Life

In 1991, Jaycee Dugard was kidnapped by two strangers from a bus stop in her hometown of Lake Tahoe. She survived years of physical and emotional abuse at the hands of her assailants. She was finally reunited with her mother and family in 2009, eighteen years after she was taken. Jaycee is now the author of two *New York Times* best sellers, *A Stolen Life: A Memoir* (2011) and *Freedom: My Book of Firsts* (2016). She and her family created The JAYC Foundation in 2011. The Foundation's message is "Just Ask Yourself to Care" and its mission is to help families that have suffered a familial or non-familial abduction or other trauma; to spread the message of compassion and awareness through educational programs; and to encourage the collaboration of various entities to provide protected spaces for families to heal.

*Jaycee Dugard, Author, A Stolen Life and Freedom: My Book of Firsts*

*With Rebecca Bailey, PhD, Glen Ellen, CA and Matthew J. Sullivan, PhD, Palo Alto, CA*

*"The entire AFCC conference has been very inspiring. I found a real and special 'community of practice' at work, bringing together different professional skills and roles. In my view the inter-professional mix should indeed become the future goal of the social systems for better supporting and taking care of families in distress."*

Francesco Belletti, Italy

10:00am-10:30am Break

**10:30am-12:00pm Workshops 1-12****1. Becoming Trauma-Informed: What it Means for Family Law Professionals** **G1** **E2M**

It is becoming increasingly important for family law professionals to understand the prevalence and impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) on the long-term trajectory of a child's life. Presenters in this session will explain what it means to be trauma-informed, how trauma assessments may be critical to understanding a child's needs and determining best interests, and how trauma-related information may be considered by the court. Cases involving high conflict, violence, compromised/impaired parenting, and traumatic losses will be discussed.

*Kathleen McNamara, PhD, Fort Collins, CO*

*Hon. Elizabeth Strobel, Weld County District Court, Greeley, CO*

*Scott Goldstone, JD, Peek Goldstone, LLC, Greeley, CO*

*Rebecca M. Stahl, JD, LLM, Children's Law Center of California, Monterey Park, CA*

**2. Assessment and Intervention in Resist/Refuse Cases: A Trauma-Informed Approach** **A**

The dilemma posed by refuse/resist cases has increasingly troubled family courts, professionals, and parents. Based on a multi-factorial exploration of factors that may influence strained parent-child relationship, a new trauma-informed practice approach will be presented. This workshop will review the empirical evidence related to trauma and strained parent-child relationships, highlight the measures used to assess retrospective-trauma, and present a trauma-informed decision tree for considering various influences of refuse/resist, and to differentiate intervention approaches.

*Leslie M. Drozd, PhD, Newport Beach, CA*

*Michael A. Saini, PhD, Univ. of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada*

*Robin M. Deutsch, PhD, ABPP, William James College, Newton, MA*

**3. Ontario Expert Panel on Improving Access to Justice: Debating the Issues** **I**

Many jurisdictions encounter a growing number of self-represented clients struggling with navigating family justice systems. Various perspectives have been suggested to address this access to justice issue, with limited success. Ontario representatives are opening dialogue to consider how better to meet this challenge in a collaborative manner. In this workshop, a discussion will begin between the judiciary, a mediator and professor, a psychologist, and a lawyer.

*Bernie Mayer, PhD, The Werner Institute, Creighton Univ. School of Law, Kingsville, ON, Canada*

*Hon. George Czutrin, Ontario Superior Court of Justice, Toronto, ON, Canada*

*Brian J. Burke, JD, Epstein Cole LLP, Toronto, ON, Canada*

*Dan Ashbourne, CPsych, London Family Courts Clinic, London, ON, Canada*

**4. It's Not Your Father's Law School: FLER as a Catalyst for Change** **G1**

In 2006, the final report of AFCC's Family Law Education Reform (FLER) Project was published in the *Family Court Review*. It contained a strong critique of traditional legal education and made recommendations about how future family lawyers should be trained. This session examines the surprising transformation that has occurred in family law education over the last decade. Participants will learn about family law residencies, hybrid and blended programs, intensive multi-day simulations, and new professor-practitioner teaching partnerships.

*Jack DeWalt, JD, DeWalt, Chawla and Saksena, Minneapolis, MN*

*Jennifer Joseph, JD, Custody and Parenting Time Resolution, St. Paul, MN*

*Andrea Niemi, JD, Andrea Niemi Dispute Resolution, Minneapolis, MN*

*Nancy Ver Steegh, JD, MSW, Mitchell Hamline School of Law, St. Paul, MN*

**5. The Truancy Court Program: Family Court Judges Using a Trauma-Informed Approach** **G1**

The Center for Families, Children and the Courts' Truancy Court Program (TCP) is a non-adversarial, trauma-informed, therapeutic, and holistic alternative to a punitive approach to truant behavior. The TCP capitalizes on the stature and authority of Maryland family court judges and magistrates, who volunteer to serve as TCP judges in underserved and unserved communities in Baltimore. The TCP judges and the TCP team meet weekly with participating students and use a trauma-informed approach to identify and address the complex reasons why students are missing school.

*Barbara A. Babb, JD, MS, Univ. of Baltimore School of Law, Baltimore, MD*

*Gloria H. Danziger, JD, MPhil, Univ. of Baltimore School of Law, Baltimore, MD*

*Hon. Yvette Bryant, Baltimore City Circuit Court, Baltimore, MD*

*Katherine Davis, JD, Univ. of Baltimore School of Law, Baltimore, MD*

**6. Preventing Contact Failure and Alienation: A Multidisciplinary Program** **G1**

This workshop will describe how teachers, physicians, and social workers should identify the first signs that a child may be distressed by parental conflict and may resist contact with one of the parents. Children at risk, maladaptive gatekeeping behaviors, and parents who are liable to use them, can be identified, so that the family can be referred to appropriate counseling and treatment. Lawyers and judges should be educated about the need for early and forceful intervention at the first signs of possible contact failure.

*Hon. Philip L. Marcus, (Ret.), Jerusalem, Israel*

## 7. Trial is Not the End: Dynamic Approaches in Appellate Mediation to Reach Ultimate Resolution ①

This workshop will explore the complexities of post-trial mediation and the dynamics of family cases that contribute to the revolving door of the courthouse. The sensitivity and intricacy of family cases post-trial will be discussed including: How to mediate when there is already a winner-loser mentality; how the legal posture of the parties affect their positions; and how the interests of the parties can be more completely addressed through the mediation process.

*Jay Knight, Esq., Maryland Court of Special Appeals, Annapolis, MD*

*Diane Wessel, Esq., Maryland Court of Special Appeals, Annapolis, MD*

*Faten Gharib, MS, Maryland Court of Special Appeals, Annapolis, MD*

*Heather Croft, Esq., Maryland Court of Special Appeals, Annapolis, MD*

## 8. D.C. Courts Dispute Resolution Solutions: Resolving High Conflict Cases ①

This workshop will explore how the Washington, D.C. court system provides an array of pro-bono resources that empowers family members, including parents, grandparents, and guardians, to resolve high conflict cases in a timely manner with the overall goal of improving child outcomes. The primary population served by in-house services is accessed by self-represented litigants. Presenters will discuss the D.C. court population and review their department roles, the court's referral process, intake procedures, community resources, and discuss collaborative efforts to assist families in need.

*Georgetta R. Howie, LICSW, D.C. Superior Court, Washington, D.C.*

*Carly B. Blackstone, PsyD, United Planning Organization, Washington, D.C.*

*Janice A. Buie, D.C. Superior Court, Washington, D.C.*

*Arnetta S. Wyre, JD, D.C. Superior Court, Washington, D.C.*

## 9. Elephant in the Room: ACEs and Improving the Response to Divorcing Coparents ①

This session explores a new university dataset (N=460) of divorcing parents' reported childhood trauma (Adverse Childhood Experiences, or ACEs) and multiple indicators of mental health symptomatology. It explores the often-ignored, but wholly significant issue of how ACEs may become part of the divorce, conflict, and coparenting landscape, and asks participants to envision trauma-informed policy changes that could improve divorce education, parenting time, and programs throughout the family court system. Policy and educational recommendations will be discussed.

*Karen Oehme, JD, Florida State Univ. College of Social Work, Tallahassee, FL*

*Anthony Ferraro, PhD, Kansas State Univ., Manhattan, KS*

## 10. Preparing for and Conducting a Cross-Examination of a Custody Evaluator ① E2M

Presenters in this session will examine different approaches to cross-examination. The discussion will include what constitutes a scientifically sound custody evaluation; how to determine and challenge the problem areas within a custody evaluation report at trial; the use of consultants in the trial preparation process; trial techniques, as well as when to request a Daubert or Frye hearing.

*M. Shane Henry, JD, Fry and Elder, Tulsa, OK*

*Aaron D. Bundy, JD, Fry and Elder, Tulsa, OK*

*Sol R. Rappaport, PhD, ABPP, Counseling Connections, Libertyville, IL*

## 11. How International Cooperation is Protecting Children Globally Against Violence ①

The 2017 World Congress on Families convened delegates from over fifty countries to develop resolutions and best practices to benefit vulnerable and disadvantaged children and young people, globally. The World Congress focused on violence and exploitation of children, and the need for active protection in the online environment. This session will examine the resulting cross-pollination of ideas and the dedicated willingness of participants to support nations struggling with the maltreatment of their children, exemplified in the interaction between Australia and Cambodia.

*Commander Lesa Gale, Australian Federal Police, Canberra, Australia*

*Lesley Podesta, Alannah & Madeline Foundation, Melbourne, Australia*

*Moderator: Sally Nicholes, Nicholes Family Lawyers, Melbourne, Australia*

## 12. Transforming the Family Court: A Multi-Disciplinary Trauma-Informed Approach ①

This workshop will offer participants an opportunity to learn how the family court system can better address the unique needs of litigants who have experienced domestic violence. The presenters will explore how the Multnomah County Family Court Enhancement Project (FCEP) demonstration site incorporated trauma-informed approaches throughout their system. Through a facilitated conversation, the presenters will explore this transformation and offer guidance on identifying and applying trauma-informed strategies to foster improved responses across the family court system.

*Hon. Susan Carbon, 9th Circuit Court-Family Division, Manchester, NH*

*Hon. Katherine Tennyson, Multnomah County Circuit Court, Portland, OR*

**12:00pm-1:30pm AFCC Luncheon***Presiding: Annette T. Burns, AFCC President***From Politics to Family: Why is Everybody So Angry?***A conversation with Bob Woodward and Kyle Pruett*

Twenty-first century society seems to reach new levels of polarization every week, whether between Democrats and Republicans on Capitol Hill, or fathers and mothers in family court. Join AFCC as we host longtime friends, Bob Woodward and Kyle Pruett, as they examine the fall of civil discourse in our institutions. Mr. Woodward is associate editor of the *Washington Post*, was a member of the Pulitzer Prize winning team that exposed the Watergate scandal, and is a renowned investigative journalist and author. Dr. Pruett is an award winning author and a Clinical Professor of Child Psychiatry at the Yale School of Medicine.

**1:45pm-3:15pm Workshops 13-24****13. Measuring Parenting and Coparenting Quality: A New Coparenting Instrument** 

While experts generally agree that coparenting assesses the parental alliance, we know little about how to assess coparenting objectively. This session begins with a look at parenting measures, and then moves into a discussion of coparenting instruments. The presenters will introduce preliminary results of a new tool, including comparative scores for married versus separated and divorced relationships, as well as differences between mothers and fathers. Applications of the coparenting tool for various family law contexts will be the topic of discussion and exploration.

*Marsha Kline Pruett, PhD, ABPP, Smith College, Northampton, MA**Michael A. Saini, PhD, Univ. of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada***14. The Relevance of a Trauma-Informed Approach for Parenting Coordination** 

This workshop will discuss the complexity of managing trauma in high conflict matters in which a parenting coordinator is involved. It will address how knowing past trauma and traumatic responses can increase the effectiveness of parenting coordination. The neurobiological legacy of trauma and the implications for the intergenerational transfer of trauma will be discussed.

*Marilyn Davis-Shulman, MA, Johannesburg, South Africa**Kelly Owen, D Lit et Phil, Johannesburg, South Africa***15. Discrimination Effects: Understanding Client Stress, Trauma, and Resilience** 

Many forms of discrimination are unintentional and subtle. Still, clients who have experienced micro-aggression throughout their lives may suffer from stress and trauma. This session will provide participants with an understanding of the long-term effects of discrimination, as well as ways to avoid further micro-aggressions or responses that could trigger discrimination-related trauma. Participants will also learn how to help clients build on their strengths and resilience.

*Allan E. Barsky, JD, PhD, Florida Atlantic Univ., Lauderdale by the Sea, FL***16. Trauma to Go: Bringing Your Work and Stress Home** 

Those in the helping professions who repeatedly hear about the firsthand trauma of others, are at risk of developing and suffering from PTSD-like symptoms. Vicarious trauma may result in emotional, behavioral, physiological, and other symptoms for impacted professionals, and can contribute to compassion fatigue and burn-out. The importance of practicing self-care techniques is key to insulating yourself from traumatic stress and maintaining balance in your life, and in the lives of those who deal with you when you arrive home after doing a tough job day in and out.

*Samantha P. Rodier, JD, Bel Air, MD**Paul C. Berman, PhD, Berman & Killeen, Towson, MD**Laura J. Reagan, LCSW-C, Severna Park, MD***17. Demystifying Borderline Personality Disorder in Family Court: Yes, There's Hope**  

Borderline personality disorder (BPD) is a frequently cited cause of coparenting disputes. The accusation immediately casts judgment on the accused as a crazy, psycho, unstable (and unable) parent, leading to eye-rolling. But do we understand what this relationship disorder really is, its biological and trauma background, and the ability of those affected to successfully parent their children or identify when they cannot? In this session, BPD will be explained, including criteria required to help families affected by it.

*Robert O. Friedel, MD, Virginia Commonwealth Univ., Midlothian, VA**Megan L. Hunter, MBA, High Conflict Institute, Scottsdale, AZ***18. Reducing the Trauma of Child Abduction Proceedings for Children** 

The Hague Convention of October 1980 on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction seeks to protect children from the harmful effects of abduction and retention across international boundaries, though the actual court process is often traumatic for the children that the Convention seeks to protect. This workshop, presented by two lawyers who specialize in representing parties in children abduction proceedings, will examine practices in their respective countries and innovations designed to reduce trauma.

*Hon. Helen Blackburn, The International Family Law Group LLP, London, UK**Max Blitt, QC, LLB, Calgary, AB, Canada***19. From Research to Reality: The Making of a Better Mediator** 

In mediation, which skills matter most? This highly interactive sessions will explore what works best, and the strategies we now know empower and enhance the parties' experience in ADR, based on recent research conducted in Maryland. Come learn why these skills matter and practice them in a fun and informative session.

*Jonathan S. Rosenthal, JD, MACRO, Maryland Judiciary, Annapolis, MD**Gretchen Kainz, ADR Office, District Court of Maryland, Annapolis, MD**Emmet Ward, MACRO, Maryland Judiciary, Annapolis, MD*

## 20. Checking in on Family Law Apps: Digital Evidence in Custody Disputes

Litigants and family law professionals have various opportunities to use internet-based applications for everything from managing communication between parents to monitoring blood alcohol levels, to calculating child support. The selection of appropriate and user-friendly software, electronic devices, and support is only the first step in managing forensically sound evidence that may be necessary in litigation. This workshop will explore some of the more prevalent options available, the challenges faced by attorneys, experts, and litigants in this arena, and the value and risks of using such evidence in treating, evaluating, mediating, and litigating child custody matters.

*Cari M. Pines, APLC, Encino, CA*

*Kevin J. Mooney, CFLS, Newport Beach, CA*

*Matt Havrevold, OurFamilyWizard.com, Minneapolis, MN*

*Mary E. Lund, PhD, Santa Monica, CA*

## 21. Mediation Skill Building: Learning to Give Generative Attention

At its best, mediation helps people figure out their own solutions to conflict. Toward this goal, mediators are trained to use active listening techniques. However, mediators can easily slip into using active listening for inadvertent advice giving. By contrast, generative attention offers a safe and powerful approach to listening. The presenters will define generative attention, demonstrate how to give generative attention, demonstrate its efficacy in mediation, and explain the neuropsychological reasons for its power in helping people think for themselves.

*John Spiegel, JD, Rockville, MD*

*Judith Glasser, PhD, Rockville, MD*

## 22. Sticks and Stones and Psychological Subjugation

Various forms of psychological abuse occurring in intimate partner relationships have been described as being invisible to the law. There is concern that the legal system frequently fails either to discern or to appreciate the consequences of non-physical forms of abuse. This workshop, intended for mental health and legal professionals, will address both conceptual and practical considerations. Emphasis will be placed on interview techniques and on the implications of “friendly parent” provisions.

*David A. Martindale, PhD, ABPP, St. Petersburg, FL*

*Leslie M. Drozd, PhD, Newport Beach, CA*

*Loretta Frederick, JD, Battered Women’s Justice Project, Minneapolis, MN*

## 23. Trauma-Informed Interventions to Support Military and Veteran Families

Drawing on practice, research, and policy from across the globe, this workshop will involve participants in discussions regarding their understanding of the impact of military-related trauma on parenting and couples’ relationships in military and veteran families, ways to address them and how to choose evidence-based interventions to maximize effectiveness in practice. These challenges will be explored through the viewpoint of family court professionals, forensic evaluators, and therapists. Participants will be able to reflect on their professional and personal assumptions about the expectations, concerns, and limitations of current trauma-informed perspectives on parenting, including shared parenting, in military families.

*Gabriela Misca, PhD, MSc, Univ. of Worcester, Worcester, UK*

## 24. Stop Reacting and Start Responding: Help for DV and Trauma Survivors

Self-represented litigants face many challenges to pursuing their family court cases effectively. These challenges are magnified for survivors of domestic violence and other trauma. Use of a trauma-sensitive lens by all court and court-related practitioners will help survivors manage their trauma in a way that allows them to participate fully in court processes. This workshop will provide participants with practical guidance and tools in how to help self-represented survivors achieve safe and healthy outcomes for themselves and their children.

*Hon. Anne Hirsch, Thurston County Superior Court, Olympia, WA*

*Janice Garceau, LCSW, Deschutes County Health Services, Bend, OR*

3:15pm-3:30pm      Break

3:30pm-5:00pm      Workshops 25-36

## 25. Various Perspectives on Mediating Cases with IPV: What the Evidence Tells Us

What do judges think about referring family law cases with intimate partner violence (IPV) to mediation? How do judicial perceptions compare to the parties’ experiences in litigation as compared to shuttle or videoconferencing mediation? What do the mediators think about mediating cases with, as compared to without, high levels of IPV? And how are the parties and their children in these cases doing following mediation or litigation? Join us for an interactive and lively discussion of evidence obtained to date about these issues.

*Amy G. Applegate, JD, Indiana Univ. Maurer School of Law, Bloomington, IN*

*Jeannie M. Adams, MA, Multi-Door Dispute Resolution Division, Superior Court of D.C., Washington, D.C.*

*Amy Holtzworth-Munroe, PhD, Indiana Univ., Bloomington, IN*

## 26. The Strong Starts Court Initiative for Children Birth to Three Years

The New York City Strong Starts Court Initiative focuses on infants and toddlers in child protection cases involving neglect or abuse. Strong Starts partners a clinical infant specialist with a dedicated Strong Starts judge. Families with children under three receive extra support throughout the court process, have clinical assessments to better inform service planning, and have facilitated access to high quality clinical services including infant-parent relational therapies. There are frequent clinical and court conferences to monitor and support families' progress toward reunification. This workshop will highlight this model program.

*Susan Chinitz, PsyD, Center for Court Innovation, New York, NY*

*Katherine Wurmfeld, JD, Center for Court Innovation, New York, NY*

*Kiran Malpe, LMSW, Center for Court Innovation, New York, NY*

## 27. The Compassionate Court: Educating Lawyers, Litigants, and Judges About Trauma

Trauma is ever-present in family law disputes. This session will explore the different forms and the impact of trauma on the participants, in the family law dispute process. The roles of counsel, therapists and the bench in identifying, assessing, and addressing trauma, as well as the importance of doing so as a part of the healing process for the family, will be addressed.

*Michael J. Kretzmer, JD, Levine and Kretzmer, Los Angeles, CA*

*Hon. Mark A. Juhas, Superior Court of California, Los Angeles, CA*

*Jonathan W. Gould, PhD, ABPP, Charlotte Psychotherapy and Consultation Group, Charlotte, NC*

## 28. AFCC Parenting Coordination Guidelines Task Force: Paving the Way for the Future

This workshop will present the outcomes of the recent parenting coordination survey disseminated to AFCC membership, provide an update on new resources, and discuss strategies for updating the AFCC *Guidelines for Parenting Coordination* to reflect the evolution of parenting coordination as an ADR process now expanding around the globe. Attendees will be invited to provide feedback and input regarding suggested modifications and updates to the current AFCC *Guidelines*.

*Debra K. Carter, PhD, National Cooperative Parenting Center, Bradenton, FL*

*Ann M. Ordway, JD, PhD, Univ. of Tennessee Chattanooga, Signal Mountain, TN*

*Alexander Jones, JD, Brick, Sugarman, Jones & McBrien, Newton, MA*

*Linda Fieldstone, MEd, Family Resolutions, Miami, FL*

## 29. Parents, Children, and the Constitution: Can't Think About One Without the Others

Although there exists a staggering responsibility on the family court system to strike a balance between the rights and responsibility of each parent and meeting the best interests of the child, most people do not understand that the constitution lies at the core of this balancing act. The concepts of parental rights and due process are often viewed with derision, as selfish legal arguments and strategies that subvert the search for and proper application of the best interest standard. The presenters will put forth an argument that family law professionals must explore and rid themselves of such reflexive responses before affecting true court reform.

*Linda Delaney, JD, Delaney McKinney LLP, Chevy Chase, MD*

*Kristen Henrikson, JD, Delaney McKinney LLP, Chevy Chase, MD*

*Robert A. Simon, PhD, San Diego, CA*

## 30. The Making of Lasting Memories: Trauma and The Brain

The brain is regulated by chemicals and emotions, which affects how we manage and live our lives. Trauma intervenes. This workshop will explore confirmation bias, the meanderings of your brain and your client's brains, and the impact of trauma on our experience, as well as our responses to the people in our lives and to our self. The presenter will examine strategies and interventions that function to increase our capacity to develop a trauma-informed approach to the work we do.

*Jennifer Kresge, MA, St. Helena, CA*

## 31. Using Trauma-Informed Mediation to Help Parents Settle Custody and Reduce Toxic Stress

Using trauma-informed approaches, the North Carolina Custody Mediation Program has developed an innovative approach to educate high conflict parents about the effects of toxic stress on their children's developing brains. This workshop highlights how a family court team led by the chief justice uses compelling testimony and videos to raise awareness of how children suffer from protracted parental feuds. Participants will also learn specific mediation techniques that keep parents focused on building agreements and procedures to prevent long-term trauma.

*Lori Wainright, MS, North Carolina District Court 5, Wilmington, NC*

*Shelly Harney, MSW, North Carolina District Court 5, Wilmington, NC*

**32. Cultural and Religious Factors in Custody Disputes** 

This workshop presents interdisciplinary perspectives about how cultural issues and their applications have an impact in custody determination. The presenters, using fact patterns, will look at basic custody factors, current case law, as well as the effect of cultural and religious factors on divorce proceeding when a spouse changes beliefs during the course of the marriage.

*Martin E. Friedlander, JD, Rabbinical Ordination, Martin Friedlander PC, New York, NY*

*Leah Younger, PsyD, Aronson Psychological Services, PLLC, Garden City, NY*

*Alberto A. Yohanoff, PhD, New York, NY*

**33. From the Private Practice Office: Parenting Coordination Pitfalls and Practical Applications**  

Parenting coordination in the private practice office presents many clinical, legal, and ethical challenges. Conflicting agendas of courts, attorneys, and clients, varying expectations of the authority of the parent coordinator, different levels of parental cooperation, and threats of lawsuits and legal complaints will be reviewed. A detailed intake interview assessment model and a business school case study approach to parenting coordination will be examined.

*Edward D. Farber, PhD, George Washington Univ. School of Medicine, Reston, VA*

*Adele D'Ari, EdD, Washington Falls Psychotherapy and Consultation, Falls Church, VA*

*William B. Zuckerman, PhD, Burke, VA*

*Christopher H. Lane, PhD, Vienna, VA*

**34. Lawyer-Mediators as Neutral Drafters: Improving Access to Justice for SRLs** 

The great majority of family litigants navigate the court process without the assistance of lawyers. The problems that are endured and caused by such litigants are well known. Many states have attempted to address these problems, but most limit the role of lawyers by explicitly, or in practice, prohibiting lawyer-mediators from assisting self-represented parties by drafting the legal documents needed to complete their divorce or other legal action. This workshop will explain and evaluate the process, content, and impact of the Wisconsin Supreme Court Rule that expanded the role of lawyer-mediators in family law cases. The new rule permits a lawyer-mediator to draft and file legal documents as a neutral on behalf of both parties. Concerns and cautions will also be raised and discussed.

*Hon. Michael J. Dwyer, Milwaukee County Circuit Court, Milwaukee, WI*

*Susan A. Hansen, JD, Hansen and Hildebrand, S.C., Milwaukee, WI*

*Casey A. Holtz, PhD, Casey Holtz Child and Family Psychological Services LLC, Milwaukee, WI*

**35. Researchers and Academic Forum**

This highly interactive forum is intended for faculty, social science researchers, legal scholars, and other teachers who are interested in discussing the use of research in practice and policy development, interdisciplinary curricula, and clinical programs, and how to engage new or more recent colleagues in these processes. Please come ready to share your perspectives with the group and join the discussion.

*Robert E. Emery, PhD, Univ. of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA*

*Andrew Shepard, JD, Hofstra Law School, Hempstead, NY*

*Kelly Browe Olson, JD, LLM, William H. Bowen School of Law, Little Rock, AR*

**36. Judicial Officers Forum: Domestic Violence and the Traditional Court Model**

This interactive forum will examine why traditional court systems so often fail so many of those impacted by domestic violence. Participants will explore the process by which a rural, resource-poor court in Vermont consequently chose to create an alternative. Independent research demonstrates that the resulting unique, non-traditional, and non-adversarial Integrated Domestic Violence Docket (IDVD), which was trauma-informed and focused on procedural fairness, showed remarkable success and provides a model for change. Participants will have the opportunity to evaluate and discuss potential implementation of the IDVD, in whole or in part, in their jurisdictions.

*Hon. David T. Suntag (Act./Ret.), VT*

*Moderator: Hon. Carol Dalton, Presiding Family Court, D.C. Superior Court, Washington, D.C.*

**5:15pm-6:15pm** International Attendee Reception

**Evening** Taste of Washington, D.C.

**9:00pm-12:00am** Hospitality Suite

*“I found the program to be extremely well-organized, and the people involved very helpful! There is a wonderful mix of large plenary group sessions, and small workshops. Every day there were so many topics to choose from, that the only hard part was picking just one for each block. I was able to get to know a number of attendees well, and to get my questions answered by the presenters. Kudos to AFCC for a fantastic conference!”*

Judge JK

## FRIDAY JUNE 8, 2018

6:15am-6:30am	Meditation
6:30am-7:15am	Yoga
7:15am- 8:15am	Committee Meetings
7:30am-5:00pm	Conference Registration
7:30am-8:30am	Coffee and Rolls
7:30am-5:00pm	Exhibit Forum
8:30am-10:00am	Workshops 37-48

**37. Interviewing Traumatized Children** 

Traumatized children present unique challenges to professionals who interview them. This workshop is intended for family law professionals who interview children, including mental health professionals, parenting coordinators, minor's counsel, *guardians ad litem*, CASAs, and judicial officers. Participants will look at the impact of trauma on children's cognitive and emotional processing and use that information base to explore how to establish rapport, construct questions, and prevent re-traumatizing these children.

*Mindy F. Mitnick, EdM, MA, Uptown Mental Health Center, Edina, MN*

**38. Beyond Borders: The Hague Child Support Convention: Changes and Implications** 

International child support litigation has always been complex. On January 1, 2017, The Hague Child Support Convention came into force in the US, significantly expanding the countries with which the US has a treaty or bilateral reciprocity arrangement. UIFSA 2008 implements the treaty through changes to state law adding new procedures for recognition and enforcement, establishment, and modification of support orders across national boundaries. This session explores the new treaty and UIFSA 2008 provisions applicable to hearing international child support cases.

*Robert Keith, JD, US Dept. of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C.*

*Anne Miller, MA, MSW, Federal Office of Child Support Enforcement, Washington, D.C.*

**39. Coparenting Nuts-and-Bolts: Overcoming Disrupted Parent-Child Relationships** 

This workshop presents an innovative model of intractable coparenting conflict. The focus of the workshop is the nuts-and-bolts of coparenting when a child resists or refuses contact with a parent such as: (1) solutions for coparenting communication; (2) soothing an anxious child; (3) responding to the children's complaint about the other parent; (4) responding to the child as they refuse an exchange; and (5) responding to conflict escalation in the form of verbal broadsides, threats, and other coercive tactics.

*John A. Moran, PhD, Phoenix, AZ*

*Shawn McCall, PsyD, Bay Psychological Associates, Inc., San Francisco, CA*

**40. Complex Family Law Issues within Military and Veteran Families** 

Only a very small minority of US citizens have served in the military, or even have a direct relationship with someone who has served or is serving. This workshop examines the myriad issues that face current service members, veterans, and their families. Presenters will examine issues including military and VA benefits, domestic violence and divorce, and other areas in which military and veteran families experience significant differences from the average family law participant.

*Matt Randle, JD, Tucson, AZ*

*Andy Meshel, JD, Tucson, AZ*

**41. Entrenched Post-Separation Parenting Disputes: The Role of Interparental Hatred** 

This workshop addresses an emerging view that the term "high conflict" oversimplifies the nature of destructive family dynamics in parents who remain deeply enmeshed in acrimony years after the separation. Interparental hatred is proposed as a key relationship dynamic driving the behavior of some in this group. Presenters will explore methods of assessing interparental hatred and draw implications for enhancing the effectiveness of mental health and legally-informed interventions with this group of parents. Illustrative case material will be presented.

*Steven Demby, PhD, Brooklyn, NY*

*Bruce Smyth, PhD, Australian National Univ., Canberra, Australia*

*Lawrence Moloney, PhD, Latrobe Univ., Melbourne, Victoria, Australia*

*Hon. Tom Altobelli, Federal Circuit Court of Australia, Wollongong, Australia*

**42. Mediating Family Disputes with Pro Se Parties: What is Best?** 

What do judges believe is the best way to resolve family law disputes with unrepresented litigants? What do mediators and attorneys believe? How do and how should mediators manage cases when one or both parties are unrepresented as compared to when both parties are represented? What are the ethical concerns when mediating one or more unrepresented parties? Are there best practices in this area? Join this session for an interactive and spirited discussion of evidence, practice, ethics, and policy considerations.

*Zena D. Zumeta, JD, Ann Arbor, MI*

*Amy G. Applegate, JD, Indiana Univ. Maurer School of Law, Bloomington, IN*

*Matthew Centeio-Bargasse, MS, D.C. Superior Court, Washington, D.C.*

#### 43. Prenups and Postnups: Private Autonomy or Gender Discriminatory Injustice?

Family support professionals encourage agreements to produce certainty and overcome disputes. But they can be accompanied by duress, gender discrimination, and injustice. These agreements substitute one family member's preferences for the justice of the law. This workshop looks at necessary safeguards and protections and examines good practice for families and the courts. It considers expectations of relationship agreements from other countries and cultures. It will also explore the correct approach of the judiciary.

*William Howe III, JD, Gevurtz, Menache, Larson and Howe PC, Portland, OR*

*Lucy Greenwood, The International Family Law Group, London, UK*

#### 44. Developing a Place in the Heart: Problem-Solving Court for High Conflict Families

Can family courts find a successful problem-solving model where the court more directly manages high conflict families while supporting them in meeting goals targeted at reducing conflict and improving coparenting relationships? This program will explore the strengths and the challenges facing courts as a result of volume, limited resources, culture, structure, and procedure. Presenters will explore a Missouri model under development that is intended to hold high conflict litigants accountable while making efforts to reduce conflict.

*Larry V. Swall, JD, Gates Shields Ferguson Swall Hammond PA, Liberty, MO*

*Simone Haberstock McCartney, JD, The McCartney Law Firm, St. Louis, MO*

#### 45. Trauma-Informed Reunification Therapy: Traumatized Individuals in Family Systems

Reunification often feels traumatic for favored parents, rejected parents, and children. Professionals must both join with and challenge individuals who have experienced trauma to shift dynamics in traumatized family systems from continued chaos toward future health. Assessment and intervention strategies from two empirically-based treatment protocols, dialectical behavioral therapy, and somatic experiencing, will address honoring both the child's voice and parental leadership while recognizing that unresolved trauma complicates the child's preferences and parents' abilities to provide appropriate support and repair.

*Deborah Link, MA, Ascend Family Institute, Rogers, MN*

*Samantha Colai, MA, Ascend Family Institute, Rogers, MN*

#### 46. Grave Risk of Harm Defense—1980 Hague Convention

This workshop will present a thorough analysis and recent developments concerning the defense contained in paragraph 13(b) of the 1980 Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction, which is commonly known as the grave risk of harm defense. Presenters will discuss the burden of proof for the taking parent who asserts this defense, conditions, and circumstances that have been asserted as the basis for the defense, and recent international developments concerning this issue, including discussion and action at The Hague Conference Special Commission meeting in October 2017 and the draft Guide to Good Practice concerning this defense. The discussion will include suggestions for case management that recognize that the children and their parents have suffered trauma and that a trauma-informed approach may help mitigate aspects of that trauma.

*Hon. Hiram Puig-Lugo, Washington, D.C.*

*Stephen Cullen, LLB, Miles & Stockbridge, Washington, D.C.*

*Erin S. Larkin, Ayuda, Washington, D.C.*

#### 47. Compassion, Care, and Court Dogs

Court dogs help provide compassionate care before, during, and after a child goes through the court process, that cannot be underestimated. Jurisdictions in more than half of the US are now using court dogs to assist families, children, counselors, and judges navigate the challenges brought by divorce and separation. This workshop will demonstrate how court dogs can facilitate easy transitions in the interview process, in and out of courtrooms, in self-help centers, and adoption courts.

*Cindy J. Van Schooten, PhD, Shasta County Superior Court, Redding, CA*

#### 48. Preparing Tomorrow's Family Lawyers: Child-Centered and an Unknown Future

This program will showcase the curriculum of Quinnipiac School of Law's Family Law concentration and its innovative courses, and discuss what law schools should do to prepare future family lawyers to function in today's flawed world of practice while orienting them to innovate tomorrow. Presenters will review the *Family Law Education Reform Project* and strive to update it, while inviting discussion of the future role of family lawyers and how best to prepare law students for the new realities.

*Carolyn W. Kaas, JD, Quinnipiac Univ. School of Law, Hamden, CT*

*Marcia Lebowitz, MSW, Children's Divorce Center, Woodbridge, CT*

*Sharon W. Dornfeld, JD, Danbury, CT*

**10:30am-11:15am Plenary Session I**

*Welcome: Hon. Dianna Gould-Saltman, AFCC President Elect, Los Angeles, CA*

**Toward a Trauma-Responsive System of Justice: Untangling Trauma from Drama**

Traumatic exposures and chronic adversity can lead to a host of challenging behaviors in those injured that are associated with struggles in relationships, disengagement from school and work, involvement in the justice system, and poor health outcomes over the lifespan and across generations. Professor Shawn C. Marsh, Director of Judicial Studies at the University of Nevada—Reno, will examine how biopsychosocial responses to severe stress can have a profound impact on human development; how subsequent adaptive skills can push victims away from protective influences and healing resources; and how attorneys, judges, and allied system professionals can become more trauma-responsive at all points of contact with consumers and administrators of justice.

*Shawn C. Marsh, PhD, Director of Judicial Studies and Associate Professor, Univ. of Nevada, Reno, NV*

**11:15am-12:00pm Plenary Session II**

*Welcome: Matthew J. Sullivan, PhD, AFCC Vice President, Palo Alto, CA*

**Trauma-Informed in the Trenches**

Consumers of justice are often injured in some way due to substantial adversity or trauma, and courts frequently function as a socio-legal emergency room. Further, administrators of justice are not immune to the stress of working with injured persons. The prevalence of toxic stress in the trenches of the justice system presents many challenges for those seeking and serving justice, but also presents opportunities to rethink how we deal with injury and adversity. In this keynote, Judge Dan Michael will discuss lessons learned from his court's journey to be more trauma-informed, and will present practical recommendations for improving trauma-informed practice with both consumers and administrators of justice.

*Hon. Dan H. Michael, Juvenile Court of Memphis and Shelby County, Memphis, TN*

**12:00pm-1:30pm Lunch on your own**

**12:00pm-1:30pm Family Court Review  
Editorial Board Meeting**

**12:00pm-1:30pm Chapter Leadership Lunch**

**1:45pm-3:15pm Workshops 49-60****49. Resilience-Informed Family Law: Building Parenting Plans on Systemic Strengths **

The social and emotional impact of any given event varies across individuals. “Resilience” captures the constellation of historical, biological, and personality variables that helps some people maintain healthy functioning in the face of adversity, while others falter or fail. This presentation applies the work of Garmezy to evaluating and intervening on behalf of children who must endure their parents’ intractable conflicts. Recommendations are offered for assessing resilience in the context of child custody evaluations and for recommending post-evaluation conditions best suited to facilitating children’s emerging resilience.

*Benjamin D. Garber, PhD, Family Law Consulting, PLLC, Nashua, NH*

**50. ACEs, Trauma, and Resiliency: Viewing Our Work Through a Trauma-Informed Lens **

High conflict family law cases often involve clients struggling with the effects of present or past trauma. Family law personnel are also affected, many struggling with traumatic exposure response or vicarious trauma. This workshop will examine adverse childhood experiences, and the ways trauma manifests in our clients, our courtrooms, and us. Resiliency will be examined and specific methods of shifting the paradigm from win or lose to collaboration and strength building will be offered.

*Peggie Ward, PhD, CoParenting Assessment Center, Bradenton, FL  
Hon. Paula M. Carey, Chief Justice of the Massachusetts Trial Court, Boston, MA*

**51. Trauma-Informed Courts: Using ADR Tools and Technology in Protective Order Cases **

Domestic violence matters pose issues of safety for litigants and staff, require access to trauma-informed services and proceedings, and require the efficient resolution of highly-emotional legal issues. Protective order proceedings involve trauma for victims of domestic violence, alleged perpetrators, and court staff. This interactive workshop will discuss how courts can incorporate innovative practices to conduct trauma-informed proceedings, including the use of physical space, technology, and alternative dispute resolution techniques to promote safe, compassionate, and effective resolution of protective order matters.

*Nelly Montenegro, JD, D.C. Superior Court, Domestic Violence Unit, Washington, D.C.*

*Raquel Trabal, JD, D.C. Superior Court, Domestic Violence Unit, Washington, D.C.*

## 52. Parental Competences After Attending Parenting Coordination Interventions ①

This session will present a qualitative investigation on how coparents interpret their parental competences after they attend a parenting coordination intervention derived by Chilean Courts of Family Conciliation. A description will be offered on how parents signify their personal development and resilience competences, their household organization competences and educational and community competences, after attending the parenting coordination interventions.

*Francisca Cisternas, Santiago, Chile*

*Katherine Tauber Klein, Santiago, Chile*

## 53. New Ways for Families: A Canadian Perspective for Trauma-Informed Practice ①

*New Ways for Families* is a counseling method that helps parents strengthen conflict resolution and coparenting skills during separation. The method draws from a variety of trauma-informed modalities such as parent-child interaction therapy, child inclusive mediation, and cognitive behavioral therapy. The *New Ways for Families* method is designed to ensure safety, transparency, choice, collaboration, and empowerment to all who participate. It has been widely embraced by many communities in Alberta and Ontario, Canada. Results of their involvement will be shared.

*Tracey M. Lipp, MSW, London, ON, Canada*

*Louise M. Vandenbosch, MSW, London, ON, Canada*

*Nicole Vath, Univ. of Athabasca, Coldstream, BC, Canada*

*Bill Eddy, LCSW, JD, CFLS, High Conflict Institute, San Diego, CA*

## 54. Providing the Court with Attachment Assessments in Custody Disputes ②

This workshop will present an innovative method for assessment of attachment in family court decision-making involving custody of children in conflicted divorce proceedings. Developed by the International Association for the Study of Attachment (IASA), the IASA Family Attachment Court Protocol has been piloted before 15 judges. The clarity of the reports often resulted in out-of-court agreements that reduced overall costs. Theory, protocol, expert training, and case examples will be presented.

*Monica L. Oxford, MSW, PhD, Univ. of Washington, Seattle, WA*

## 55. Intervention for Separated Families: Results and Implications for Practice ①

The Children's Welfare Foundation in Sweden was given the assignment by the Ministry of Social Affairs to try multidisciplinary cooperation teams in five municipalities. The purpose was to mitigate conflict and offer parental support in families often burdened by intimate partner violence, substance abuse, and mental health problems. DOORS (Detection of Overall Risk Screen) was used to assess the families' situation. Presenters will share the research results and discuss the consequences of the use of the model.

*Marianne Gabrielsson, The Children's Welfare Foundation, Stockholm, Sweden*

*Cecilia Sjölander, The Children's Welfare Foundation, Stockholm, Sweden*

## 56. Working with and Serving Millennials ② E2M

Millennials are the largest generation in American history. While the group is not monolithic, it's increasingly clear that family law courts will be expected to change to meet their expectations. This workshop will provide information on how innovative courts and professionals are modifying their services and practices to serve the needs of this demographic. Presenters will provide insight into avoiding bias, understanding generational trends, and how to increase legal, judicial, mental health, mediation, and self-help efficiencies.

*Jonathan Mooney, coParenter, San Francisco, CA*

*Hon. Sherrill Ellsworth (Ret.), coParenter, San Francisco, CA*

*Jonathan Verk, coParenter, San Francisco, CA*

## 57. The Role of the Government in Helping International Families ②

The US is a party to several international family law treaties, and has designated offices to manage applications under these conventions, related to child abduction, child support, and adoption. This panel will introduce the audience to the US central authorities for the three international family law treaties, their roles, their resources, and how the audience can use these central authorities to help the families with whom they work.

*Melissa Kucinski, MA, JD, MK Family Law, PLLC, Washington, D.C.*

*Carine Rosalia, JD, US Dept. of State, Washington, D.C.*

*Robert Keith, JD, US Dept. of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C.*

*Shannon Hines, JD, US Dept. of State, Washington, D.C.*

## 58. The Opioid Crisis, Parental Addiction, and the Courts ①

The opioid crisis is wreaking havoc on families across the country with an increasing number of opioid-addicted parents landing in family court. It is often unclear how to navigate these challenging cases. The presenters will draw on the latest research to discuss the impact of opioid addiction on parenting capacity, the parent-child relationship, and children. Practical, evidence-based recommendations will be provided for addressing relapse and noncompliance in the court system.

*Stephanie Tabashneck, PsyD, JD, Northeastern Univ. School of Law, Boston, MA*

*Hon. Fernande R.V. Duffly (Ret.), Northeastern Univ. School of Law, Cambridge, MA*

## 59. Cognitive Shifts in Eldercaring Coordination: New Stories for Older Families ②

Families don't age out of conflict. Eldercaring coordination was created to address issues regarding the care and safety of an elder when personal agendas and past trauma interfere with the collaboration needed in families as parents age. Learn how this innovative conflict resolution process helps family members refocus on their aging parent with a new lens to create a new intergenerational model for a shared future story.

*Linda Fieldstone, MEd, Family Resolutions, LLC, Miami, FL*

*Sue Bronson, MSW, New Prospects, Milwaukee, WI*

*Hon. Michelle T. Morley, 5th Judicial Circuit Court, Bushnell, FL*

*Teresa Parnell, PsyD, Maitland, FL*

## 60. Infant Trauma, Domestic Violence, and High Conflict Parenting ③

This session will examine the current state of research on the mental health needs of infants and toddlers. Also discussed will be the qualifications to conduct an infant mental health (IMH) assessment, the required components of an IMH, when it should be requested, and the consensus for best practices for assessing an infant and possible emotional trauma.

*Evelyn M. Wotherspoon, MSW, Evelyn Wotherspoon and Associates Ltd., Calgary, AB, Canada*

*Sonja Lusignan, JD, Calgary Family Law Associates, Calgary, AB, Canada*

3:15pm-3:30pm Break

3:30pm-5:00pm Workshops 61-72

## 61. Parenting by Victim-Survivors in the Context of Intimate Partner Violence ④

Intimate partner violence can impact parenting in a variety of ways. This session focuses on parenting dilemmas commonly faced by victim-survivors of intimate partner violence and ways that family courts and family law professionals respond to the choices that some victim-parents make. Participants will use the SAFer approach to assess the effects of intimate partner violence on a victim's parenting and fashion responsive parenting plans.

*Loretta Frederick, JD, Battered Women's Justice Project, Minneapolis, MN*

*Nancy Ver Steegh, JD, MSW, Mitchell Hamline School of Law, St. Paul, MN*

## 62. Better Together: Trauma-Informed Best Interest Representation ⑤

This workshop will present a model for providing effective, trauma-informed, best interests advocacy by integrating social workers into the attorney's practice. Participants will learn about the value of this partnership to attorneys, social workers, and courts; and best practices and ethical considerations for such partnerships at each phase of the representation. Presenters will highlight case examples and explore the benefits and challenges of the legal-clinical collaboration.

*Marissa Gunn, JD, Children's Law Center, Washington, D.C.*

*Lauren Birzon Harriman, JD, Children's Law Center, Washington, D.C.*

*Hahva Gallagher, MSW, The Sibley Group, Washington, D.C.*

*Hon. Robert Okun, Superior Court of the D.C., Washington, D.C.*

## 63. Carnac or Clarification: Testifying About People We Have Never Seen ⑥ E2M

This workshop, intended for both mental health and legal professionals, will explore methodological, ethical, and legal issues relating to testimony by mental health experts that includes the expression of opinions concerning the issues in dispute in cases where the expert has not conducted a personal evaluation.

*Jeffrey P. Wittmann, PhD, Albany, NY*

*David A. Martindale, PhD, ABPP, St. Petersburg, FL*

*Hon. Jane Pearl, New York County Family Court, New York, NY*

## Save the Date!

**AFCC 13th Symposium on Child Custody**

November 8-10, 2018

Embassy Suites by Hilton Denver Downtown Hotel  
Denver, Colorado

#### 64. “Me? Why do I need help?” Engaging Favored Parents in Resolving Contact Problems ①

This workshop will address ways to engage favored parents in treatment for parent-child contact problems in order to improve reunification outcomes. Despite the critical role of favored parents in resist/refuse dynamics, there is limited research or clinical writing on methods to optimize this parent’s engagement. Presenters will describe promising psychoeducational and clinical strategies for use with this population, equip participants with tools they may use in their work with favored parents, and involve participants in discussion about shared dilemmas.

*Abigail M. Judge, PhD, Harvard Medical School, Cambridge, MA*  
*Shely Polak, PhD, MSW, W. Richmond Hill, ON, Canada*  
*Benjamin D. Garber, PhD, Family Law Consulting, PLLC, Nashua, NH*

#### 65. Trauma-Informed Knowledge and Skills for Working with Youth in Family Court ②

This workshop will provide information about the impact of trauma on youth in family court, as well as tools and strategies for working with youth with histories of trauma. The presenter will also discuss secondary traumatic stress, including practical skills for recognizing, preventing, and managing secondary trauma symptoms. Real-world case examples will be used to illustrate key concepts and skills.

*Carly Baetz, JD, PhD, New York Univ. New York, NY*

#### 66. Mediation Integrated with Online Skill Training for High Conflict Parents ③

This workshop presents two different methods for transforming high parental conflict. The first is a novel mediation approach with a strength-based focus that keeps the ego out of the process and focuses on triangulation. The second approach uses innovative advanced technology in an online program that teaches parents about neuroscience and the health aspects of conflict, while promoting communication and anger management, during and after program completion with low cost technology.

*Don Gordon, PhD, Center for Divorce Education, Ashland, OR*  
*Louise Phipps Senft, JD, Baltimore Mediation, Baltimore, MD*

#### 67. Helping Virtually: Does it Really Work to Not Meet in Person? ④

This workshop will provide family law professionals with information on assisting separated, divorced, and never-married parents online and explore the role of the court in making orders or referrals for online dispute resolution. Presenters will demonstrate ways courts are supporting use of early intervention tools to reduce conflict and support child well-being.

*Hon. Sherrill Ellsworth (Ret.), coParenter, Los Angeles, CA*  
*Julia F. Weber, coParenter, San Francisco, CA*

#### 68. Creating Safe Spaces: The Allegheny County Family Court Experience ⑤

This workshop highlights Allegheny County’s (Pittsburgh, PA) experience planning and developing a safe, confidential, and trauma-informed space for domestic violence victims based on recommendations from the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges’ trauma audit. Attendees will learn about the trauma audit process and how Allegheny County used it to build community partnerships that ultimately led to the development of the Safe Families Resource Center. Attendees will leave with a roadmap to plan and develop trauma-informed safe spaces through creative public/private partnerships.

*Beth Keenan, Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas, Pittsburgh, PA*

*Hon. Daniel Regan, Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas, Pittsburgh, PA*

*Andrew Wachter, NCJFCJ, Pittsburgh, PA*

#### 69. REACH: A Community Program for Disrupted Parent-Child Relationships ⑥

REACH was developed in 2015 by seven senior professionals in psychology and law, with substantial input from a Supreme Court Justice. It is a community-based intervention for disrupted parent-child relationships in the context of alienation, estrangement, high conflict and complexity. REACH supports both the family and the court or officers of the court, while protecting the therapeutic team from being called to testify. This presentation reviews clinical interventions with three different families

*Susan J. Gamache, PhD, Vancouver, BC, Canada*

*Robert L. Colby, Vancouver, BC, Canada*

#### 70. Immigrant Trauma and Gender: Collision with Family Court Rule of Law ⑦

This panel explores the impact of immigrant trauma of women and girls traveling to America with imported memories of dominance and oppression. These are further complicated by their legal status, fear of deportation, and the lack of knowledge and access to legal protections denied them back home but available in abundance in the US. Immigration has been a visceral issue, fiercely debated at all levels of American society. Yet the impact of the trauma of the immigrant experience is left largely unexplored in the family court where rule of law constrains its introduction.

*Eva A. Millona, JD, Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition, Boston, MA*

*Suaad S. Allami, JD, Baghdad, Iraq*

*Tannaz N. Saponaro, JD, Verrill Dana LLP, Boston, MA*

*Hon. George Phelan, Massachusetts Probate and Family Court, Canton, MA*

## 71. Is it Us or Is it The System? What Have We Learned So Far?

How can we better integrate research, policy, and practice to accelerate positive outcomes for children and families? Do we know what happens in later years to the children who are the system's most important customers? Where next for the family and tensions between individual rights and shared responsibilities? These are some questions addressed in a workshop that examines family law in a broader context of social and economic challenges and opportunities internationally.

*Anne Hollonds, Australian Institute of Family Studies, Melbourne, Australia*

## 72. Mediating International Child Abductions: Starting in Caucus to Maximum Effect

This workshop will describe a unique parenting coordination model for mediating international child abduction disputes, and will focus on its evolving emphasis on starting—and conducting much of the process—in separate sessions with the parties. The benefits and risks of this strategy and technique will be explored along with the ethical challenges that arise in these cases.

*Debra K. Carter, PhD, National Cooperative Parenting Center, Bradenton, FL*

*Douglas N. Frenkel, JD, Univ. of Pennsylvania Law School, Philadelphia, PA*

5:30pm-7:00pm      Silent Auction

7:00pm-10:00pm      AFCC Annual Banquet Featuring the Capitol Steps



10:00pm-12:00am      Hospitality Suite

# Save the Date!

## AFCC 56th Annual Conference

May 29-June 1, 2019

Westin Harbour Castle

Toronto, ON, Canada

## SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 2018

6:15am-6:30am	Meditation
6:30am-7:15am	Yoga
8:00am-12:30pm	Conference Registration
8:00am-9:00am	Coffee and Rolls
8:00am-12:30pm	Exhibit Forum
8:00am-9:00am	AFCC Membership Meeting
9:15am-10:45am	Workshops 73-84

## 73. The Forensic Substance Use Disorder Evaluation

The simple allegation of an alcohol or other drug problem against one or both parents/guardians immediately creates an elevated concern that reasonably requires greater scrutiny, especially with sharper focus given the national opioid epidemic and the rapidly expanding legalization of medical and recreational marijuana. The most basic question is whether a substance use problem or disorder exists. It is in such cases that a forensic substance use disorder evaluation serves the essential role of informing and guiding the court and counsel in addressing this potential risk.

*Gregg Benson, MA, LCADC, Morristown, NJ*

## 74. Relationship Disengagement Process: Impact of Past Trauma and Traumatic Endings

How do relationships end? This workshop identifies direct and indirect processes of endings and the accompanying reactions when one or both parties have experienced trauma either as a result of the relationship, the way the relationship ended, and/or trauma in family of origin. Presenters will explore why clients become dysregulated and how to manage these responses. Through case examples, participants will review a practitioner tool for identifying potential disengagement difficulties as a result of relational trauma.

*Lorri Yasenik, PhD, Yasenik Counselling, Mediation and Training Group, Calgary, AB, Canada*

*Jonathan Graham, LLB, Institute of Specialist Dispute Resolution, Five Dock, NSW, Australia*

## 75. Are There Diagnostic Tests for Parental Alienation?

Ever since “parental alienation syndrome” was described in the 1980s, researchers have sought an objective, quantifiable method for identifying alienated children and families. This workshop will describe evidence-based research that uses specific psychological instruments to identify children with parental alienation and to distinguish alienation from realistic estrangement. The workshop will also explain how the principles of conditional probability, i.e., the probability of one thing given another thing, can help to rule in, or rule out, parental alienation.

*William Bernet, MD, Vanderbilt Univ., Nashville, TN*

*Steven G. Miller, MD, Waltham, MA*

## 76. Reconstruction-Era Social Justice and the Freedmen's Courts

Following the Civil War, the Federal government embarked upon a remarkable social justice program under the aegis of the Freedmen's Bureau for the benefit of freed slaves and Southern white loyalists. The Freedmen's Bureau tribunals were a forerunner of contemporary compassionate courts; valuable lessons can be learned from their successes and failures. This presentation, focusing upon an early type of a "Compassionate Courtroom," will examine the political circumstances that led to the formation of this unique and temporary adjudicatory process, as well as its perceived successes and failures.

*Hon. Reba A. Page, US Armed Services Board of Contract Appeals, Falls Church, VA*

## 77. The Gatekeeping Function of the Parenting Plan and Parental Gatekeeping Analyses

This presentation will examine the relationship between the gatekeeping function of parenting plans and parental gatekeeping models, illustrate how gatekeeping analyses must take existing parenting plans into account before interpreting parental behaviors, and highlight the need for courts to carefully distinguish gatekeeping attitudes from gatekeeping behaviors. The strengths and weaknesses of existing parental gatekeeping models will be addressed.

*Milfred (Bud) Dale, PhD, JD, Topeka, KS*

## 78. Getting to "Yes, And": How Improv Comedy Techniques Enhance Mediation Skills

Participants in this high energy and interactive workshop will engage in comedy improv training activities that promote interpersonal acceptance, deep listening, authenticity, collaboration, and team building. Discussion will focus on how these techniques can be applied directly to teaching and practicing effective negotiation and mediation skills. Participants will learn how "yes, and" and other improv skills help to build a more collaborative process and promote an interest based process.

*Gregory Firestone, PhD, My Florida Mediator, Tampa, FL*

## 79. A Therapeutic Model to Reduce Anxiety for Children of Separated Families

This workshop is designed primarily for mental health professionals, to learn child-focused separated family therapy, a therapeutic model to deal with highly conflicted, separated families. The model combines many therapeutic theories. It addresses psychological forces working against successful coparenting, and provides clear guidelines and structure for the practitioner to follow, which enables them to have a clear path for the therapeutic work.

*Jeffrey S. Levy, MSW, Saco, ME*

## 80. Restraining Orders and Other Family Matters: The Ripple Effect

It is undisputed that victims of intimate partner violence are entitled to protection from abuse. Professionals involved in family law proceedings must consider the effect a restraining order will have on how they handle a case involving allegations of intimate partner violence. Panelists will discuss the impact a restraining order can have on how we conduct custody evaluations, mediation, and other court proceedings, and will provide suggestions on how to avoid additional conflict and trauma in the process.

*Holly Friedland, JD, Shauger and Friedland, Florham Park, NJ*

*Hon. Thomas H. Dilts (Ret.), The Law Offices of Thomas H. Dilts, Somerville, NJ*

*Sharon Ryan Montgomery, PhD, Morristown, NJ*

## 81. Assessing the Four Traumas: Differential Diagnosis and Does it Matter Anyway?

Trauma is a phenomenon that is frequently present in family court cases or at least is frequently claimed by family members involved in family law litigation. Trauma is not a unitary construct. It comes in various forms and types. This workshop will discuss four types of trauma frequently seen in family court, offer ideas for differentiating amongst them, and discuss the relevance of trauma in family law matters.

*Robert A. Simon, PhD, San Diego, CA*

*Phil Watts, PhD, South Perth, Western Australia, Australia*

## 82. How to Keep Your Practice Safe From Cyber Threats

This workshop will highlight the significance of cybersecurity in everyday life and its implications in a family law practice. Attendees will learn about the latest innovations and best practices in cybersecurity that can keep themselves and their clients safe from hackers. Legal and mental health practitioners will learn how using secure technology can help professionals keep their client's information secure.

*Katrina Volker, MAOL, OurFamilyWizard.com, Minneapolis, MN*

*Tony Pelusi, JD, CPCC, North Andover, MA*

## 83. Views of the Child Reports: A Valuable Addition to the Family Justice Toolbox

The Views of the Child Report is prepared by an experienced social worker or lawyer, generally based on two interviews, and is useful for litigation, mediation, and negotiation. Children are offered confidentiality and an opportunity to review the report, which provides no recommendations. A recent Ontario study on these reports and policy implications of that research will be discussed.

*Rachel Birnbaum, PhD, LLM, King's Univ. College, London, ON, Canada*

*Nicholas Bala, JD, LLM, Queen's Univ., Kingston, ON, Canada*

*Katherine Kavassalis, LLB, Office of the Children's Lawyer, Toronto, ON, Canada*

*Arlene H. Henry, LLB, CMED, Vancouver, BC, Canada*

#### 84. Retrofitting Mediation Systems in the Family and Children Courts-Trinidad and Tobago

The characteristics of the existing mediation systems in the Family Court and Children Court of Trinidad and Tobago will be outlined. Then, after examining the key elements of trauma-informed justice, the presenter will utilize principles of the conflict resolution system designed to illustrate how the mediation systems at the courts can be retrofitted to ensure that they minimize threats, prevent re-traumatization, and aid in recovery of the persons who choose to use them.

*Kathy A.M. Gonzales, PhD, LL.M., Creighton Univ., Omaha, NE*

10:45am-11:00am Break

11:00am-12:30pm Workshops 85-96

#### 85. What Fits Best? Coparent Counseling? Parenting Coordination? Dual PC?

Parents often do not reach resolution at one or more post-judgment dispute resolution approaches before being referred to another intervention. This leads to lost time, opportunity, and more suffering on the part of the parents and children. This presentation will discuss three different dispute resolution models and how to best fit the model to the needs of the family.

*Lauren J. Behrman, PhD, New York, NY*

*Jeffrey Zimmerman, PhD, ABPP, Katonah, NY*

*William RJP Brown, JD, Brown Legal Group LLC, Waterbury, CT*

#### 86. Trauma-Informed Therapeutic Reunification: Focusing on the Needs of the Child

This session will present a process for supporting children in reconnecting with a non-visiting parent when there have been allegations of abuse. Presenters will provide a detailed approach to direct work with children involved in court ordered therapeutic reunification. This process includes an informal assessment of the child for issues of trauma, estrangement, and alienation as well as identifying what therapeutic model will be used. Work with the child will focus on addressing obstacles and preparing the child to participate in therapy with the non-visiting parent.

*Beth Winters, MA, Tucson, AZ*

*Susan Winder, MSW, Tucson, AZ*

#### 87. Grandparent Estrangement: The Silent Epidemic

Grandparent estrangement is a silent, yet significant problem unique to aging baby boomers and their adult children. The shame and embarrassment of grandparents who experience estrangement from their adult children is a new family dynamic—one of fractured relationships between grandparents and grandchildren—is being created. This workshop will take on this difficult topic by dragging it out of the darkness into the light of awareness.

*Claire N. Barnes, MA, Antioch, CA*

#### 88. Family Mediation and Addiction: Preserving the Sanctity of Families in Crisis

Heroin-related deaths increased more than 400% from 1999 to 2014, with drug overdoses overtaking car accidents as the leading cause of accidental deaths in the US. The overwhelming increase in opioid addiction is wreaking havoc on families and enhancing the likelihood of involvement with courts in a variety of ways. This session is designed to examine the impact addiction has on families. Presenters will examine how mediation can be used to help families navigate life with an addict in terms of safety planning, parenting and family coordination, and treatment, to most effectively and compassionately address the needs of families confronting addiction in our courts.

*Maara Fink, JD, Univ. of Toledo College of Law, Toledo, OH*

*Robert Salem, JD, Univ. of Toledo College of Law, Toledo, OH*

#### 89. Strategies for Success: Conflict Analysis and Effective Intervention Selection

This presentation will provide a summary of parental conflict and its consequences for children, a history and definition of parenting coordination, and three conflict analysis models to assist working parenting coordinators to better diagnose parental conflict and then select more effective intervention strategies.

*Alyson G. Jones, MA, Alyson Jones and Associates, West Vancouver, BC, Canada*

*Nicole Garton, LLB, Heritage Law, West Vancouver, BC, Canada*

#### 90. Trauma-Informed Care Plus Positive Parenting for Court-Connected Families

A high Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) score is not an insurmountable obstacle. Positive parenting presents critical alternatives to traumatized parents, and parenting education can help to shorten the family court process and reduce frequent returns to the court. Parenting classes may take a punitive approach with parents and teach punitive parenting, or they could take a positive approach and thereby reduce maltreatment and trauma. This session will explore how trauma interacts with parenting and how to identify positive parenting programs

*Judith A. Myers-Walls, PhD, Purdue Univ., North Manchester, IN*

### 91. New Research on Conflict, Children, Separation, and Coparenting

This session will feature new research from emerging AFCC scholars. The presenters will share: (1) a study of over 1,000 divorcing parents that examines the associations between divorcing parents of which one or both have experienced childhood trauma, and the effect this has on post-divorce conflict in the coparenting relationship; (2) findings on the impact of a parental separation on children's sleep quality and indirect effects of a parental separation to child developmental outcomes; and, (3) a review of empirical studies on the question of whether shared parenting time or high quality parenting either helps or harms children in high conflict divorces.

*Todd A Spencer, MS, Doctoral Candidate, Oklahoma State Univ., Stillwater, OK*

*Karey O'Hara, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow, Arizona State Univ., Tempe, AZ*

*Brittany N. Rudd, Doctoral Candidate in Clinical Science, Indiana Univ., Bloomington, IN*

### 92. Rebalancing Power: Coparenting Education for Victims of Domestic Violence

Victims of domestic violence often feel isolated when attending coparenting classes that do not address dynamics of coercive control. Advice that may help other participants is often not prudent for them to implement, and they are left without alternative strategies. This presentation will explore how to engage victims of domestic violence in coparenting that is safe yet effective to move forward as a family and as an individual.

*Joe Noble, MA, The Bridging Center, Edina, MN*

*Deborah Link, MA, Ascend Family Institute, Rogers, MN*

### 93. Developing a Family Mediation Service in a Western New Zealand Family Court Jurisdiction

Family mediation services play a valuable role in supporting separating and separated parents and helping guardians resolve disagreements about day to day care before they head to court. This workshop will explain how New Zealand has successfully developed a family mediation service against a backdrop of economic and political change. With well over 3,000 cases completed in the past three years, the presenters will be sharing material from their researched, finely tuned family mediation service for participants to take into their own jurisdictions and practices.

*Timothy E. McMichael, Family Works Northern, Epsom, Auckland, New Zealand*

*Wendy Hoskin, Presbyterian Support Northern, Epsom, Auckland, New Zealand*

### 94. Peacemaking Strategies in Trauma-Informed Family Mediation

Peacemaking approaches to family mediation often assume a level playing field as well as participants who can negotiate in accord with their highest ideals. However, when trauma of one form or another is present in the parties or children, peacemaking may seem elusive as needs for physical and psychological safety trump desires for openness and transformation. This workshop will explore ways in which the ideals of peacemaking can be pursued without sacrificing safety or ignoring the special needs created by trauma.

*Stephen H. Sultmeyer, JD, PhD, Sultmeyer Mediation, Corte Madera, CA*

### 95. Client Notebook: More Organized Client; Better Case Outcomes

The *Custody and Divorce Client Notebook* helps clients navigate a family law case from start to finish, with the help of a self-help, legal services, pro bono, or limited scope lawyer. The notebook is an organizational tool that helps clients keep papers/evidence organized so an attorney can quickly understand the issues and the best next steps. Attendees at this session will receive a copy of this client-lawyer collaboration tool, and learn how it works.

*Joanna L. A. Shapiro, JD, Frederick County Self Help Center, Frederick, MD*

*Dave Pantzer, JD, Hunt Valley, MD*

*Jennifer Rankin, JD, Law Office of Jennifer L. Rankin, Frederick, MD*

*Magistrate Joanie Raymond, Circuit Court for Frederick County, Frederick MD,*

### 96. The Trauma of Middle Management

There are multiple sources of stress and trauma unique to the work associated with family and juvenile courts. This presentation will help participants identify the various sources of trauma in both the workplace and their personal lives, gain an understanding of how stress/trauma manifest in the workplace, and learn or review coping strategies.

*Lisa M. Morris, MS, Alameda County, Hayward, CA*

*Tina M. Mattison, MS, Pima County Juvenile Court, Tucson, AZ*

## ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY AND CONCILIATION COURTS

### Call for Proposals

# AFCC 13th Symposium on Child Custody *Guidelines and Standards and Rules, Oh My!*

**Denver, Colorado**

**November 8-10, 2018**

**Embassy Suites by Hilton, Denver Downtown Hotel**

The AFCC 13th Symposium on Child Custody will offer a range of pre-conference institutes, workshops, and plenary sessions addressing practice skills, professional issues, standards and guidelines, and theoretical applications. The Symposium is designed for custody evaluators, judges, lawyers, mediators, parenting coordinators, and any professional who works with separating and divorcing families.

**All proposals must be submitted by May 7, 2018 using the online form available at [www.afccnet.org](http://www.afccnet.org).**

#### **Proposed topics may include, but are not limited to:**

- How much weight should judges give to a custody evaluation?
- Risk-benefit ratio for brief focused evaluations
- Addressing and assessing intimate partner violence
- Relocation
- Testifying/Cross-examination
- What to do when both parents are barely good enough?
- Parenting plans
- Grandparents and stepparents' involvement
- Professional risk management
- Sexual abuse allegations and custody evaluations
- Parenting plans for siblings at different developmental stages
- Interviewing children
- Writing evaluation reports
- Effective use of collateral sources
- Resistance/refusal
- Child development for legal professionals

AFCC is accepting proposals for *ninety-minute workshop sessions*. To submit a workshop proposal, please include the following information: (1) an abstract of 250 words or less describing your proposed workshop; (2) a workshop title (limited to 80 characters in length) and an 80-word or less "program ready" abstract for the conference brochure. AFCC reserves the right to edit descriptions for consistency; (3) a 250-word or less description of the relevance of your workshop to the AFCC community; (4) for research proposals, include brief descriptions of your methodology, results, conclusions and applications for practice, policy implications and future research (250 words or less); (5) three learning objectives that will be addressed by your proposed workshop; (6) complete contact information for all proposed presenters; (7) the name of

the person who will be coordinating your workshop; (8) contact information for two professional references; and (9) resumes for all proposed presenters.

*Maximum of four presenters per workshop. Please note that the deadline for proposals is May 7. AFCC is unable to guarantee consideration of incomplete proposals or those submitted after the deadline.* AFCC offers a reduced registration rate for conference presenters but is unable to reimburse for travel and related expenses. All proposals must be submitted via the online form, accessible at [www.afccnet.org](http://www.afccnet.org). Please direct any questions regarding proposals to Nicole Ellickson at 608-664-3750 or [nellickson@afccnet.org](mailto:nellickson@afccnet.org)

Coming home is only the beginning...



Victims of non-familial and familial abduction have a long, challenging journey ahead.

Donations go to:

- Direct services for these families.
- Workshops for professionals & law enforcement involved in reunification.
- Coordination of aftercare/training of professional teams in hometown communities.

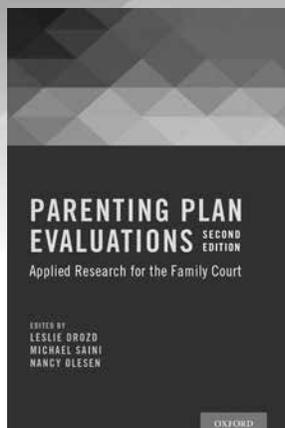
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In 1991, Jaycee Dugard was kidnapped by two strangers from a bus stop in her hometown of Lake Tahoe. She survived eighteen years of physical and emotional abuse at the hands of her assailants before being reunited with her family. She and her family created the JAYC Foundation to assist other families that have experienced trauma. [www.TheJAYCFoundation.org](http://www.TheJAYCFoundation.org)



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# PARENTING PLAN EVALUATIONS

Applied Research for the Family Court  
SECOND EDITION

Edited by LESLIE DROZD, MICHAEL SAINI, and NANCY OLESEN

More so than in any other form of forensic evaluation, mental health professionals who conduct parenting plan evaluations

must have an understanding of the most current evidence in the areas of child development, optimal parenting plans across various populations, behavioral psychology, family violence, and legal issues to inform their opinions. In addition, family law judges and legal professionals require the best available evidence to support their decisions and positions.

*Parenting Plan Evaluations* has become the go-to source for the most current empirical evidence in the field of child custody disputes. Fully updated in this Second Edition, the volume continues its focus on translating and implementing research associated with the most important topics within the family court. It presents an organized and in-depth analysis of the latest research and offers specific recommendations for applying these findings to the issues in child custody disputes. Written by international experts in the field, chapters cover the most important and complex issues that arise in family court, such as attachment and overnight timesharing with very young children, co-parenting children with chronic medical conditions and developmental disorders, domestic violence during separation and divorce, alienation, gay and lesbian co-parents, and relocation, among others. This volume assists forensic mental health professionals to proffer empirically based opinions, conclusions, and recommendations and assists family law judges and attorneys in evaluating the reliability of the information provided to the courts by mental health professionals in their reports and testimony. Not just for forensic evaluators, *Parenting Plan Evaluations* is a must-read for legal practitioners, family law judges and attorneys, and other professionals seeking to understand more about the science behind parenting plan evaluations.

March 2016 608 Pages  
9780199396580 Hardcover—\$89.95 | **\$66.50**

- Offers specific recommendations for applying research to the parenting plan evaluation process
- Examines which research findings provide valid information and conclusions based on the quality of the research design and methods
- Written in an accessible format for individuals not familiar with research methods
- Provides legal and mental health professionals with evidence-based conclusions regarding each issue discussed

#### New to this Edition:

- Discusses new topics such as dealing with allegations of sexual abuse, children's memory, and how to handle overnight visits with noncustodial parents
- Updated throughout with empirical evidence based on the most current published literature

**Leslie Drozd, PhD**, is a licensed psychologist and marriage, family, and child therapist specializing in family violence, substance abuse, resistance to contact, trauma, and consultations in parenting plan and child custody evaluations. She trains judges, attorneys, and mental health professionals and has a myriad of professional publications.

**Michael Saini, PhD**, is Associate Professor and endowed chair of Law and Social Work at the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto. He is the Co-Director of the Combined J.D. and M.S.W. program with the Faculty of Law at the University of Toronto and the Course Director of the 40-hour Foundations to Custody Evaluations with the faculty's Continuing Education Program. For the past 15 years, he has been conducting custody evaluations and assisting children's counsel for the Office of the Children's Lawyer, Ministry of the Attorney General in Ontario.

**Nancy Olesen, PhD**, is a Licensed Clinical Psychologist, doing assessment and psychotherapy, specializing in issues affecting divorcing families and providing expert testimony for family courts as well as teaching judges, attorneys, and mental health professionals about these issues and the parameters of competent practice in family court.

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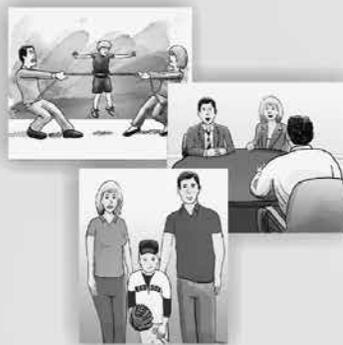
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Parenting coordination is a hybrid alternative dispute resolution process. It incorporates elements of education, facilitation, coaching, mediation, and, when permitted, arbitration. While working with Tony can be effective before, during, and after a divorce; he can only serve as a parenting coordinator if appointed by the court. When parents agree and it is approved by the court all decisions of the parenting coordinator are immediately effective and binding upon the parents, subject to review by a judge.

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Justice Blackstone



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Wishing AFCC a wonderful 55th Annual Conference!



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Gregory M. Trautt, Ph.D.

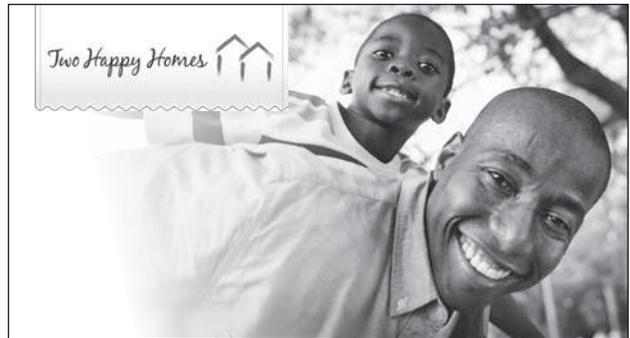
Online High-Conflict Co-Parenting  
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We can't solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used to create them. - Albert Einstein



Tools for co-parenting success!

Planning and organizing can be time consuming and stressful for coparents that are communicating from different households. Two Happy Homes offers a solution - a collaborative communication tool that makes the challenging life of coparenting easier!

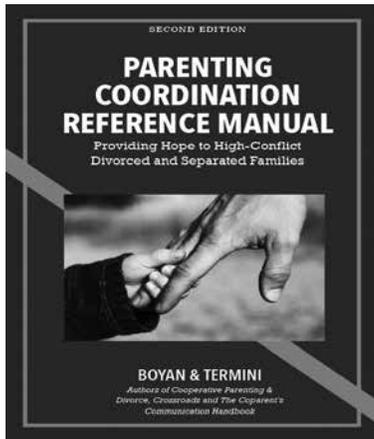


Find out more at [www.TwoHappyHomes.com](http://www.TwoHappyHomes.com), or contact us for complimentary brochures: [info@twohappyhomes.com](mailto:info@twohappyhomes.com)

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The Cooperative Parenting Institute Announces the Publication of

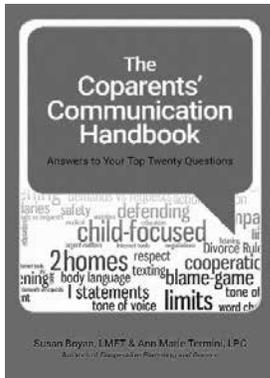
**The Parenting Coordination Reference Manual:**  
*Providing Hope to High-Conflict Divorced or Separated Families*



This unique textbook is the basis for the CPI model of parenting coordination. In addition to information on the process of being appointed as a PC, the professional is provided extensive resources for dealing with the legal system, on writing parenting plans, understanding child development, time sharing, personality disordered parents, preparing for court testimony and much more. Furthermore, this text includes a tremendous number of techniques, educational activities and structural interventions to offer necessary tools to work with angry, blaming, and challenged high-conflict parents.

To order either of these two new publications visit the product page on [www.cooperativeparenting.com](http://www.cooperativeparenting.com) or email [cpiandfamilysolutions@gmail.com](mailto:cpiandfamilysolutions@gmail.com)

**The Coparents' Communication Handbook**



All divorced parents can benefit from this simple to read text and improve their communication with both their co-parent and with their own child. The handbook provides a step-by-step approach to reduce conflict, set limits, make child-focused decisions while keeping their child out of the middle.

*“By answering twenty key questions, Boyan and Termini cover methods of communication; what subjects need joint decisions; what words to use for positive responses; how to set limits; and much more. This book is brief, easy-to-read and filled with very specific tips that parents can apply right away.”* - Bill Eddy, LCSW

\*\*\*\*\*

**Parenting Coordination Training – 2018**

The Cooperative Parenting Institute has provided parenting coordination training since 1997 throughout the US and abroad. For information on 2018 dates visit [www.cooperativeparenting.com](http://www.cooperativeparenting.com)



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The Center for Divorce Education is Pleased to Announce the Availability of Our  
Online High Conflict Parenting Class

**What Professionals are Saying about  
“Children in Between: High Conflict Solutions”**

"High Conflict Solutions is the online course that has been missing from the repertoire of parenting after divorce online courses. The course compellingly demonstrates through engaging visuals and videos how interparental conflict affects brain development and child adjustment, and then provides real solutions to help parents manage emotions and conflict. Prompts remind parents to practice the skills and reinforce the lessons learned. Throughout the program the voice of the child reminds us that they are the real beneficiary of this engaging educational program. I strongly recommend this program for co-parents engaged in high conflict, as well as attorneys, mediators, and mental health professionals who may want to share these skills with their clients."

*Robin M. Deutsch, Ph.D., ABPP  
Director, Center of Excellence for Children, Families and the Law  
Newton, MA*



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“Experienced and recognized family educator, Dr. Don Gordon, has just released a state of the art on-line parent education program, High Conflict Solutions. Building on his success as a developer of Children in Between, which dominated parent education for the past twenty years, Dr. Gordon has broken new ground by making this useful course available on the internet <https://www.highconflictsolutions.com/> at a reasonable cost.

Rather than providing turgid research data or a list of generalized rules, Dr. Gordon has honed in on common areas of high conflict impacting many couples. These vignettes include how to handle transitions between parents, reducing pejorative language about the other parent, and how to handle arrival and return times of the non-custodial parent. These issues fill the dockets of family courts and can poison and destroy childhoods. High conflict does not unnecessarily mean violence or abuse—but left untreated, such common conflicts can escalate to dangerous levels.

As a family lawyer and mediator, I am thrilled to have High Conflict Solutions as teaching aids for my clients.”

*Forrest (Woody) Mosten, JD  
Mediator and Family Lawyer, Certified Family Law Specialist  
Los Angeles, CA*



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“The task the creators set for themselves is daunting, not unlike the problem they address. But their competence, sensitivity and extensive experience shine through in this well-designed online course. The topics they address, and the order in which they address them, helps the high-conflict divorce participant feel that they are indeed, not alone in this process or in the feelings they experience in this bewildering and painful journey toward effective child-centered co-parenting - a goal which typically feels impossible to the many travelers along this path.

As a child and family psychiatrist with four decades of experience working with these children and their families, I commend this program for parents use and appreciation. It will save time, anxiety, hopelessness in lessening their conflict with each other- which, in turn, will be obvious to -and welcomed by- their children very quickly.”

*Kyle Pruett, MD.  
Psychiatrist  
Yale Child Study Center*



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To learn more about Children in Between: High Conflict Solutions or for a free demo of the course, please contact Dr. Don Gordon at [don@divorce-education.com](mailto:don@divorce-education.com) or Jaimie MacArthur at [jaimie@divorce-education.com](mailto:jaimie@divorce-education.com) or call 740-594-2526 ext.3

# Important Conference Information

## AFCC Silent Auction

The 20th Annual AFCC Silent Auction will take place Friday, June 8 at 5:30pm, immediately before the Annual Banquet. Auction proceeds help support AFCC projects and initiatives. Contributions will be recognized in the silent auction catalog and in the *AFCC eNEWS*. If you would like to donate an item, please contact AFCC Program Coordinator, Corinne Bennett, at 608-664-3750 or [cbennett@afccnet.org](mailto:cbennett@afccnet.org).

## Continuing Education Credits

AFCC will provide a certificate of attendance for a processing fee of \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members. Attendees may access their certificate of attendance at [www.afccnet.org](http://www.afccnet.org) after the conference concludes. *The certificate will verify attendance at conference sessions and may be used to apply for continuing education credits with the registrant's accrediting institution.* Instructions for obtaining your certificate will be available at the AFCC registration desk, along with a list of conference sessions eligible for continuing education credit.

**Psychologists:** AFCC is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. AFCC maintains responsibility for this program and its content. The program is eligible for up to 20.5 hours of continuing education for psychologists. All sessions are eligible except for Institute 5, Workshops 4, 5, 34, 36, 38, 42, 43, 48, 56, 57, 76, 95 and the Luncheon.

**Social Workers:** An application for continuing education approval from the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) will be submitted for up to 20.5 CE credits; however, individuals will need to verify approval with their credentialing or licensing boards.

**Mediators:** All conference sessions are eligible for continuing education units through the Association for Conflict Resolution (ACR).

**California Custody Evaluators and Mediators:** Applications will be submitted to the Judicial Council of California. The views expressed in the program are those of the faculty and do not necessarily represent the official positions or policies of the Judicial Council of California.

**Ontario Lawyers and Paralegals:** An application will be submitted to the Law Society of Upper Canada to accredit the educational program content for professionalism hours (Continuing Professional Development or CPD) for lawyers.

**Lawyers:** Maryland and the District of Columbia do not have mandatory continuing legal education requirements. Approval for CLE credit will be submitted to the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania CLE Board, the Commission on CLE of the Supreme Court of Delaware, and the Virginia State Bar MCLE Board. New York attorneys may count towards their NY CLE requirement credit earned through participation in out-of-state programs accredited by a NY Approved Jurisdiction. Both Delaware and Pennsylvania are NY Approved Jurisdictions. New Jersey attorneys who take courses approved in another state will receive credit for courses approved in that jurisdiction through reciprocity; however, attorneys must ensure that they are also meeting the requirements of

New Jersey's program, i.e. New Jersey requires that four credits be taken annually in courses related to ethics and/or professionalism. Attorneys from other jurisdiction may use the AFCC Certificate of Attendance to verify attendance and apply for credit in their state.

## Conference Scholarships

AFCC will offer 30 scholarships for the conference. Scholarships include pre-conference institute registration, conference registration, welcome reception, luncheon and annual banquet tickets, access to the AFCC hospitality suite, and a certificate of attendance. A limited number of scholarships include stipends to help offset the cost of travel and accommodations for recipients. Preference for scholarships with stipends is given to applicants with higher travel costs, international applicants, and those who demonstrate financial need. The scholarship application is available on the AFCC website, [www.afccnet.org](http://www.afccnet.org). **The scholarship application deadline is March 9, 2018.** Recipients will be notified late March. **AFCC will refund registration fees paid for all scholarship recipients without penalty.**

## Exhibit Forum

The Exhibit Forum will be open during conference hours and provides an opportunity to meet face-to-face with representatives to discuss your needs and the products and services they offer. If you are interested in an exhibit table or distributing materials to conference attendees, please contact AFCC Program Coordinator, Corinne Bennett, at 608-664-3750 or [cbennett@afccnet.org](mailto:cbennett@afccnet.org).

## Conference Bookstore

Unhooked Books will sell books in the Exhibit Forum during the conference. If you would like to have your book displayed or have book recommendations, please submit them here: <http://bit.ly/2g3JM6o> or contact Myke Hunter at [myke@unhookedbooks.com](mailto:myke@unhookedbooks.com) with book title, publisher name and/or ISBN by April 1, 2018, with "AFCC Bookstore" in the subject line.

## AFCC Hospitality Suite

The AFCC hospitality suite will be open for informal networking and refreshment on Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00pm–12:00am and on Friday after the banquet until midnight. Please wear your name badge. The hospitality suite location will be included in attendee emails and on the mobile app.

## Taste of Washington, D.C.

Thursday evening is your opportunity to enjoy the area with friends and colleagues. Sign up before 1:00pm on Thursday to join a group of 8–12 for dinner at a local restaurant. Restaurant menus and sign-up sheets will be available onsite Thursday morning. Participants are responsible for food, beverage, and transportation costs.

# Registration Information

*Please read before completing your conference registration!*

**AFCC Members Save up to \$185 on Registration Rates:** Register and pay by March 12, 2018, to receive the lowest rates for the conference! The early bird special rates are available only to AFCC members. Not a member? Read the New Membership Special information below and join today to save on registration.

**New Membership Special:** Join AFCC when you register for the conference and receive a one-year membership for \$150—a \$10 discount—and save up to \$185 by registering at the AFCC member rate! To join, simply select the new membership special on the registration form. *The new membership special rate is only available to first-time AFCC members.*

**Pre-Conference Institute Registration:** Includes attendance at a pre-conference institute, refreshment breaks, and printed institute materials. *Institute registration is a separate fee from registration for the full conference.*

**Conference Registration:** Includes all conference sessions, electronic conference materials, refreshment breaks, opening reception, luncheon, annual banquet, and access to the AFCC hospitality suite. *Pre-conference institutes require a separate registration fee.*

**Spouse/Guest Registration:** Available only to a spouse or significant other, *not* a business associate, staff, or colleague, accompanying a full-conference registrant. Includes plenary sessions, opening reception, luncheon, annual banquet, and access to the AFCC hospitality suite.

**Conference Presenter Registration:** Available only to conference presenters. Includes all conference sessions, electronic conference materials, refreshment breaks, opening reception, luncheon,

annual banquet, and access to the AFCC hospitality suite. *A separate registration fee is required for presenters who wish to attend pre-conference institutes.*

**Full-Time Student Registration:** Includes all conference sessions and electronic conference materials. Meal functions are not included; however, meal tickets may be purchased separately. Registration must include proof of full-time student status. *A separate registration fee is required for pre-conference institutes.*

**Certificate of Attendance:** AFCC will provide a certificate of attendance for a processing fee of \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members.

## Additional Luncheon Ticket

The luncheon is included in the conference registration fee. Additional tickets are available for \$75. Meal ticket prices reflect the estimated meal cost to AFCC.

## Additional Annual Banquet Ticket

The annual banquet including the performance by Capitol Steps, is included in the conference registration fee. Additional tickets are available for \$125. Ticket prices reflect the estimated meal cost and the Capitol Steps performance to AFCC.

## Special Needs

If you have dietary restrictions or other special needs, please make a note on the registration form or contact the AFCC office.

*AFCC reserves the right to cancel or substitute any presenter or session should circumstances arise beyond our control.*

*No personal audio or video recording or photographing of sessions is permitted.*

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# Travel and Lodging Information

## Hotel Information

**Washington Hilton Hotel**  
1919 Connecticut Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20009  
Phone: 202-483-3000

Just a ten-minute walk to the restaurants on Dupont Circle, the Washington Hilton Hotel is a modern retreat in the heart of Washington, D.C. Explore national monuments or experience a thriving restaurant and shopping scene, there is something for everyone! For more information regarding restaurants, sites, or activities, Washington, D.C. visitor information can be found at <https://washington.org/>.

**Make your reservations today!** The Washington Hilton is offering a special rate to AFCC attendees of \$219/night for single or double occupancy. On May 16, 2018, any unreserved rooms in the AFCC block will be released and the special rate will no longer be guaranteed. ***Rooms may sell out before the room block is released, so please make your reservations early!*** Reserve your room today by calling 1-800-445-8667 and request the AFCC special rate, or reserve online by visiting [www.afccnet.org](http://www.afccnet.org) and clicking the reservations link. AFCC conference attendees are responsible for making their own hotel arrangements.

## Ground Transportation

Washington Hilton is 15-20 minutes by car from Reagan National Airport (DCA), 45 minutes from Dulles International Airport (IAD) and 60 minutes from Baltimore/Washington International Airport (BWI). Metro (subway/rail) from Reagan National is approximately \$2.55; taxi fare or Uber from Reagan National is approximately \$15-\$20. Shared ride van service is available through SuperShuttle, approximately costs \$16 each way from Reagan National, \$30 from Dulles and \$42 from Baltimore/Washington. For more information or to make reservations, call 1-800-258-3826 or visit [www.supershuttle.com](http://www.supershuttle.com).

## Parking

Parking rates at the Washington Hilton are currently \$40 + tax per day for self-parking and \$48 + tax per day for valet parking.

## Climate

Temperatures in early June range from a high of 80°F to a low of 60°F (26°/15°C). Meeting rooms and hotel facilities can be cool, so bring a light jacket or sweater.

# Conference Registration Form

AFCC 55th Annual Conference • June 6-9, 2018 • Washington, D.C.

Please register by May 7, 2018, to ensure that your name appears on the list of conference attendees included in the electronic conference materials.

Register online at [www.afccnet.org](http://www.afccnet.org)

**1 Please print clearly.** This form may be duplicated.

First Name (Dr. / Mr. / Ms. / Judge) \_\_\_\_\_ M.I. \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ Degree \_\_\_\_\_

First Name or Nickname (as you would like it to appear on your name badge) \_\_\_\_\_

Title/Profession \_\_\_\_\_ Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Is this your first AFCC Conference?  Yes  No Do you have dietary restrictions or other special needs?  Luncheon/Banquet Meals  Access  Other

Please provide details: \_\_\_\_\_

**Professional Designation**  
(Select one please)

- Academic
- Court Administrator
- Court Commissioner
- Custody Evaluator
- Financial Professional
- Judge
- Lawyer
- Mediator
- Mental Health
- Professional
- Parenting Coordinator
- Parent Educator
- Researcher
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**2 Registration Rates**

Please check the appropriate amount(s) when making your selections and enter your total at the bottom

**New Membership Special**

Join AFCC for 12 months and register at AFCC member rates! For first-time members only.

**Pre-Conference Institute Registration Rates**

Full Day Institute Registration – AFCC Member

Full Day Institute Registration – Non-member

**Conference Registration Rates**

Conference Registration – AFCC Member

Conference Registration – Non-member

Conference Presenter Rate – AFCC Member

Conference Presenter Rate – Non-member

Full-time Student Rate – AFCC Member

(ID required. No meals included.)

Full-time Student Rate – Non-member

(ID required. No meals included.)

**Other Registration Rates**

Certificate of Attendance – AFCC Member

Certificate of Attendance – Non-member

Additional Luncheon Ticket

Additional Banquet Ticket

Spouse/Guest Registration Rate

(Meals and plenary sessions only.)

Scholarship Fund Donation

**TOTAL**

	Paid by March 12	Paid by May 4	Paid after May 4
Join AFCC for 12 months and register at AFCC member rates! For first-time members only.	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150
<b>Pre-Conference Institute Registration Rates</b>			
Full Day Institute Registration – AFCC Member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$170	<input type="checkbox"/> \$180
Full Day Institute Registration – Non-member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$215	<input type="checkbox"/> \$215	<input type="checkbox"/> \$230
<b>Conference Registration Rates</b>			
Conference Registration – AFCC Member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$475	<input type="checkbox"/> \$505	<input type="checkbox"/> \$560
Conference Registration – Non-member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$590	<input type="checkbox"/> \$590	<input type="checkbox"/> \$660
Conference Presenter Rate – AFCC Member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$285	<input type="checkbox"/> \$285	<input type="checkbox"/> \$300
Conference Presenter Rate – Non-member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$325	<input type="checkbox"/> \$325	<input type="checkbox"/> \$335
Full-time Student Rate – AFCC Member (ID required. No meals included.)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175	<input type="checkbox"/> \$200
Full-time Student Rate – Non-member (ID required. No meals included.)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175	<input type="checkbox"/> \$200	<input type="checkbox"/> \$225
<b>Other Registration Rates</b>			
Certificate of Attendance – AFCC Member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15
Certificate of Attendance – Non-member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20
Additional Luncheon Ticket	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75
Additional Banquet Ticket	<input type="checkbox"/> \$125	<input type="checkbox"/> \$125	<input type="checkbox"/> \$125
Spouse/Guest Registration Rate (Meals and plenary sessions only.)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$265	<input type="checkbox"/> \$265	<input type="checkbox"/> \$280
Scholarship Fund Donation	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

**3**

**Institute Selections—Wednesday, June 6, 2018**

If you have registered for an institute, please check only one of the following boxes:

**Pre-Conference Institutes 9:00am–5:00pm**

- 1. Becoming a Trauma-Informed Court
- 2. Mediation with Personality-Disordered Clients
- 3. Trauma-Sensitive Early Intervention
- 4. Coercive Control
- 5. Judicial Officers Institute
- 6. Deconstructing the Process of Decision-Making
- 7. Trial Bootcamp for Mental Health and Legal Professionals
- 8. The Unseen Damage

**4**

**Conference Workshop Selections**

Seating is not guaranteed and will be first-come, first-served. Your selections will ensure that sessions with more attendees are scheduled in larger meeting rooms.

(Please write in one workshop number per time slot)

Thursday, June 7	10:30am–12:00pm	1–12 _____
Thursday, June 7	1:45pm–3:15pm	13–24 _____
Thursday, June 7	3:30pm–5:00pm	25–36 _____
Friday, June 8	8:30am–10:00am	37–48 _____
Friday, June 8	1:45pm–3:15pm	49–60 _____
Friday, June 8	3:30pm–5:00pm	61–72 _____
Saturday, June 9	9:15am–10:45am	73–84 _____
Saturday, June 9	11:00am–12:30pm	85–96 _____

**5**

**Conference Registrant Meals**

To ensure sufficient space and quantities, while reducing waste, please indicate which meals you plan to attend:

- Wednesday Opening Reception  YES  NO
- Thursday Luncheon  YES  NO
- Friday Annual Banquet  YES  NO

**6 Method of Payment**

**Registrations must be paid in full prior to attendance.**

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## Compassionate Family Court Systems: The Role of Trauma-Informed Jurisprudence

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