

ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY



AND CONCILIATION COURTS

# 46th Annual Conference

**Children, Courts and Custody:**

**Back to the Future**

**OR**

**Full Steam Ahead?**

**May 27-30, 2009**

**Sheraton New Orleans • \$165 single or double**

# New Orleans

**AFCC is an interdisciplinary and international association of professionals dedicated to improving the lives of children and families through the resolution of family conflict.**



# Children, Courts and Custody:

Back to the Future

OR

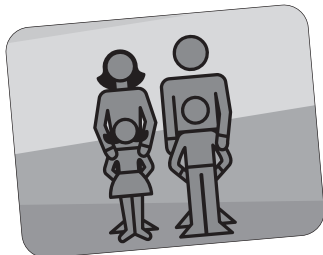
Full Steam Ahead?

SHERATON NEW ORLEANS • May 27-30, 2009

## What is conventional child custody wisdom?

### THEN:

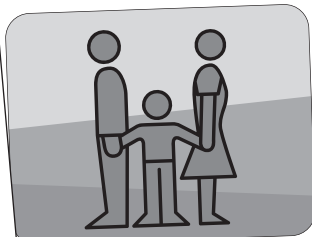
Stay together  
for the sake of  
the children



NOW:  
Children of  
divorce are  
resilient

### THEN:

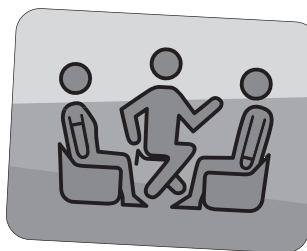
Children should  
be seen and  
not heard



NOW:  
Children  
deserve a  
voice

### THEN:

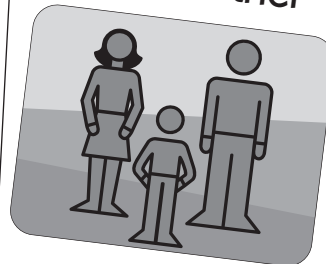
Zealous  
advocacy



NOW:  
Mediate,  
don't  
litigate

### THEN:

Children belong  
at home with  
their mother



NOW:  
The best  
parent is  
both parents

## But will today's wisdom be tomorrow's myths?

As research, practices and processes have evolved over the years, paradigms have shifted, controversies have arisen and myths have been debunked. But how sure are we about what we think we might know? Join AFCC as we go back to New Orleans—and the future—to explore what challenges lie ahead.

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## What does AFCC's 46th Annual Conference Offer You?

An unparalleled conference experience with the leading practitioners, researchers and policy makers in the field.

### Continuing Education Credits

For psychologists, lawyers, judges, mediators and mental health professionals. Details on page 27.

### Near 80 Conference Sessions

Learn about the latest research, policy and practice from a world-class faculty! Don't miss the latest sessions on relocation, domestic abuse, the voice of the child, parenting coordination, high conflict families, unrepresented litigants and more!!!

### Conference Scholarships

AFCC is granting a record number of conference scholarships. Application deadline is March 1, 2009. See details on page 27.

### New Orleans

The Sheraton New Orleans is just across the street from the French Quarter's restaurants, nightlife, music and New Orleans' great history!

### AFCC Member Price Freeze

All member prices are frozen until 2010. Join AFCC today and register at the member rate for a savings of \$100 or more, and take advantage of the AFCC economic bailout plan!

## Collaborating Organizations

American Bar Association Section of Dispute Resolution  
Association for Conflict Resolution  
Collaborative Practice Group of Southeast Louisiana  
Family Mediation Council of Louisiana  
International Academy of Collaborative Professionals  
Louisiana Counseling Association  
Loyola University New Orleans College of Law  
National Association of Counsel for Children  
National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges

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"The AFCC conference offered some of the finest presentations I have heard in 27 years of practice. I was VERY impressed."



Carol Gernsten,  
Miami, FL

"I can't imagine life without going to AFCC conferences."



Mary Lund,  
Santa Monica, CA

"It was very exciting to have so many people together from many geographical areas, all connected by the work that we do!"



Hazel Patrick,  
Calgary, AB

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Chris Shanahan, B.A., CPA **Administrative Director**

Dawn Holmes **Conference Registrar**

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Erin Sommerfeld, B.A. **Program Coordinator**

Rick Steiner **Administrative Assistant**

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## Invitation from the President



It is my pleasure to invite you to join AFCC for our 46th Annual Conference in New Orleans. The conference theme is *Children, Courts and Custody: Back to the Future or Full Steam Ahead?* We will examine the ways in which our work

has evolved; what we have learned from the past to inform our future; and why it is so important that we continue to rigorously examine and challenge our most fundamental assumptions so that we can improve our service to families.

Three years ago Hurricanes Katrina and Rita devastated the Gulf Coast region and forced postponement of this conference, originally scheduled for New Orleans in May 2006. For those impacted by the tragedy, issues such as child custody evaluation standards and age appropriate parenting plans paled in comparison to loss of homes and jobs. Since 2006, AFCC has supported New Orleans with contributions to help rebuild the city, by hosting training programs in collaboration with Loyola University New Orleans College of Law and now, by returning with our 2009 Annual Conference. We will be providing further support by offering more than 40 conference scholarships, at least 25 percent of which will be targeted to Louisiana professionals.

AFCC has a special history with New Orleans. Both of our previous conferences there not only set attendance records, they were landmark events. This conference promises to continue the tradition. Please join us because you know how special an AFCC conference can be; to support New Orleans; for the music, the cuisine and late night café au lait and beignets; or simply because you know that AFCC offers the most outstanding interdisciplinary conference in the field.

Remember, prices for AFCC members are frozen at 2008 levels. If you are not a member, you can join when you register for the conference and take advantage of the savings. I look forward to seeing you in New Orleans.

Let the good times roll!!

Robin Deutsch

AFCC President

# Conference at a Glance

## TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2009

6:00pm-8:00pm Conference Registration

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 2009

7:30am-6:00pm Conference Registration  
 8:00am-5:00pm Exhibitor Forum  
 8:00am-9:00am Coffee and Rolls for Institute Registrants  
 9:00am-4:30pm Pre-conference Institutes  
 9:00am-4:30pm AFCC Board of Directors Meeting  
 5:00pm-6:00pm Conference Orientation and Networking  
 6:30pm-7:30pm Opening Reception  
 9:00pm-12:00am AFCC Hospitality Suite

## THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2009

7:30am-5:00pm Conference Registration  
 7:30am-5:00pm Exhibitor Forum  
 7:30am-8:30am Coffee and Rolls  
 8:30am-10:00am Opening Session  
 10:00am-10:30am Break and Exhibitor Forum  
 10:30am-12:00pm Workshops 1-10  
 12:00pm-1:30pm AFCC Awards Luncheon  
 1:45pm-3:15pm Workshops 11-20  
 3:15pm-3:30pm Break and Exhibitor Forum  
 3:30pm-5:00pm Workshops 21-29  
 3:30pm-6:00pm Workshop 30  
 5:00pm Open Forum—Task Force on Court-Involved Therapists  
 5:00pm Open Forum—Task Force on Focused Evaluation  
 Evening Taste of New Orleans  
 9:00pm-12:00am AFCC Hospitality Suite

## FRIDAY, MAY 29, 2009

7:00am-8:15am AFCC Committee Meetings  
 7:30am-5:00pm Conference Registration  
 7:30am-5:00pm Exhibitor Forum  
 7:30am-8:30am Coffee and Rolls  
 8:30am-10:00am Plenary Session  
 10:00am-10:30am Break and Exhibitor Forum  
 10:30am-12:00pm Plenary Session  
 12:00pm-1:30pm Lunch on your own and Exhibitor Forum  
 12:00pm-1:30pm Family Court Review Editorial Board Meeting  
 1:45pm-3:15pm Workshops 31-40  
 3:15pm-3:30pm Break and Exhibitor Forum  
 3:30pm-5:00pm Workshops 41-50  
 5:30pm-7:00pm Silent Auction and Reception  
 7:00pm-10:00pm AFCC Annual Banquet  
 9:30pm-12:00am AFCC Hospitality Suite

## SATURDAY, MAY 30, 2009

7:30am-12:30pm Conference Registration  
 8:00am-12:30pm Exhibitor Forum  
 8:00am-9:00am Coffee and Rolls  
 8:00am-9:00am AFCC Membership Meeting  
 9:15am-10:45am Workshops 51-60  
 10:45am-11:00am Break and Exhibitor Forum  
 11:00am-12:30pm Workshops 61-70  
 1:30pm-5:30pm Optional Volunteer Activity



# Pre-conference Institutes

(Separate registration fee required. Please see conference information on page 28.)

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 2009**

**9:00am-4:30pm**

## **1. Child Inclusive Mediation: Introduction to an Evidence-Based Approach**

This evidence-based approach to child inclusive mediation involves parents in a process of building a developmentally sound parenting agreement and the means through which to sustain it, targeting their emotional responsiveness to the unique needs of their children, their co-parenting alliance and effective conflict management. This institute will introduce participants to the process and examine (1) screening for appropriateness and capacity; (2) child assessment tailored for mediation; (3) creating strategic, therapeutic feedback conversations with parents; and (4) diverse applications of child inclusion in court and community settings. Current findings from a four-year comparative study of outcomes will be presented.

**Jennifer McIntosh, Ph.D.**, *Family Transitions and La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia*

## **2. Differentiating Uses of Violence in Families: Toward Improving Family Court Custody Determinations**

There is widespread and increasing acknowledgment among family courts and court practitioners, domestic violence advocates and others that not all domestic violence is the same; and that differences in the use of violence in intimate relationships have implications for appropriate custody and visitation outcomes in family court cases. This institute will examine these differences, with particular focus on the significance each kind of violence is likely to have on the children. Presenters will consider the need for, and complications of, screening and for interventions and outcomes in custody and visitation cases that are appropriate in view of the family's experience with domestic violence.

**Hon. Susan Carbon**, *Past President, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, Concord, NH*

**Loretta Frederick, J.D.**, *Battered Women's Justice Project, Winona, MN*

**Peter Jaffe, Ph.D.**, *University of Western Ontario, London, ON*

**Janet Johnston, Ph.D.**, *San Jose State University, San Jose, CA*

**Ellen Pence, Ph.D.**, *Director, Praxis International, St. Paul, MN*

## **3. Family Restructuring Therapy for High Conflict Families**

High conflict families in separation and divorce are often considered resistant to standard therapy models and practices. Family Restructuring Therapy is an active, directive process that assists families in conflict to modify maladaptive interactions. It is used in teaching parents to co-parent, in re-uniting parents with alienated children, and in developing concrete, practical parenting plans. Family Restructuring Therapy is future oriented and action focused and often court-ordered or for court related issues. This institute will provide the theory to understand the process and offer ample opportunity for hands-on practice and discussion.

**Stephen Carter, Ph.D., R.Psych.**, *Edmonton, AB*

**Bonnie Haave, Ph.D., R.Psych.**, *Edmonton, AB*

**Shirley Vandersteen, Ph.D., R.Psych.**, *Edmonton, AB*

**James Bateman, M.A., R.Psych.**, *Edmonton, AB*

## **4. Mediation Artistry: Reflecting on the Past, Looking to the Future**

Artistry in mediation requires that practitioners reflect on their experiences and incorporate what they learn into their future thinking and practice. This interactive institute will provide the opportunity for participants to reflect on their own work, enhance practice skills and consider critical ethical challenges while examining substantive issues including high conflict clients and verbal and emotional abuse. Presenters, along with participants, will conclude the day by reflecting on family mediation's past and where it may be heading in the future.

**Christine A. Coates, J.D., M.Ed.**, *Dispute Resolution Professional, Boulder, CO*

**Jim Melamed, J.D.**, *Mediate.com, Eugene, OR*

**Sharon Press, J.D.**, *Florida Dispute Resolution Center, Tallahassee, FL*

**Zena Zumeta, J.D.**, *Mediation Training and Consultation Institute, Ann Arbor, MI*

## **5. Developing a Court-Based Parenting Coordination Program: Working with Special Populations**

This institute presents the development of the Office of the Parenting Coordinator in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, from the initial pilot project to the funding and development of community partnerships that led to the creation of the Office. Presenters will provide an overview of this court-based program tailored to fit the needs of a low-income ethnically diverse population and the judiciary. Afternoon activities will focus on court orders, developing work-plans for use with agencies and clients, negotiating parenting plans and establishing goals. Participants will also learn to how to creatively integrate multicultural strategies in their work.

**Hon. Anita Josey-Herring**, *Superior Court of the District of Columbia, Washington, DC*

**Giselle A. Hass, Psy.D.**, *Clinical Director, Office of the Parenting Coordinator, Washington, DC*

**Matthew Sullivan, Ph.D.**, *APA Consultant, Palo Alto, CA*

**Shirley Ann Higuchi, J.D.**, *APA/PO Assist. Executive Director for Legal and Regulatory Affairs, Washington, DC*

**Steven M. Harner, Psy.D.**, *APA Consultant, Falls Church, VA*

## **6. Effective Use of Experts in Family Court: An Interdisciplinary Institute**

This institute will provide a comprehensive overview of the use of experts in family law matters with an emphasis on mental health experts. Presenters will explore the legal requirements and qualifications for an expert, the judicial gatekeeping function, effective preparation by the expert and by legal counsel and the use of experts pre-trial, at trial and post-trial. This session will use a case-study approach to help judges, lawyers and experts learn to work with one another, develop appropriate expectations and make most effective use of resources.

**Hon. R. John Harper**, *Ontario Superior Court, London, ON*

**David Medoff, Ph.D.**, *Suffolk University, Boston, MA*

**Mary Ferriter, J.D., M.P.A.**, *Esdaile, Barrett & Esdaile, Boston, MA*

# AFCC 46th Annual Conference

## Children Courts and Custody: Back to the Future or Full Steam Ahead?

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 2009

7:30am-6:00pm	Conference Registration
8:00am-5:00pm	Exhibitor Forum
8:00am-9:00am	Coffee and Rolls for Institute Registrants
9:00am-4:30pm	Pre-conference Institutes
5:00pm-6:00pm	Conference Orientation and Networking
6:30pm-7:30pm	Opening Reception
9:00pm-12:00am	AFCC Hospitality Suite

### THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2009

7:30am-5:00pm	Conference Registration
7:30am-5:00pm	Exhibitor Forum
7:30am-8:30am	Coffee and Rolls
8:30am-10:00am	Opening Session

*Welcome: Robin M. Deutsch, Ph.D., AFCC President, Boston, MA*

### Back to the Future or Full Steam Ahead? What Research Really Shows about Children and Divorce

Studies suggest that children are generally resilient following their parents' divorce and that those with healthy relationships with both parents often thrive. These findings are often articulated – by professionals, interests groups and parents alike – into platitudes such as “equal parenting time is always best” or “a good divorce does not harm children.” Does the research fully support these statements? Is there any evidence that we should re-examine more traditional notions? This session will explore some of the myths and realities of research and conventional child custody wisdom.

*Paul Amato, Ph.D., Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA*

*Jennifer McIntosh, Ph.D., Family Transitions and La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia*

*Moderator: Dianna Gould-Saltman, J.D., Gould-Saltman Law Offices, Los Angeles, CA*

10:00am-10:30am Break and Exhibitor Forum

10:30am-12:00pm Workshops 1-10

### 1. The Legacy of High Conflict and Violent Divorce for Young Adults

Our understanding of children of chronically conflicted post-divorce families is largely based upon custody-disputing families who have failed mediation and been ordered into counseling or evaluations by family court. What actually happens to these young people over the span of their childhood and adolescent years? This workshop reports on a first, longitudinal, in-depth study of young adults who had been children of highly conflicted and violent divorced families interviewed 15 to 20 years after the custody litigation. Memories of growing up in their families are described along with the young adult's current relationships with their parents and siblings. The second half of the workshop will focus on the clinical implications for redesigning preventive intervention strategies for therapists, co-parenting counselors and parenting coordinators.

*Judith Goldman, Ph.D., Santa Monica, CA*

*Janet R. Johnston, Ph.D., San Jose State University, San Jose, CA*

### 2. Tribal Court Practice in Child Protection and Custody Matters

State and tribal court systems are increasingly intersecting on family and juvenile court matters. This workshop will offer an overview of tribal court practice and examine the complexities and subtleties inherent within that practice. Presenters will address issues including: unique cultural issues in providing services and treatment to Native American populations; sources of authority for tribal courts; the structure and operation of tribal courts; tribal court jurisdiction and complexities unique to juvenile and family law matters; and substantive family and juvenile law in tribal courts and how it differs from typical state law on those topics.

*Gary A. Debele, J.D., Walling, Berg & Debele, Minneapolis, MN*

*Katherine Thomas, Psy.D., Moxie, Inc., Minneapolis, MN*

### 3. The “Ah-ha” Moments in Mediation: How Do They Happen and How Can They Happen More Often?

All mediators have experienced amazing breakthroughs in mediation and were left wondering how they happened. Using case examples, the presenter will explore how dynamics between the parties and the interventions by the mediator helped to bring about a change in the parties’ interaction. This workshop will (1) assist mediators in increasing their awareness of the nuances in the parties’ communication; (2) help mediators understand the fears that they themselves carry into mediations; (3) discuss the barriers that mediators inadvertently put in the way of breakthroughs, and (4) help mediators learn to take risks, trust their instincts and trust in the parties’ wisdom.

*Rebecca T. Magruder, M.S.W., J.D., St. Charles, MO*

### 4. Relocation Revisited: The Consequences of Hurricane Katrina on Child Custody Cases

Forced evacuation and relocation put parents in the difficult position of determining whether and when to return to their original home. In the wake of Hurricane Katrina, hundreds of thousands of families were forced to relocate, increasing custody disputes. This workshop will use clinical examples of child custody cases affected by Hurricane Katrina to demonstrate the complex interaction between the legal implications of relocation, the psychological best interest of the child and the trauma natural disasters have on families and children. The presentation will take into account how best to balance the developmental needs of children in the midst of a forced evacuation that separates parents by hundreds, if not thousands, of miles and provide suggestions for mediating these cases.

*Jennifer B. Rhodes, Psy.D., Tulane University, New Orleans, LA*

*Karen van Beyer, Ph.D., LCSW, Child Custody & Mediation Clinic, Metairie, LA*

### 5. Adolescent Input into Custody Decisions

For years, courts have struggled to incorporate the child’s voice on custody and parenting plans. Many states have instituted statutes that allow for the “mature” voice of the child to be heard. However, virtually no research in family law or psychology directly addresses teens’ ability to provide mature input. This workshop relies on research from developmental psychology and juvenile justice to examine what research suggests about the requisite understanding, maturity, judgment, and decision-making abilities of teens, and their ability to have input or determinative say in decisions. Presenters will also discuss methods for determining these abilities in the adolescents they serve.

*Kimberly Larson, Ph.D., J.D., University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, MA*

*Joseph C. McGill, M.S.W., University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, MA*

### 6. Key Elements of a Successful Child Protection Mediation Program

This workshop will examine three essential elements of successful child protection mediation programs from the perspective of programs in three states. Presenters will discuss how to: (1) create and maintain stakeholder relationships; (2) identify personnel to serve as mediators; and (3) engage mediation participants. Workshop participants will have the opportunity to discuss how an understanding of these key issues can lead to a more successful program.

*Susan Butterwick, J.D., Director of Family Programs, Wayne Mediation Center, Dearborn, MI*

*Marilou Giovannucci, M.S., Manager, Connecticut Judicial Branch Court Operations, Wethersfield, CT*

*Karen Largent, M.S.W., Dispute Resolution Coordinator, Alaska Court System, Anchorage, AK*

### 7. Problem-Solving Courts, Family Law and Judicial Satisfaction

Some family court judges regard their assignment as less than desirable. But job satisfaction depends on several factors including the degree to which the court is intended to help the public. This workshop will present results of a survey of judges examining differences in satisfaction between those in problem-solving courts and in other more traditional assignments, such as family and criminal courts. Presenters will focus on the implications of these findings to judicial assignments in family law, and discussion of some of the other factors affecting judicial satisfaction for family court judges.

*Deborah J. Chase, J.D., Ph.D., Center for Families, Children and the Courts, San Francisco, CA*

*Hon. Peggy F. Hora (ret.), Walnut Creek, CA*

*Hon. Sue Alexander, Commissioner of the Superior Court of California, Hayward, CA*

### 8. Update on Same Sex Marriage

Marriage, which has traditionally been regulated at the state level, lies at the crossroads of the cultural and political battles between family values and social justice. This workshop will provide an update on the state of same sex marriage in the United States, with special attention paid to the experiences of Massachusetts and California. Domestic partnerships and civil unions will be explored as will implications for marriage and divorce law. Presenters will examine ethical, political and family policy issues that the Defense of Marriage Act is intended to address and some of its unintended consequences.

*Andy Dunlap, LCSW, Susquehanna University Counseling Center, Selinsgrove, PA*

*Marsha Kline Pruett, Ph.D., M.S.L., Smith College School for Social Work, Northampton, MA*



## 9. Solutions to the Unrepresented Litigants Crisis

At least 75% of family law cases include self-representing litigants. Many courts have innovative programs to provide them with court access to resolve their legal issues and to reduce the burden on judges and court staff in dealing with these cases. This workshop will provide an overview of three different self-help program models: (1) in-person services; (2) telephone and web-based services; and (3) volunteer attorney services. Participants will have the opportunity to examine the best fit between the service delivery model and their specific court.

**Bonnie Rose Hough, J.D.**, *Center for Families, Children & the Courts, San Francisco, CA*

**William C. Silverman, J.D.**, *GreenbergTraurig, New York, NY*

**Stacey Marz, J.D.**, *Family Law Self-Help Center, Anchorage, AK*

## 10. Divorce Financial Questions You Were Afraid to Ask

This interactive workshop is a primer for judges, lawyers, mediators and financial professionals and will provide participants with working knowledge of five different financial areas within the divorce process. Presenters will discuss pensions, IRAs and other retirement plans, spousal support, maintenance and alimony, income tax exemptions and child credits and treatment of capital gains in homes and investments. This is the place to bring the questions that you've been afraid to ask!

**Steven L. Abel, J.D.**, *Abel & Brustein-Kampel, New City, NY*

**Darryll R. Bauchert, Sr., MBA**, *Columbus Financial Group, Fort Myers, FL*

### 12:00pm-1:30pm AFCC Awards Luncheon

*Presiding: Robin M. Deutsch, AFCC President*

## 1:45pm-3:15pm Workshops 11-20

### 11. Advanced Issues in Relocation – Part I

This advanced workshop addresses the complex problem of child custody and relocation from legal and psychological perspectives. Part I of this workshop will examine the Uniform Relocation of Children Act that is currently in development by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws. Participants will receive an overview on relocation law and the implications for conducting a child custody evaluation. Part II will review attachment theory and research as it applies to the specific child custody context of relocation with very young children. Presenters will discuss how to integrate the risk assessment approach to relocation with an analysis of attachment issues. *Participants should also register for Part II, Workshop 21.*

**Jeffrey Atkinson, J.D.**, *Reporter, Uniform Relocation of Children Act, Wilmette, IL*

**William G. Austin, Ph.D.**, *Steamboat Springs, CO*

**S. Margaret Lee, Ph.D.**, *Mill Valley, CA*

### 12. Trial Court Advocacy: When Lawyers and Helping Professionals Meet in the Courtroom – Part I

This workshop will be of interest to all participants in the trial process – judges, lawyers and all mental health professionals who give evidence. Leading Canadian trial lawyers and mental health professionals will demonstrate testimony and cross-examination of parenting coordinators, psychiatrists, psychologists and social workers. Participants will learn the fundamentals for the analysis of expert reports and for planning and conducting direct and cross examination of the expert. Opportunity for participant discussion and questions will follow the demonstration. *Participants should also register for Part II, Workshop 22.*

**Irwin S. Butkowsky, Ph.D.**, *Toronto, ON*

**Martha A. McCarthy, LL.B.**, *Martha McCarthy & Company, Toronto, ON*

**Julie K. Hannaford, LL.B.**, *J.K. Hannaford Barristers, Toronto, ON*

### 13. Bridging Families and Communities: A Successful Court and Community Collaboration – Part I

This interactive workshop examines a community collaboration designed to meet the needs of children exposed to parental conflict and family violence. The program integrates a system of care model to provide wrap-around services for children referred by the family court. Presenters will discuss the system of care approach and how the evaluation process can be integrated in the collaborative so that it maximizes operational funding and also contributes to the program's sustainability. Participants will apply lessons learned to potentially establish programs in their own communities, creating broad networks, systems of care and court triage to identify and effectively service these families. *Participants should register for Part II, Workshop 23.*

**Hon. Judith L. Kreeger**, *Miami, FL*

**Belinda Paulicin, LCSW**, *The Advocate Program, Inc., Miami, FL*

**James Pann, Ph.D.**, *Miami Shores, FL*

**Linda Fieldstone, M.Ed.**, *Family Court Services, Miami, FL*

### 14. Allegations of Risk in Court-Based Mediation

There is research and some consensus indicating that allegations of violence and abuse are often marginalized in family mediation in England. However, there is limited understanding of how or why this occurs, particularly in the context of heightened awareness of risk amongst mediators. This session examines what parents and mediators do (or do not do), or say (or do not say), that results in allegations being marginalized. The presenter draws on micro-analysis of mediation sessions and explores the subtle means, drawing upon everyday conversational techniques, by which mediators can influence the mediation process for better or worse.

**Liz Trinder, Ph.D.**, *Newcastle University, Newcastle Upon Tyne, England*

### 15. Intractable Conflicts in Parenting Coordination: Collaborative Interventions

This workshop will identify the structure and underlying causes of intractable conflicts between parents and illustrate how to use this information most effectively in parenting coordination. Analysis of conflict, typology and conflict management styles will be addressed along with suggestions for interventions to transform conflicts within the parenting system. The workshop will illustrate the usefulness of building an infrastructure for parents, including parenting plan components that address non-compliance issues and the importance of a collaborative team approach.

*Debra K. Carter, Ph.D., Carter Psychology Center, Bradenton, FL*

*Jack A. Moring, J.D., Moring & Moring, P.A., Crystal River, FL*

### 16. Personality Disorders: How to Help the Most Difficult Litigants without Losing Your Mind

Lawyers and judges deal with difficult, personality-disordered clients and litigants every day and the stress of family court often brings out the worst in these troubled people. Through demonstration, discussion, and practical application, this workshop will refine participants' skills in quickly identifying the most common personality disorders. Basic techniques for handling personality-disordered people in the office and courtroom will be discussed and participants will improve strategies for helping clients navigate the family court process while minimizing personal stress. The workshop will emphasize Cluster B disorders, (the Dramatic and Emotional), especially borderline personality disorder.

*David McPhee, Ph.D., ABPP, Selmi McPhee Family Forensic Psychology, Mesa, AZ*

### 17. "The View" on Legal Trends in Child Custody

The traditional model of addressing child custody disputes is rapidly changing. Time constraints, self-represented parties and relocation are just a few of the reasons. New information about children and child development has also changed the substance considered by parties, custody evaluators and courts. Panelists in this workshop will address these trends including changes in the role of "fault," the use of presumptions, a push away from traditional litigation, the use of children's representatives, the role of money (including child support and attorneys' fees) in child custody disputes and a possible move toward federal standards to determine children's best interests.

*Dianna Gould-Saltman, J.D., Los Angeles, CA*

*Laura Morgan, J.D., Charlottesville, VA*

*Faith D. Dornbrand, J.D., Bethesda, MD*

### 18. Meaningful Participation of Children and Youth in Child Protection Mediation

Children have a right to participate and have their views considered in decisions that affect them. Child welfare professionals are seeking to advance understanding about the involvement of children and youth in decision making processes, such as child protection mediation. This workshop will present lessons learned in British Columbia based on a recent initiative that included a comprehensive literature review, consultation with representatives from child protection and dependency mediation agencies and focus groups and interviews with professionals and stakeholders. Presenters will explore a continuum from child-centered to child-inclusive practice in child protection mediation, with an emphasis on the role and practice of the child protection mediator.

*Andrea Clarke, Ministry of Attorney General, Victoria, BC*

*Natasha Mallal, Graduate Student, University of Victoria, Victoria, BC*

### 19. Supervised Visitation and Exchange: Innovations for Preventing Violence

Supervised visitation and exchange programs have grown in number and in their focus on the needs of domestic abuse victims and their children. Dilemmas continue in a number of areas, including the purpose and uses of documentation; ways to conduct danger assessments; and program relationship to victim advocacy. This workshop examines research based on provider and client reports in four states. While the research shows high rates of violence occurring between visits, the visits and exchanges are regarded generally by clients as safe, respectful, and culturally sensitive. This workshop describes a number of trends in programs and discusses barriers to service.

*Daniel G. Saunders, Ph.D., University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI*

### 20. Impasse Improv: Family Mediation Skills Development

Identifying different types of conflict in mediation and developing strategies to address potential impasses in mediation will be the focus of this interactive workshop. Participants will have the opportunity to learn and practice how to deal with such conflicts and discover new methods for better avoiding and successfully dealing with potential impasses in mediation.

*Gregory Firestone, Ph.D., University of South Florida, Tampa, FL*

**3:15pm-3:30pm**

**Break and Exhibitor Forum**

**3:30pm-5:00pm Workshops 21-29****21. Advanced Issues in Relocation – Part II**

Participants in this session are expected to have attended Part I, Workshop 11.

**22. Trial Court Advocacy – Part II**

Participants in this session are expected to have attended Part I, Workshop 12.

**23. Bridging Families and Communities – Part II**

Participants in this session are expected to have attended Part I, Workshop 13.

**24. Better Late than Never? Minnesota's Family Appellate Mediation Program**

The Minnesota Court of Appeals, informed by successes across the country, recently initiated a pilot mediation program for family appeals. Mediation offered the possibility to save time and money for the court and litigants, while addressing conflict within families. This workshop will examine the program design, case management and evaluation. Preliminary findings will be presented.

*Aimee R. Gourlay, J.D., Mediation Center for Dispute Resolution, St. Paul, MN*

*Bobbi McAdoo, J.D., Hamline University School of Law, St. Paul, MN*

*Jessica Kuchta-Miller, J.D., M.A., Dispute Resolution Institute, Hamline University School of Law, St. Paul, MN*

**25. How to Talk to Children and the Ethics of Reporting What they Say**

This workshop will survey current research on linguistic styles to use with children to obtain accurate information. Presenters will examine suggested protocols for interviewing about child sexual abuse and parenting competence, taking into account the child's developmental level. The second part of this workshop will focus on the style of reporting what a child says and issues of reporting content and sufficient information to answer the forensic question without harming the child.

*Marolyn Morford, Ph.D., Center for Child & Adult Development, State College, PA*

*Steven R. Cohen, Ph.D., Southampton, PA*

*Jane Iannuzzelli, M.Ed., Media, PA*

*Eve Orlow, Ed.D., Ardmore, PA*

*Kathryn L. Vennie, M.S., Hawley, PA*

**26. Child Custody Law vs. Cultural Practices: Best Interests Standard or Issues of Diversity**

This workshop will review cases of alleged child abuse and child custody evaluations with parents from diverse cultures to examine some of the challenges presented to judges and custody evaluators. How can they sift through values differences and beliefs about parenting to arrive at the truest allegiance to the best interest standards? How can an evaluator respect differences in parenting practices while still honoring state statutes outlining best interest? This presentation will review the pertinent literature and research about cultural differences in parenting.

*Kathleen M. O'Brien, Ph.D., ABPP, Chicago, IL*

**27. Is the Practice of Mediation in Crisis? The Disconnect Between Theory and Practice**

Family mediation introduced the concept of a neutral third party professional to assist parents in working out their own solutions. However, some suggest that true mediator neutrality may not exist and that mediators wield significant power over the process and outcomes. This workshop will review the literature, identify disconnects and explore the questions: Is the practice of mediation in crisis?

*Maggie Hall, M.S.W., LL.M., The Mediation Centre, Hamilton, ON*

*Sue Bronson, M.S., New Prospects, Milwaukee, WI*

**28. Research Meets Practice: Mediation of Parenting Time in Cases Involving Intimate Partner Violence**

Social scientists and clinical law faculty in this workshop will explore the juxtaposition of practical experience and social science research in mediation cases involving intimate partner violence (IPV). Presenters will discuss whether, how often, and how well mediators identify and respond to IPV; the impact of the interaction of IPV and attorney representation on the mediation process; policy considerations for mediation cases involving IPV; and the challenges of conducting empirical research in real world settings.

*Amy Holtzworth-Munroe, Ph.D., Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN*

*Connie J.A. Beck, Ph.D., Department of Psychology, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ*

*Amy G. Applegate, J.D., Family and Children Mediation Clinic, Indiana University School of Law, Bloomington, IN*

*Robin Ballard, Graduate Student, Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN*

*Zelda Harris, J.D., Domestic Violence Clinic, James E. Rogers College of Law, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ*



## 29. New Ways Counseling for the Court

This workshop will explain "New Ways Counseling for the Court," a new short-term, interdisciplinary form of counseling for high-conflict parents designed for use when a parent or the court believes that parenting time needs to be restricted or supervised because of child abuse or child alienation. It is based on research-based principles that have worked in the treatment of people with personality disorder and will motivate parents to demonstrate positive behavior, and assist the court in making new parenting orders based on their ability to learn new ways.

*William A. Eddy, LCSW, J.D., High Conflict Institute, Scottsdale, AZ*

**3:30pm-6:00pm Workshop 30**

## 30. Judicial Officers Forum: Using the Bully Pulpit

This workshop explores the role of family court judges as public educators. Should judges maintain a high profile, using the bully pulpit of the media and public speaking opportunities to send a message to the public, especially parents and prospective litigants? What are the most effective means of sending a message? Why are some reluctant to speak out? Are there ethical implications or it is simply a matter of personal style? Join fellow judicial officers for 90 minutes of spirited discussion followed by an hour of informal networking.

*Hon. Harvey Brownstone, Author, Tug of War: A Judge's Verdict on Separation, Custody Battles and the Bitter Realities of Family Court, Toronto, ON*

*Hon. William C. Fee, AFCC Past President, Angola, IN*

**5:00pm Open Forum  
AFCC Task Force on  
Court-Involved Therapists**

**5:00pm Open Forum  
AFCC Task Force on  
Focused Evaluation**

**Evening Taste of New Orleans**  
See page 27 for details.

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

## FRIDAY, MAY 29, 2009

**7:00am-8:15am AFCC Committee Meetings**

**7:30am-5:00pm Conference Registration**

**7:30am-5:00pm Exhibitor Forum**

**7:30am-8:30am Coffee and Rolls**

**8:30am-10:00am Plenary Session**

*Welcome: Hon. Emile Kruzick, AFCC President Elect, Orangeville, ON*

## The Child's Voice in Process: Which Way is Forward?

The role of children in family court processes has been vigorously debated. Some argue that children's participation is crucial and in some jurisdictions children have the right to speak directly to a judge. Others suggest that children have no place in judge's chambers or as witnesses in court, and some argue further that granting children additional or special rights will undermine parents' ability to resolve their disputes. Should children have a voice in the court process? By having their own lawyer? In mediation? In custody evaluations? What factors must be considered, and what is the most effective way to include the voice of the child without compromising their well-being? This panel will grapple with these and other challenging questions.

*Hon. Peter Boshier, Principal Family Court Judge, Wellington, New Zealand*

*Daniel Goldberg, LL.B., Office of the Children's Lawyer, Toronto, ON*

*Mindy Mitnick, M.Ed., Uptown Mental Health Center, Edina, MN*

*Moderator: Jana B. Singer, J.D., University of Maryland School of Law, Baltimore, MD*

**10:00am-10:30am Break and Exhibitor Forum**

## Save the Date

## AFCC Regional Training Conference

***Interventions for Family Conflict:  
Stacking the Odds in Favor of Children***

**November 5-7, 2009**

**Peppermill Resort Spa Casino**

**Reno, Nevada**

**10:30am-12:00pm Plenary Session**

Welcome: *Robert M. Smith, AFCC Vice President, Windsor, CO*

**The Evolving Family Court System: Progress at a Price?**

In the last forty years, society has experienced major changes in the roles of men and women, demographics and socioeconomic and status of family court users. Domestic violence and child abuse have become major social concerns. At the same time, courts have added myriad dispute resolution services, problem-solving and child-centered approaches, with a focus on self-determination, shared parenting and judicial case management. What is the appropriate role of the court system in the resolution of family disputes? Has the role of judges and lawyers changed? Has the infusion of "helping" professionals into the system helped or are court users now being coerced into processes that lack accountability and transparency? Are rights of parents and children appropriately protected in the new family court? This distinguished panel will examine the balance between past and present systems with an eye toward the future.

*Mary E. O'Connell, J.D., Northeastern University School of Law, Boston, MA*

*Arnold T. Shienvold, Ph.D., Riegler, Shienvold & Associates, Harrisburg, PA*

*Hon. R. James Williams, Supreme Court of Nova Scotia Family Division, Halifax, NS*

*Moderator: Andrew Schepard, J.D., Hofstra Law School, Hempstead, NY*

**12:00pm-1:30pm Lunch (on your own)****12:00pm-1:30pm Family Court Review Editorial Board Meeting****1:45pm-3:15pm Workshops 31-40****31. OverComing Barriers: Summer Camp (but no picnic) for High Conflict Families – Part I**

This workshop will focus on the OverComing Barriers Program, from inception planning through implementation. This innovative and intensive program for families where the children were alienated from a parent was conducted for five families in summer 2008 at a family camp in Vermont. Presenters will take you through all crucial aspects of this new model and discuss exit and follow-up interviews as well as necessary changes for the 2009 program. *Participants should also register for Part II, Workshop 41.*

*Robin Deutsch, Ph.D., Program on Children and the Law, Boston, MA*

*Matthew Sullivan, Ph.D., Palo Alto, CA*

*Peggie Ward, Ph.D., Coparenting Assessment Center, Natick, MA*

*Hon. Paula Carey, Chief Justice, Massachusetts Probate and Family Court, Boston, MA*

*Carole Blane, Common Ground Center, Haworth, NJ*

**32. From the Mouths of Babes: A Child's Voice in Court – Part I**

In some jurisdictions it is widely accepted that a judicial officer speaks with each child within a family before the court renders a decision; at least one state requires judges to interview children if either party makes a request. In some jurisdictions the child's voice is heard only through surrogates such as a guardians *ad litem*, custody evaluators, parenting coordinators or lawyers for children. This interactive workshop will feature an international panel, including children, exploring the question of how, when and whether to bring the child's voice into the courtroom. *Participants should also register for Part II, Workshop 42.*

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

*Kathleen Clark, Ph.D., Marion County Family Court, Marion, OH*

*Hon. Denise McColley, Henry County Family Court, Napoleon, OH*

*Hon. Graham Mullane (ret.), Newcastle, Australia*

**33. Alienation: Clinical and Legal Interventions**

This workshop will consider an array of interventions with alienated children and their families. Presenters will examine models of intervention and the role of the court in them, treatment goals, and specific interventions and strategies, illustrated by case examples. Perspectives for and against custody reversal will be considered as will cases in which the interests of the child may require that the legal system not compel the child to have a relationship with the alienated parent. A comparison of judicial approaches to enforcement issues in Canada and the United States will be included.

*Barbara Jo Fidler, Ph.D., Toronto, ON*

*Linda Chodos, M.S.W., R.S.W., Toronto, ON*

*Hon. Clifford S. Nelson, New Market, ON*

**34. Using Research to Develop Parenting Plans**

This workshop was inspired by recent Florida parenting plan legislation and a desire to identify empirical factors that contribute to successful post-separation/divorce parenting. Presenters will identify key factors and the result of a search of more than 400 articles. They will also explore the implications of using empirically established factors for reforming existing plans, with an emphasis on greater responsibility on parents to understand the effect their plan will have on the success of their children in their adult life.

*Deborah Silver, Psy.D., The Family Psychology Clinic, Fort Myers, FL*

*Sheldon Finman, J.D., Fort Myers, FL*

*Hon. Hugh E. Starnes (ret.), Fort Myers, FL*

*JoAnne Holt, CPA, Fort Myers, FL*

### 35. Moving from Kansas to Oz: Competing Paradigms and Practical Issues in International Child Custody Relocation Cases

Economic globalization has brought greater family mobility. Child custody professionals are seeing more international relocation cases. This workshop will compare and contrast international child custody jurisdiction paradigms (including the Hague Abduction Convention, the Hague Protection Convention and the U.S. UCC-JEA), identify best practices for international relocation cases, and introduce lawyers, mediators, evaluators, and judges to the special practical, evidentiary, and legal issues and challenges that must be addressed in settlement or trial of an international moveaway case.

**Lise Lafrenière Henrie, LL.B.**, Family Law Policy Department of Justice Canada, Ottawa, ON

**Lawrence S. Katz, J.D.**, Miami, FL

**Leslie Ellen Shear, J.D.**, Encino, CA

**David Leslie Truex, LL.B.**, International Family Law Chambers, London, England

### 36. Child Protection in Louisiana: Family Group Decision Making and Mediation

Child abuse and neglect conflicts are complex and high stakes matters involving multiple participants, many organizations, high levels of conflict and strong emotions. Several models of mediation and dispute resolution have been developed, including child protection mediation, family group decision making, and family team conferences. These processes have many similarities and differences and are often directed out of different branches of government, leading challenges in communication and coordination. This workshop will explore strategies for resolving real and perceived conflicts among and between these processes and possibilities for forging collaborations for the benefit of the children and families involved.

**Joel M. McLain, ACSW, LCSW**, Louisiana Division of Foster Care Services, Baton Rouge, LA

**Hon. Ernestine Gray**, Orleans Parish Juvenile Court, New Orleans, LA

**Susan C. Norwood, M.Ed.**, Family & Educational Services, New Orleans, LA

### 37. Uniform Collaborative Law Act: Open Forum

This workshop will focus on the Uniform Collaborative Law Act (UCLA) currently being drafted by the Uniform Law Commission. Presenters will discuss the provisions of the draft of the UCLA and the policies and decisions that were made in creating it. The Canadian perspective on the enactment of a law to regulate the practice of Collaborative Law will be presented. Participants will be encouraged to provide perspective and feedback to the UCLA Drafting Committee on the proposed statute. Strategies for enactment of the UCLA in different states will be examined.

**Nancy Cameron, LL.B.**, President, International Academy of Collaborative Professionals, Vancouver, BC

**Andrew Schepard, J.D.**, Reporter, Uniform Collaborative Law Act, Hempstead, NY

**Harry Tindall, J.D.**, Tindall & Foster, Houston, TX

### 38. Use of Attachment Measures in Child Custody Evaluations: Incremental Validity

This workshop will use a case study approach to demonstrate how incremental validity for child custody recommendations can be increased with the inclusion of attachment measures. Three measures will be discussed: Videos of the Strange Situation, an observational procedure with child and each parent, and two adult attachment measures, the Adult Attachment Projective and the Caregiving Interview. The integration of these measures along with traditional psychological testing, the Rorschach and the MMPI-2, will be examined. This venue breaks new ground by giving legal professionals access to what science and informed psychologists think is "right" regarding attachment.

**Marla B. Isaacs, Ph.D., ABPP**, Philadelphia, PA

**Robert Marvin, Ph.D.**, Mary D. Ainsworth Child-Parent Attachment Clinic, Charlottesville, VA

**Carol George, Ph.D.**, Mills College, Oakland, CA

**Lorie Nachlis, J.D.**, Nachlis & Fink, San Francisco, CA

### 39. Family Court Mediation for the Low Income and Self-Represented

With burgeoning numbers of self-represented litigants in family court, a court-connected mediation program designed to serve primarily self-represented lower income parties seems to make sense. New Mexico's Second Judicial District Court recently developed such a program designed to address both child-related and financial issues in family cases. This workshop will examine the successes and challenges of the program, including ethical concerns for mediators, high number of domestic violence concerns, cultural barriers and impact of the economy on self-represented parties.

**Hon. Nan Nash**, Second Judicial District Court, Albuquerque, NM

**David Levin, J.D.**, Court Alternatives Director, Second Judicial District Court, Albuquerque, NM

**Laura Bassein, J.D.**, Program Manager, Second Judicial District Court, Albuquerque, NM

**Philip Crump**, Mediator, Second Judicial District Court, Albuquerque, NM



#### 40. Diverting the Flood Waters

Growing dockets, increasing delays and the possibility of judicial systems being overwhelmed by custody disputes is a common discussion in family court circles. This workshop presents Louisiana's 16th JDC Hearing Officer Conference (HOC) system, the manner in which it was implemented, and how it has developed and evolved and continues to evolve since its initial implementation. An HOC role play will be presented, utilizing practicing family law attorneys demonstrating a typical HOC. Standard forms utilized in the program will be presented, together with optional paragraphs that are frequently added to standard forms to tailor them to the individual needs of a case.

*Tamera Cain Washburn, 16th Judicial District Court, Franklin, LA*

*Maggie Trahan Simar, 16th Judicial District Court, St. Martinville, LA*

*Daniel M. Landry, III, J.D., Lafayette, LA*

*Nicole Breaux, J.D., Cox Fitzgerald, L.L.C., Lafayette, LA*

**3:15pm-3:30pm Break and Exhibitor Forum**

**3:30pm-5:00pm Workshops 41-50**

#### 41. OverComing Barriers: Summer Camp (but no picnic) for High Conflict Families – Part II

Participants in this session are expected to have attended Part I, Workshop 31.

#### 42. From the Mouths of Babes: A Child's Voice in Court – Part II

Participants in this session are expected to have attended Part I, Workshop 32.

#### 43. Traumatic Childhood Experiences: The Fate of Memories

There has been considerable controversy over the fate of memories of traumatic childhood experiences like sexual abuse. This discussion will focus on a review of research on the retention of traumatic memories across childhood and adolescence and on the mechanisms that might underlie failures to remember or disclose such events. Of particular concern are claims of amnesia for traumatic experiences and subsequent recovery of once-forgotten traumatic memories when children reach adulthood. An overview of theoretical models of repression and other forms of traumatic amnesia will be presented and data regarding the recovery or reminiscence, during childhood or adolescence, of once-forgotten memories will be discussed.

*Kathryn Kuehnle, Ph.D., University of South Florida, Indian Shores, FL*

*Monica Epstein, Ph.D., University of South Florida, Tampa, FL*

#### 44. Drug Testing and Custody Determination: Myths and Realities

An increasing number of custody disputes involve accusations of drug use or addiction. There is often a reliance on limited drug testing to determine whether a problem exists that is relevant to the best interest of the children. However, these tests are often not nearly as significant as they are purported to be. This program will debunk the myths and present the realities of test results that have been relied upon in making determinations about access.

*Joseph E. Manno, R.Ph., Ph.D., D.A.B.F.T., Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, Shreveport, LA*

*Randy Fuerst, J.D., Fuerst & Godley, Lake Charles, LA*

#### 45. When Judges and the Self-Represented Cross Paths

Few self-represented litigants appreciate the importance of the rules and laws that govern the trial process in order to effectively present their story. Judges are in the unenviable position of balancing their ethical obligation to remain neutral with practical considerations of managing a courtroom process for the uninitiated. How can judges respond ethically and effectively to self-represented litigants in the courtroom? This panel will discuss how to achieve a balance between ethics and effectiveness, neutrality and fairness when dealing with the self-represented.

*Hon. Jerilyn L. Borack, Sacramento, CA*

*Hon. Diane O. Leasure, Ellicott City, MD*

*Pamela Ortiz, J.D., Executive Director, Maryland Access to Justice Commission, Annapolis, MD*

#### 46. Attachment Theory: A Summary of Research and Implications for Parenting Plans for Young Children

Attachment theory has contributed much to current thinking about early childhood but empirical research has not borne out the stability or predictive value of early attachment status over time. Attachment status may also be influenced by factors outside the early parent-child relationship, including divorce. Implications of these data in deriving parenting plans for young children will be discussed, with consideration of issues such as overnight visits for young children. The contributions of other aspects of early development, like memory and cognition, will be considered, as well as the different parenting styles and abilities of mother and fathers. Finally, presenters will address the possible abuses of attachment theory in making custody decisions for the youngest children of divorce.

*Pamela S. Ludolph, Ph.D., University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI*

*Hon. Arline S. Rotman (ret.), Norwich, VT*

#### 47. Interventions in High Conflict Cases: An Interdisciplinary Perspective

The Office of the Children's Lawyer is mandated to provide custody evaluations and legal representation to children throughout Ontario. In recent years, significant attention has been given towards developing effective interventions intended to insulate children from the conflict and maximize dispute resolution. The Office boasts a high settlement rate with a variety of proven interventions, which will be described during this workshop. These include: (1) use of clinical assistance in the provision of legal representation to children; (2) review of a custody evaluation approach that maximizes opportunities for settlement; (3) types of interventions that create opportunities for change; and (4) proven recommendations that interrupt patterns of high parental conflict.

**Robert Croezen, M.S.W.**, Office of the Children's Lawyer, Toronto, ON

**Lorraine Martin, M.S.W.**, Office of the Children's Lawyer, Toronto, ON

**Dena Moyal, LL.B.**, Office of the Children's Lawyer, Toronto, ON

**Debra Stephens, LL.B.**, The Children's Lawyer of Ontario, Toronto, ON

#### 48. FLER Revisited: Changes in Family Law Education

The goal of the Family Law Education Reform Project (FLER) is to close the gap between traditional family law education and what practicing family lawyers do. This session features two examples of how education is being reshaped. Presenters will first discuss a family law case simulation course collaboratively developed by practicing Minnesota lawyers and two law schools. Second, the FLER Project website, containing teaching resources such as simulations and course sample syllabi, will be described.

**Andrea K. Niemi, J.D.**, Niemi, Barr & Jerabek, Minneapolis, MN

**Susan C. Rhode, J.D.**, Moss & Barnett, Minneapolis, MN

**Nancy Ver Steegh J.D., M.S.W.**, William Mitchell College of Law, St. Paul, MN

**Barbara Glesner Fines, J.D., LL.M.**, University of Missouri, Kansas City School of Law, Kansas City, MO

#### 49. Evaluating Child Welfare Mediation Programs

Since the early efforts to introduce mediation into the dependency court process, program evaluation has been an important yet challenging component of child welfare mediation. This workshop will provide an overview of the growing body of research on the benefits and effectiveness of dependency mediation and a discussion of the components of an effective evaluation plan. Presenters will explore evaluation design, research methodology, successes and challenges of measuring the impact of mediation in child welfare cases, and recommendations for future evaluations. Audience participation will be encouraged.

**Teresa Berry, M.A.**, Children's Court Mediation Program, Albuquerque, NM

**Catherine Friedman, J.D.**, New York City Family Court Alternative Dispute Resolution Coordinator, New York, NY

**Marsha Lichtenstein, Ph.D.**, Albuquerque, NM

**Nancy Thoennes, Ph.D.**, Center for Policy Research, Denver, CO

#### 50. Do Projective Tests Meet Evidentiary Standards?

The use of projective assessment techniques in child custody evaluations is the subject of considerable controversy. This session will focus on the evidentiary implications of projective assessment data. The debate concerning the categorization of the Rorschach as a projective technique or as a performance test will be discussed, along with the use of family drawings, sand tray play, the Thematic Apperception Test, the Perception of Relationships Test, and other projective instruments.

**David A. Martindale, Ph.D., ABPP**, St. Petersburg, FL

**James R. Flens, Ph.D., ABPP**, Brandon, FL

**Hon. Linda Fidnick**, Leverett, MA

5:30pm-7:00pm

**AFCC Silent Auction and Reception**

7:00pm-10:00pm

**AFCC Annual Banquet**  
Dinner and live music

9:30pm-12:00am

**AFCC Hospitality Suite**

### Save the Dates

#### AFCC 47th Annual Conference

June 2-5, 2010

Sheraton Denver

Denver, Colorado

#### AFCC 48th Annual Conference

June 1-4, 2011

Hilton Orlando Bonnet Creek Resort

Orlando, Florida

**SATURDAY, MAY 30, 2009**

<b>7:30am-12:30pm</b>	<b>Conference Registration</b>
<b>8:00am-12:30pm</b>	<b>Exhibitor Forum</b>
<b>8:00am-9:00am</b>	<b>Coffee and Rolls</b>
<b>8:00am-9:00am</b>	<b>AFCC Membership Meeting</b>
<b>9:15am-10:45am</b>	<b>Workshops 51-60</b>

**51. Preparing Your Client for Mediation: Guidelines for Lawyers**

An effective mediation is contingent on solid preparation by clients and attorneys. This workshop will help lawyers understand some of the pitfalls in preparation for mediation. Presenters will examine common concerns of mediators regarding preparation of both attorneys and clients for mediation sessions and discuss effective preparation including: (1) what clients need to know prior to mediation; (2) whether or not the lawyer should attend; (3) what, if any, documents to bring; and (4) effective post-mediation representation.

*Jacqueline Hagerott, J.D., The Supreme Court of Ohio, Columbus, OH*

*Stacey Shelt Burns, J.D., Bryan, OH*

**52. The Court is Dead: Long Live Mediation**

This workshop will focus on Australian family law reforms such as mandatory mediation and less adversarial trials, upon the cultural changes that are called for, the resources and evolving principles required to maintain and enhance the quality of outcomes produced through mediation and, most importantly, pose the question of whether court adjudication of disputes continues to have any relevance in the determination of parenting proceedings. A comparison will be drawn between the present child inclusive and less adversarial court processes and the potential of a non-adversarial tribunal to better meet the needs of children and separated parents.

*Joe Harman, Family Dispute Resolution Practitioner, Penrith, Australia*

**53. Strategies for Dealing with Difficult People**

Everyone deals with difficult people—the jerks of the world. This workshop will examine negotiation theory as it affects our everyday negotiations and present a practical model for moving through positions to interests as we deal with difficult people in our personal and professional lives. Come prepared to share your most difficult person experience.

*Eileen Pruett, J.D., Franklin County Municipal Court, Columbus, OH*

*Christy Cumberlander Walker, M.S.A., Franklin County Domestic Relations and Juvenile Court, Columbus, OH*

**54. Collaboration in Litigation**

Attorneys are increasingly engaging mental health professionals to review the work product of a court appointed mental health professional. This session will describe two common roles of the reviewing expert: non-testimonial trial consultant and the testimonial expert. Presenters will describe the functions of each role, examine some of the evolving debates related to the practice of child custody consultants and discuss ethical issues involved in doing review work.

*Robert A. Simon, Ph.D., San Diego, CA*

*Jonathan Gould, Ph.D., ABPP, Charlotte, NC*

*Judy Conard, J.D., Alvord & Conard, Lakeport, CA*

**55. You Signed WHAT?**

Mental health professionals have an ethical obligation to provide an “informed consent” process to the families they serve and attorneys are obligated to advise parents and protect their rights. This includes reviewing consent forms presented by mental health professionals. This interactive workshop will identify problematic provisions in consent forms encountered in practice and present essential elements of any informed consent process. Risk management strategies for both attorneys and mental health professionals will be discussed.

*Lyn R. Greenberg, Ph.D., Los Angeles, CA*

*Richard Gould-Saltman, J.D., Gould-Saltman Law Offices, Los Angeles, CA*

*Michael C. Gottlieb, Ph.D., ABPP, Dallas, TX*

**56. The Missing Link: Talking with Children about Their Parents' Divorce**

This workshop will consider the risks and benefits of providing information to children about their parents' divorce. This will include a developmental perspective, a discussion of available materials, and the ways in which judges, lawyers, mental health professionals and parents can provide this information in the most appropriate manner.

*Philip M. Stahl, Ph.D., ABPP, Author, Parenting After Divorce, Queen Creek, AZ*

*Rebecca M. Stahl, J.D., Pima County Superior Court, Tucson, AZ*

**57. Determining Risk for Mediators, Psychologists, Judges and Therapists**

The use of criteria for risk is important for families during separation or divorce. At a time when emotions are high, there are risk factors that appear in the literature that reflect a close correlation with risk for violence. This workshop will examine three Canadian assessments used in many institutions that need to provide an opinion based on risk: the Hare Psychopathy Checklist, the HCR 20 and the Spousal Abuse Risk Assessment.

*Larry S. Fong, Ph.D., Calgary, AB*



## **58. Stepfamilies and Custody Disputes**

Stepfamily dynamics are often a driving force behind litigation over custody and parenting issues; however, these dynamics are not often directly addressed. The first remarriage following a divorce often triggers a new wave of anxiety that spreads through the extended family system. Another recalibration is required if the other partner also remarries. This workshop is for attorneys, evaluators, parenting coordinators and therapists working with families of divorce who are affected by remarriages.

*Leslie Todd, LCSW, ACSW, Baton Rouge, LA*

## **59. Involving Mental Health Professionals and Attorneys in Judicial Settlement Conferences**

This pilot program in Marin County Superior Court includes a mental health professional and family law attorney in custody and access related court settlement conferences involving difficult families. The court identifies cases that include these auxiliary professionals and they are chosen from a panel of volunteers. To date, the results include settlement of very difficult cases while providing neutral, objective support to the settlement judge. Outcomes, dilemmas, possible guidelines regarding protection, information flow and process will be discussed.

*Hon. Verna A. Adams, Family Court Judge, Superior Court of Marin County, San Rafael, CA*

*Mary Halbert, J.D., Family Law Attorney, San Rafael, CA*

*Robert Kaufman, Ph.D., Psychologist, Oakland, CA*

*S. Margaret Lee, Ph.D., Psychologist, Mill Valley, CA*

## **60. Preserving Family Finances: A Team Approach**

Successful interdisciplinary practice combines the viewpoints of the legal, mental-health, and financial professionals to achieve the best possible outcome for children and families. When these professionals work together, they bring a synergy to resolving the restructuring family, balancing the legal, emotional, and financial needs. This workshop will examine how financial professionals can assist in improving the lives of children and families in resolving family conflict, demonstrate best practices that Certified Divorce Financial Analysts are using in promoting a collaborative divorce and provide examples of how lawyers, mental health professionals, and CDFAs work together without crossing professional and ethical boundaries.

*Andrew K. Hoffman, C DFA, Mandeville, LA*

## **10:45am-11:00am Break and Exhibitor Forum**

## **11:00am-12:30pm Workshops 61-70**

### **61. Delinquency and Dependency**

This workshop will explore delinquency cases that may have underlying dependency issues. Presenters will discuss issues including: (1) how to identify children who appear in the juvenile court system whose circumstances may warrant children services agency intervention; (2) possible dispositions involved in a finding of dependency in a delinquency case; (3) special issues facing the prosecutor in balancing the expectations of the victims of the child's crime, the court, juvenile probation, children's services; and (4) competing interests of advocating for the child versus what is in the child's best interest in an attempt to prevent re-offending.

*Amy C. Rosebrook, J.D., Hanna, Fisher & Rosebrook, Napoleon, OH*

*Tennille Newton, J.D., Plassman, Rupp, Short & Hagans, Archbold, OH*

### **62. Children at the Center: Collaboration on the Creation and Implementation of a New Parenting Act**

This workshop describes a collaborative effort between the domestic abuse, child advocacy, family law, and mediation fields to address unanticipated consequences and limitations of a policy prohibiting mediation in cases involving domestic violence. The Child-Centered Family Justice team that emerged agreed upon six principles, which grounded the strenuous debates that took place in drafting Nebraska's 2007 New Parenting Act legislation, which included a legislator's position to mandate mediation referral in certain cases. Presenters will highlight elements of the collaborative process, the new legislation, successes and challenges in implementation.

*Debora Brownyard, J.D., Nebraska Office of Dispute Resolution, Lincoln, NE*

*Lorin Galvin, J.D., Douglas County District Court Conciliation Office, Omaha, NE*

*Robert Sanford, J.D., Nebraska Domestic Violence Sexual Assault Coalition, Lincoln, NE*

*Lynne Favinger, M.Ed., Central Mediation Center, Kearney, NE*

### **63. Mediation Style Inventory**

This workshop will ask individuals to think about their "default" mediator style and complete the Mediator Style Inventory (MSI), a new measure developed by the presenters. Participants will gain insight into their preferred style and will then be given the opportunity for small group discussion to talk about commonalities with others who prefer the same style. Results from a nationwide study of mediator style will also be presented.

*Claudia Cohen, Ph.D., The Third Alternative, Westfield, NJ*

*Tiffany Butts, M.S., Graduate Research Assistant, Rutgers University, Elizabeth, NJ*

#### 64. Coordinating Family Professionals' Interventions to Improve Case Outcomes

Attempt by courts and mediators to assist families are sometimes undermined by an adversarial litigation process and efforts of problem-solving attorneys can be frustrated by a number of factors, including the lack of appropriate and timely referrals. Family law professionals from different disciplines can coordinate their involvement to collaboratively assist families in crisis and transition. This workshop will examine jurisdictions that have created comprehensive cooperative systems of family law. Key features of those systems will be discussed.

**Charles A. Asher, J.D.**, *Freedom 22 Foundation, South Bend, IN*  
**Ann Schelle, M.S., LPC**, *Families First, Inc., Atlanta, GA*

#### 65. When a Child Rejects a Parent

As the understanding, evaluation, and analysis of families with alienation have become more sophisticated, professionals have found it troubling to decide what to do and how to remedy, repair, and assist families where alienation has taken place. Presenters will discuss the available alternatives, what appears to work and not work clinically.

**Leslie Drozd, Ph.D.**, *Newport Beach, CA*  
**Nancy Williams Olesen, Ph.D.**, *San Rafael, CA*

#### 66. Relocation in High Conflict Custody Cases

This interactive workshop will use a case study approach to examine legal and mental health issues in relocation. Presenters will: (1) review social science research regarding parents' reasons for moving and the impact of relocation on children; (2) examine statutes, case law, and the American Law Institute Principles on relocation; and (3) discuss case management and the use of child custody evaluations in relocation cases.

**Joanna Bunker Rohrbaugh, Ph.D.**, *Harvard Medical School, Cambridge, MA*  
**William M. Levine, J.D.**, *Lee & Levine LLP, Boston, MA*  
**Jinanne S. J. Elder, J.D.**, *Bowman, Moos, Elder & Noe LLP, Cambridge, MA*  
**Hon. E. Chouteau Merrill**, *Suffolk Probate and Family Court, Boston, MA*

#### 67. The Child's Perspective on Legal Representation

The *UN Convention on the Rights of the Child* provides a framework for involving children and youth in judicial and administrative proceedings, but little has been documented about hearing the voices of those children who had a lawyer represent them in a child custody dispute. This workshop will explore what young adults had to say about being represented by a lawyer during their parent's custody and access dispute, including: (1) how they felt about a lawyer representing them; (2) what was helpful and not helpful; (3) advice they would give to others in similar situations; and (4) advice they would give to lawyers.

**Rachel Birnbaum, Ph.D., LL.M.**, *University of Western Ontario, London, ON*

#### 68. Empowering Children and Adolescents through Child Permanency Mediation

Children and adolescents in the foster care system often don't understand their families' cases nor do they participate in proceedings that have permanent effects on their lives. This workshop will assist mediators practicing in the foster care setting to work with youngsters in permanency/dependency mediation sessions. Presenters will address topics including case development, interviewing and engagement techniques, types of cases involving children and adolescents and mobilizing resources.

**Daniel Rayner, M.P.A.**, *Mohegan Lake, NY*  
**Eleanor Tuomey, M.A., A.P.M.**, *Clifton, NJ*  
**Jorge Irizarry, J.D.**, *Bronx, NY*  
**Stephanie Pearl, J.D.**, *New York, NY*  
**MayPing Szeto, M.S.W.**, *Brooklyn, NY*

#### 69. Redefining the Need for Family Court as a Public Health Issue

The workshop will describe the AFCC California Chapter initiative to address inadequacies in family court resources. In an environment of constricting resources available to courts, there is a need to redefine the issue as a public health crisis and enlist relevant stakeholders in an effort to increase the resources for the family court. The presentation will address the issue from the perspective of the family court services, the bar and the bench. Presenters will provide strategies for engaging the other stakeholders in the process of redefinition and acquisition of necessary services in an interactive session.

**Hon. Thomas Trent Lewis**, *Los Angeles, CA*  
**Sherrie Kibler-Sanchez, LCSW**, *Family Court Services, Van Nuys, CA*  
**Diane Wasznicky, J.D.**, *Bartholomew & Wasznicky LLP, Sacramento, CA*

#### 70. Parenting Profiles in High Conflict Divorce

Early identification of parenting profiles in high conflict divorce is essential to introduce a differential response model. Based on a sample of separated and divorced parents, a Rapid Evidence Assessment of the literature on parenting in times of distress, and qualitative interviews with parents in high conflict situations, this workshop will focus on subtle manifestations and profiles of parents stuck in high conflict after divorce. Clinical guidelines for identifying positive and negative parenting profiles after divorce will be presented.

**Michael Saini, Ph.D., M.S.W.**, *University of Toronto, Toronto, ON*

1:30pm-5:30pm

Optional Volunteer  
Work Day

Please see page 27 for more information



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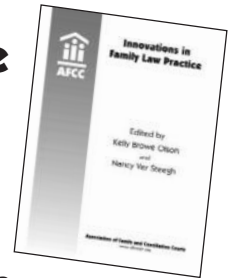
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## AFCC presents two **NEW** books

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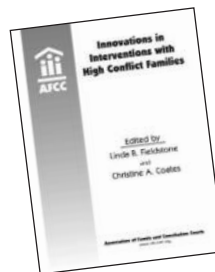


In this 171-page book, six chapters describe recent innovations in family law practice. Learn how family lawyers negotiate, how to run a family law self-help center and about the evolution of the Family Court Duty Counsel Program in Ontario. Examine how the family law field is changing through the use of collaborative practice, how to unbundle legal services, and how to use cooperative negotiation agreements. Edited by Kelly Browe Olson and Nancy Ver Steegh, this book presents an inspiring guide to new developments in practicing family law.

### Innovations in Interventions with High Conflict Families

High conflict families continue to challenge professionals who work with separating and divorcing parents. Edited by Linda B. Fieldstone and Christine A. Coates, this 225-page volume of six chapters discusses topics such as the difference between high conflict, alienating behavior, and domestic abuse and how to reconnect children with absent parents.

Explore a high conflict divorce education program and bringing co-parent counseling services to high-conflict low-income families. Also discussed are two recent additions to the field: mental health consultation in child custody cases and parenting coordination.



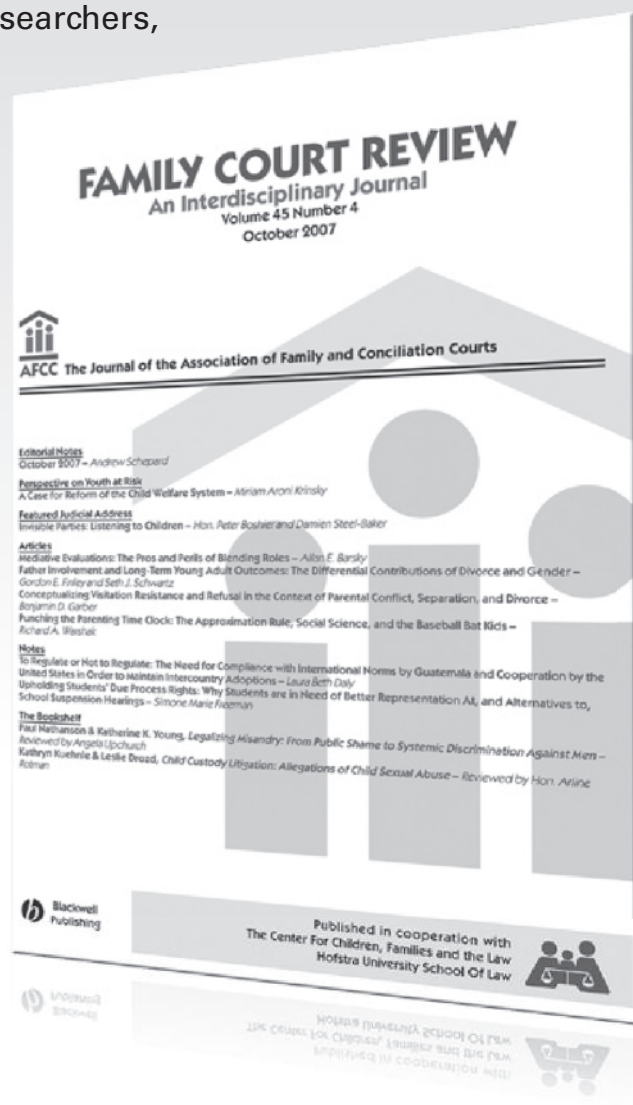
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### **Contact**

Franca Fanizzi

*Executive Director of the Family Law Programs and the LGBT Rights Fellowship*

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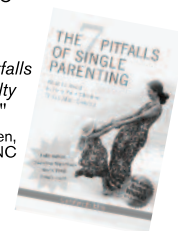
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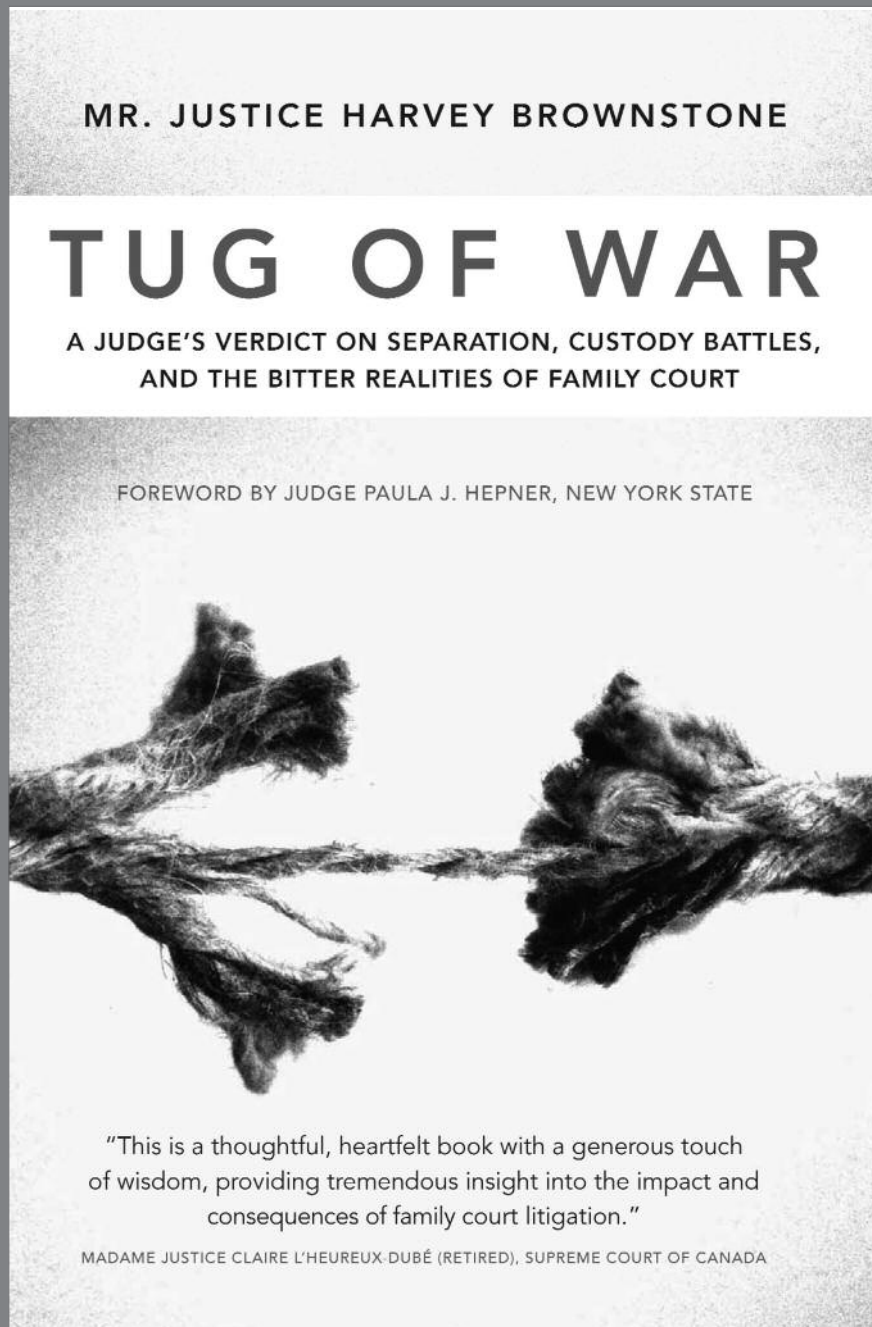
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AFCC's 11th Annual Silent Auction takes place Friday, May 29. The auction will open at 5:30pm and the bidding closes at 7:00pm. Items include sports memorabilia, original artwork, fine wines, weekend hotel packages and many one-of-a-kind items. Auction proceeds will help support AFCC's special projects and programs. Contributors will be recognized in the silent auction catalog and in the *AFCC NEWS*. If you would like to donate an item to the AFCC Silent Auction, please contact Erin Sommerfeld, AFCC Program Coordinator, at (608) 664-3750 or [esommerfeld@afccnet.org](mailto:esommerfeld@afccnet.org).

## Continuing Education Credits

AFCC will provide a certificate of conference attendance for a processing fee of \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members. *The certificate will verify attendance at conference sessions and may be used to apply for continuing education credits with the registrant's accrediting institution.* A complete list of conference sessions eligible for continuing education credits will be available at the AFCC registration desk.

**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 21 hours of continuing education for psychologists.

**Mental Health Professionals:** Continuing education approval from the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) is pending for up to 21 CE credits; however, individuals will need to verify approval with their credentialing or licensing boards.

**Louisiana Counselors:** An application has been submitted to the Louisiana Counseling Association for up to 21 contact education hours (CEH). Approval will cover certified school counselors, LPCs and dual licensed LMFTs, NBCC counselors and NCC counselors.

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

**Certified Specialist Program:** This program has been accredited by the Law Society of Upper Canada for 21 hours toward the Family Law professional development requirement for certification.

**Lawyers:** Applications have been submitted to MCLE Committee of the Louisiana Supreme Court and to the State Bar of Texas for approval of up to 21 CLE credits, including legal ethics and professionalism credit.

**Florida Judges:** A Continuing Judicial Education (CJE) accreditation application has been submitted to the Court Education Division of the Office of the State Courts Administrator for review.

## Audio Recording

Conference sessions will be recorded and audio CDs may be ordered online at [www.dcporder.com/afcc](http://www.dcporder.com/afcc) after the conference concludes. No personal audio-recording of sessions is permitted.

## Conference Scholarships

Thanks to the outstanding support of AFCC members who contributed to the AFCC Resource Development Fund, conference scholarships will be awarded for AFCC's 46th Annual Conference. In addition to regular conference scholarships, a limited number of scholarships will be designated to court services professionals, graduate students, professionals working in the conference host community and international participants. A limited number of scholarships include a travel stipend of US \$1,000 in addition to conference registration fees and one full-day pre-conference institute. All other scholarships will include registration fees only and

one full-day pre-conference institute. Recipients are responsible for funding their own travel, lodging, meals and related expenses. The scholarship application is available on the AFCC Web site at [www.afccnet.org](http://www.afccnet.org). For more information please call AFCC at (608) 664-3750. The application deadline is March 1, 2009.

## Exhibitor Forum

The Exhibitor Forum will be open during conference hours. A learning opportunity in itself, the Exhibitor Forum provides a chance to meet face-to-face with representatives and discuss your product needs and services. AFCC publications will be available for purchase at the AFCC membership table. If you are interested in renting exhibit space or distributing materials to conference delegates, please contact Dawn Holmes (608) 664-3750 or e-mail [afcc@afccnet.org](mailto:afcc@afccnet.org).

## Conference Bookstore

Association Book Exhibit will be AFCC's official bookseller for this conference and will be open during conference hours. If you wish to display a book for sale, please email [info@bookexhibit.com](mailto:info@bookexhibit.com) and mention AFCC bookstore in the subject line, or call Mark Trocchi at (703) 619-5030.

## Conference Orientation and Networking

If you are new to AFCC or this is your first conference, join us on Wednesday at 5:00pm to meet colleagues, learn about AFCC and discover AFCC traditions, such as the Hospitality Suite, Taste of New Orleans and AFCC's famous Silent Auction. If you are here alone, this is a great chance to connect with others and make plans for the week. **International attendees, new members, spouses and guests are encouraged to attend.** The location will be posted at the AFCC registration desk. Everyone is welcome!

## AFCC Hospitality Suite

AFCC's Hospitality Suite will be open for informal networking and refreshment, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00pm-12:00am and Friday from 9:30pm-12:00am. Please wear your name badge. The Hospitality Suite location will be posted at the AFCC registration desk.

## Taste of New Orleans

Thursday evening is your opportunity to enjoy the area with friends and colleagues. Sign up on Wednesday or before 1:00pm on Thursday and join a group of 8-10 for dinner at a restaurant in New Orleans. Menus and sign-up sheets will be available onsite. Participants are responsible for food, beverage and any transportation costs.

## Volunteer Work Day

Saturday afternoon, May 30, has been designated as an optional work day. AFCC is working with local organizations to arrange an opportunity to participate in a hands-on service project in the New Orleans community. This is a great way to make a difference to those in need, see parts of the city you would not otherwise see and spend time with colleagues and friends. Bring work clothes, close-toed shoes and gloves and join us in sharing your time and talents with the community. Please check the "I am interested in volunteering" box on the registration form and you will be sent a confirmation and full project details prior to arrival in New Orleans.

## Special Needs

If you have special meal requests or other special needs, please note this on the registration form. The Sheraton New Orleans meeting facilities, its guest rooms, common areas and its transportation services are in compliance with the public accommodation requirements of the ADA.



# Registration Information

*Please read before completing your conference registration form!*

**AFCC Members' Save up to \$150 on Registration Rates:** Register and pay by March 6, 2009 to receive the lowest rates for the conference! The Early Bird Special rates are available only to AFCC members. Not a member? Check the New Membership Special, register at the AFCC member rate and save up to \$150!

**New Membership Special:** Join AFCC when you register for the conference and receive a twelve-month membership for \$140—a \$10 discount—and save up to \$150 by registering at the AFCC member rate! To join, simply check the New Membership Special rate on the registration form. The New Membership Special is available only to first time AFCC members.

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

**Conference Registration:** Includes all conference sessions and materials, conference proceedings book or CD, refreshment breaks, Opening Reception, Awards Luncheon, Annual Banquet and AFCC Hospitality Suite. *Pre-conference Institutes require a separate registration fee.*

**Spouse/Guest Registration:** Available only to a spouse, significant other or personal friend, NOT a business associate or staff colleague, accompanying a full conference registrant. Includes all plenary sessions, Opening Reception, Awards Luncheon, Annual Banquet and AFCC Hospitality Suite.

**Conference Presenter Registration:** Available only to conference presenters. Includes all conference sessions and materials, Opening Reception, Awards Luncheon, Annual Banquet and AFCC Hospitality Suite. *A separate registration fee is required for presenters who wish to attend Pre-conference Institutes.*

**Full-Time Student Registration:** Includes admission to conference plenary and workshop sessions only and a conference proceedings book or CD. Meal functions are not included; however, meal tickets may be purchased separately. Registration must include proof of full-time student status. *Separate registration is required for Pre-conference Institutes.*

**Certificate of Attendance Registration:** Includes a certificate indicating total hours attended at conference plenary sessions, workshops and institutes. Forms will be available at the AFCC Registration Desk and will include Continuing Education information.

## **Additional Awards Luncheon Ticket**

The Awards Luncheon is included in the conference registration fee. Additional tickets are available for \$45. Meal ticket prices reflect the estimated cost to AFCC.

## **Additional Annual Banquet Ticket**

The Annual Banquet is included in the conference registration fee. Additional tickets are available for \$80. Meal ticket prices reflect the estimated cost to AFCC.

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

# Travel and Lodging Information

## **Hotel Information**

### **Sheraton New Orleans**

500 Canal Street

New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

The Sheraton New Orleans is located in the heart of the Big Easy. Across from the hotel's entrance on historic Canal Street is the French Quarter, home to famous restaurants and nightclubs, live music, fantastic shopping, museums and historic sites and unique architecture. Within walking distance of the hotel, you'll find the Aquarium of Americas, the National D-Day Museum, Harrah's Casino and popular shopping destinations—Canal Place, Riverwalk Marketplace and JAX Brewery. Information on the city and activities can be found at [www.neworleanscvb.com](http://www.neworleanscvb.com).

**Make your reservations today!** The Sheraton New Orleans is offering a special rate to AFCC conference registrants of \$165 per night for single or double accommodations. Rooms are subject to availability and *early reservations are encouraged* to ensure a room at these great rates. On Tuesday, April 28, 2009 the AFCC block of non-reserved rooms will be released to the public for general sale and the special group rate will not be guaranteed after that date. The toll-free number for reservations is (888) 627-7033 and the direct line for the Sheraton New Orleans is (504) 525-2500. Please request the AFCC special rate.

## **Air Travel Information**

The **New Orleans Louis Armstrong International Airport (MSY)** is located approximately 11 miles from the Central Business District. This includes the Sheraton New Orleans, the Riverwalk, French Quarter and Jackson Square. More information on the airport can be found at [www.flymsy.com](http://www.flymsy.com). Burkhalter Travel, AFCC's preferred travel agency, is available to assist you with the best rates for your transportation needs. Contact Burkhalter Travel at (800) 688-0156 or (608) 255-2774 and ask for Dan or Kirk.

## **Ground Transportation**

Taxi fare costs \$28.00 from the airport to the Central Business District for one or two persons and \$12.00 per passenger for three or more passengers. Taxicabs are located on the lower level, outside the baggage claim area. There may be an additional charge for extra baggage. A \$1.00 fuel surcharge will be added to the total fare. Airport Shuttle service is available from the airport to the hotels in the Central Business District for \$15.00 per person one way or \$30.00 per person round trip. Three bags are allowed per person. Please call (866) 596-2699 or (504) 522-3500 for more information or to make a reservation. Ticket booths are located on the lower level in the baggage claim area. For information on public transit in the area, visit the RTA (Regional Transit Authority) Web site at [www.norta.com](http://www.norta.com).

## **Rental Car Information**

Seven car rental agencies have offices on the lower level of the airport: Alamo, Avis, Budget, Dollar, Enterprise, Hertz, National and Thrifty. Please check with each company for rates.

## **Parking**

Valet parking with unlimited in and out privileges is available for \$26.95 per day or \$30.18 including tax. The parking garage is used exclusively by Sheraton New Orleans guests and employees.

## **Climate**

In late May, temperatures in New Orleans range from 80's in the afternoon to high 60's in the evening. Meeting rooms can be cool, so take a light jacket or sweater.

## **Room Sharing**

If you are in search of a roommate, check the box on the registration form or email [afcc@afccnet.org](mailto:afcc@afccnet.org). Your name will be placed on a list that will be provided to others who request roommate information. Please be certain to note your gender. Roommates are responsible for contacting one another and making hotel reservations.

# Conference Registration Form

**AFCC 46th Annual Conference • May 27-30, 2009 • New Orleans, LA**

Please register by April 17, 2009 to ensure that your name appears on the list of conference attendees in the conference proceedings book.

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

Please type or print clearly. This form may be duplicated.

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

Badge Information: 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 \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Spouse/Guest \_\_\_\_\_

(If they are registering below at the Spouse/Guest rate)

Is this your first AFCC Conference? ☐ Yes ☐ No

## 1 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 new 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

(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)

### Conference Handout Material

Proceedings Book or CD Proceedings

BOTH: Proceedings Book and CD Proceedings

**TOTAL**

	Paid by March 6	Paid by May 1	Paid after May 1
<input type="checkbox"/> \$140	<input type="checkbox"/> \$140	<input type="checkbox"/> \$140	<input type="checkbox"/> \$140
<input type="checkbox"/> \$130	<input type="checkbox"/> \$140	<input type="checkbox"/> \$160	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$175	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175	<input type="checkbox"/> \$195	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$410	<input type="checkbox"/> \$440	<input type="checkbox"/> \$470	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$510	<input type="checkbox"/> \$510	<input type="checkbox"/> \$545	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$220	<input type="checkbox"/> \$220	<input type="checkbox"/> \$240	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$250	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250	<input type="checkbox"/> \$270	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$175	<input type="checkbox"/> \$195	<input type="checkbox"/> \$215	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$10	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$45	<input type="checkbox"/> \$45	<input type="checkbox"/> \$45	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$80	<input type="checkbox"/> \$80	<input type="checkbox"/> \$80	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$220	<input type="checkbox"/> \$220	<input type="checkbox"/> \$240	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$0	<input type="checkbox"/> \$0	<input type="checkbox"/> \$0	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$20	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20	
\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	

☐ I am interested in the Volunteer Work Day on Saturday afternoon, May 30; please contact me. (See page 27 for more details.)

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Please select one of the following formats for your conference handout materials:

- ☐ Proceedings Book – printed
- ☐ CD Proceedings – paperless option
- ☐ \$20 if you would like BOTH (if checked, please include this amount in your total)

Please note that if you do not make a selection, the default will be a printed proceedings book.

**Cancellation Policy:** Transfer of registration to another person may be done at any time without a fee. All requests for refunds must be made in writing. Written notice of cancellation received by fax or postmarked by May 4, 2009 will be issued a full refund minus a \$60 service fee. Written notice received by fax or postmarked by May 18, 2009 will have the \$60 service fee deducted and the balance will be issued as a credit for future AFCC conferences, publications or membership dues. No refunds or credits will be issued for cancellations received after May 18, 2009.

### Professional Designation (Select one please)

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

I would like to be listed for a roommate:

☐ Male ☐ Female

Do you have any special needs?

☐ Meals ☐ Access ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

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

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## Institute Selections—Wednesday, May 27, 2009

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

### Pre-conference Institutes 9:00am-4:30pm

- ☐ 1. Child Inclusive Mediation: Introduction to an Evidence-Based Approach
- ☐ 2. Differentiating Uses of Violence in Families: Toward Improving Family Court Custody Determinations
- ☐ 3. Family Restructuring Therapy for High Conflict Families
- ☐ 4. Mediation Artistry: Reflecting on the Past, Looking to the Future
- ☐ 5. Developing a Court-Based Parenting Coordination Program: Working with Special Populations
- ☐ 6. Effective Use of Experts in Family Court: An Interdisciplinary Institute

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## Conference Workshop Selections

Seating is not guaranteed and will be first-come first-served. Your selections will ensure that sessions with more attendees will be scheduled in larger meeting rooms. Participants who register for a 3-hour advanced workshop are requested to select workshop numbers for both Parts I and II.

(Please write in one workshop number per time slot)

Thursday, May 28	10:30am-12:00pm	1-10 _____
Thursday, May 28	1:45pm-3:15pm	11-20 _____
Thursday, May 28	3:30pm-5:00pm	21-29 _____
Thursday, May 28	3:30pm-6:00pm	30 _____
Friday, May 29	1:45pm-3:15pm	31-40 _____
Friday, May 29	3:30pm-5:00pm	41-50 _____
Saturday, May 30	9:15am-10:45am	51-60 _____
Saturday, May 30	11:00am-12:30pm	61-70 _____

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## Method of Payment

Registrations must be paid in full prior to attendance.

☐ Payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed (U.S. currency only please)

☐ Please charge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to my ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard  
☐ American Express ☐ Discover

Credit card transactions will be processed in US dollars; exchange rate on day of transaction will apply.

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Card Holder's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Purchase Order # \_\_\_\_\_

You may register online at [www.afccnet.org](http://www.afccnet.org) or return the completed form and payment to:

**AFCC**

6525 Grand Teton Plaza

Madison, WI 53719

Phone: (608) 664-3750

Fax: (608) 664-3751

## Conference Sessions Include:

**What Divorce Really Shows  
About Children and Divorce**

**The Child's Voice in the Process**

**The Evolving Family Court System:  
Progress at a Price?**

**The Legacy of High Conflict and  
Violent Divorce for Young Adults**

**The "Ah-ha" Moments in Mediation**

**Attachment Theory**

**Intractable Conflicts in Parenting  
Coordination**

**Relocation Revisited:  
The Consequences of Hurricane Katrina**

**Adolescent Input into Custody Decisions**

**Family Restructuring Therapy  
for High Conflict Families**

**Solutions to the  
Unrepresented Litigants Crisis**

**Advanced Issues in Relocation**

**When a Child Rejects a Parent**

ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY  AND CONCILIATION COURTS  
**AFCC**

**46th Annual Conference**

**Children, Courts and Custody:**

**Back to the Future**

**OR**

**Full Steam Ahead?**

**May 27-30, 2009**

**Sheraton New Orleans • \$165 single or double**

**New Orleans**

AFCC is an interdisciplinary and international association of professionals dedicated to improving the lives of children and families through the resolution of family conflict.

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



6525 Grand Teton Plaza  
Madison, WI 53719

Association of Family and Conciliation Courts  
AFCC 46th Annual Conference

**New Orleans**

**Children Courts and Custody:  
Back to the Future or Full Steam Ahead?**

**May 27-30, 2009**

**Sheraton New Orleans**