

## General information

### Parenting Coordination: Working with High Conflict Families

December 6-7, 2010, 8:30am-4:00pm

### Parenting Coordination: Advanced Practice Issues

December 8-9, 2010, 8:30am-4:00pm

**Location:** University of Baltimore School of Law, Student Center, Fifth Floor, 21 West Mount Royal Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland.

**Registration:** Registration includes program materials, training and refreshments. Lunch is on your own. Register early—class size is limited.

**Continuing Education Credits:** Each two-day training program is eligible for 12 hours of continuing education for psychologists. AFCC is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. AFCC maintains responsibility for the program and its content. The University of Baltimore School of Law's Center for Families, Children and the Courts, as a state accredited academic institution, qualifies as an automatic sponsor for offering academic courses or programs recognized as acceptable social work curriculum subject areas pursuant to the Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners Continuing Education Regulations. Continuing legal education is not mandatory in Maryland; registrants outside the state will need to seek approval with their state's bar or licensing board.

**Lodging:** Please make your own travel and lodging arrangements. A block of rooms has been reserved at the Peabody Court Hotel, 612 Cathedral Street, Baltimore, in the name of the University of Baltimore School of Law. For reservations at the special rate of \$115 per night, call (410) 727-7101 or (800) 292-5500. The rooms will be released **November 5, 2010**, so make your reservations soon.

**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 November 22, 2010 will be issued a full refund minus a \$25 administrative fee. No refunds will be issued for cancellations received after November 22, 2010. AFCC reserves the right to cancel any training or substitute any presenter should circumstances arise beyond our control.

**More information:** For program and registration inquiries, contact AFCC at (608) 664-3750 or email [afcc@afccnet.org](mailto:afcc@afccnet.org). For information about lodging and onsite logistics, contact Sharon Curley, Center for Families, Children and the Courts, (410) 837-5615 or email [scurley@ubalt.edu](mailto:scurley@ubalt.edu). For the latest information on AFCC trainings and conferences, go to the AFCC website at [www.afccnet.org](http://www.afccnet.org).



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### Reduced Registration Rates for AFCC Members

Join AFCC when you register and receive a one-year membership for only \$140—a \$10 discount. Check the New Membership Special box when completing the registration form and register at the AFCC member rate.

### AFCC Member Benefits Include:

- **Family Court Review:** Quarterly print and electronic subscription to AFCC's academic and research journal with online access beginning with the first issue in 1963.
- **AFCC eNEWS:** AFCC's electronic newsletter features practice tips, research updates and interviews with leading practitioners.
- **Online Member Directory:** An international network of nearly 4,000 colleagues from more than twenty countries available through the AFCC online searchable directory.
- **AFCC Parenting Coordination Network:** Listserv for AFCC members to share techniques and referrals, and network with others who serve as parenting coordinators or are interested in this role.
- **Member Discounts:** Receive a 15% discount on AFCC publications, 20% discount on publications from Wiley Publishing and insurance discounts through Complete Equity Markets, Inc.



ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY  
AND CONCILIATION COURTS

In collaboration with  
University of Baltimore School of Law's  
Center for Families, Children and the Courts

## Parenting Coordination: Working with High Conflict Families

*A two-day training program for parenting coordinators, mediators, attorneys and mental health professionals who work with separating and divorcing families.*

Robin M. Deutsch, Ph.D.

December 6-7, 2010

## Parenting Coordination: Advanced Practice Issues

*A two-day advanced training program for parenting coordinators, mediators, attorneys and mental health professionals who want to increase their knowledge and skills in PC practice.*

Matthew J. Sullivan, Ph.D.

December 8-9, 2010

University of Baltimore  
School of Law, Student Center  
Baltimore, Maryland

Professionals dedicated to improving the lives of children  
and families through the resolution of family conflict

## Parenting Coordination: Working with High Conflict Families

A two-day training for parenting coordinators, mediators, attorneys and mental health professionals who work with separating and divorcing families.

Parents who are in chronic high conflict pose particular difficulties for the courts, the professionals who are involved with them, and their children. This two-day training will examine the role and functions of the parenting coordinator and the interventions helpful to reduce conflict. Participants will have the opportunity to expand their practice and skills in this emerging area. Focus will be on the psychological dynamics in high conflict families and the impact on their children. Practical parenting coordination techniques and decision making methods will be highlighted.

Participants in this two-day workshop will:

- Understand the psychological dynamics of high conflict families;
- Examine parenting coordinator functions and practices;
- Understand how to help parents shift from a conflictual spousal relationship to a functional parenting relationship;
- Identify procedures for setting up and beginning cases;
- Identify ethical and legal challenges of parenting coordinators;
- Review specifics of writing agreements and drafting decisions;
- Review when and how to include children; and
- Identify the qualifications and abilities needed to be a parenting coordinator.

### About the Presenter



**Robin M. Deutsch, Ph.D.** is a psychologist and Director of Forensic Services of the Children and the Law Program in the Department of Psychiatry at Massachusetts General Hospital and an Assistant Professor at Harvard Medical School. Her work has focused on the application of child development research to children's adjustment to divorce, the evaluation of families involved in family change, parenting issues and management of high conflict divorce. Dr. Deutsch has published articles on the effects of high conflict divorce, the evaluation of domestic violence, management of cases of Munchausen by Proxy, parenting coordination, developmentally appropriate parenting plans and attachment considerations, and is

co-author of *7 Things Your Teenager Can't Tell You (and How to Talk About Them Anyway)*. She is a former president of the AFCC Board of Directors, a former president of the Massachusetts Chapter of AFCC, a member of the AFCC task force that developed Guidelines for Parenting Coordination (2005), and a member of the APA task force that developed Guidelines for Parenting Coordinators (2010).

### Agenda

#### Monday, December 6, 2010, 8:30am-4:00pm

1. Overview and the role of the parenting coordinator
2. Understanding psychological dynamics in high conflict families
3. Effects of divorce and conflict on children
4. Functions of the parenting coordinator
5. Legal framework and scope of authority
6. Qualifications and training
7. Setting up the case
8. The process: structure and mechanics

#### Tuesday, December 7, 2010, 8:30am-4:00pm

1. Ethical and legal issues
2. When and how to involve children in the process
3. Writing agreements
4. Arbitration and court review
5. Drafting decisions
6. Parenting coordination and domestic violence
7. Special issues: domestic violence, alienation, allegations of child abuse, inappropriate cases
8. Guidelines for parenting coordinators

## Parenting Coordination: Advanced Practice Issues

A two-day advanced training for parenting coordinators, mediators, attorneys and mental health professionals who want to increase their knowledge and skills in PC practice.

This training is geared for professionals who: (1) have completed some basic parenting coordination (PC) training, (2) are experienced working in this role, or (3) are seeking increased sophistication in appropriate referral and support of this role as a court-related professional who works with parenting coordinators. The two-day training will provide a conceptual framework that guides PC work with high-conflict co-parents and specific strategies to structure PC casework. This nuts-and-bolts advanced training will assume that the participants have done sufficient PC work to benefit from this practice-based, case-oriented training. Strategies to manage individual PC practice and discussion of strategies to develop this role in your jurisdiction will be addressed.

Participants in this two-day workshop will:

- Understand how the model of parallel parenting provides a basic conceptual framework for PC work;
- Learn strategies and approaches to structure more functional communication between co-parents;
- Learn strategies to assist parents with more functional decision making;
- Understand how to structure PC decision-making/arbitration processes when it becomes necessary;
- Learn to utilize "cyberspace" as a communication link between co-parents and as an essential tool in one's PC practice;
- Learn how to structure and coordinate collaborative teams of professionals and non-professionals;
- Use a case example to work with strategies to deal with non-compliance by a client in the PC process; and
- Identify and address common challenges for the development of a PC program in your jurisdiction.

### About the Presenter



**Matthew J. Sullivan, Ph.D.** is a psychologist in private practice in Palo Alto, California, specializing in forensic and clinical work in family courts. His full-time private practice focuses almost exclusively on work with co-parents. He serves in a variety of court-related roles, including mediator, co-parent counselor, parenting coordinator and consultant. He has written numerous articles and book chapters and presented at national and international venues on topics such as high-conflict divorce, parenting coordination, child alienation and mental health consultation in family law cases. He is currently serving on the editorial board of the *Journal of Child Custody*, serves on the AFCC Board of Directors and is co-chair of the current AFCC Court-Involved Therapist Task Force. He served

on the AFCC task force that developed the first guidelines for PC practice, and the American Psychological and American Bar Association working group on legal and psychological interventions with children and families. Please visit his website at [www.californiaparentingcoordinator.com](http://www.californiaparentingcoordinator.com) for more information.

### Agenda

#### Wednesday, December 8, 2010, 8:30am-4:00pm

1. The dynamics that contribute to intractable conflict between co-parents: individual vulnerabilities, relationship dysfunction and contextual contributions
2. A conceptual model for working with high-conflict co-parents; disengaged, parallel co-parenting
3. The nuts and bolts of structuring co-parent work
4. The use of cyberspace in PC work
5. Creating functional communication between co-parents
6. Assisting co-parents with child-focused decision making
7. The arbitration role

#### Thursday, December 9, 2010, 8:30am-4:00pm

1. The coordination role: between parents, among supporting professionals
2. Structuring and supporting court-involved therapy—vignettes
3. When the process gets derailed: handling non-compliance—case example
4. Professional practice risks and protection
5. Developing the PC program in your jurisdiction
6. Questions, summary and evaluations

## Registration Form

First Name (Dr./Mr./Ms) \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ Degree \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_

Zip/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

	<u>AFCC Member</u>	<u>Non- member</u>
<b>New Membership Special</b> Join AFCC* for 12 months and register at the AFCC member rate. For new members only.	<input type="checkbox"/> \$140	
<b>Parenting Coordination: Working with High Conflict Families</b> December 6-7, 2010	<input type="checkbox"/> \$290	<input type="checkbox"/> \$360
<b>Parenting Coordination: Advanced Practice Issues</b> December 8-9, 2010	<input type="checkbox"/> \$290	<input type="checkbox"/> \$360
<b>BOTH trainings</b> (discounted rate)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$510	<input type="checkbox"/> \$640
<b>Total</b>	\$ _____	\$ _____

\*AFCC membership includes a print subscription to AFCC's quarterly academic and research journal, *Family Court Review*, with online access to all the archives. Membership also includes a subscription to the *AFCC eNEWS*, reduced registration rates to AFCC conferences and trainings, access to AFCC's online Member Center featuring online conference audio in MP3 format and AFCC's searchable Member Directory. More information is available at [www.afccnet.org](http://www.afccnet.org).

### Payment method:

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

- Check or money order enclosed
- Please charge my credit card     MasterCard     Visa  
 American Express     Discover

Card number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

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*Please send registration form and payment to:*

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