

**The 35th National Child Welfare,
Juvenile, and Family Law Conference**

FAMILIES MATTER

**Advocacy for
All Parties
in the Child's
Best Interests**

August 14 – 16, 2012

Pre-Conference: August 13

**Historic Palmer House Hilton
Downtown Chicago, IL**

**CONFERENCE
PROGRAM**

**National Association
of Counsel for Children**

1-888-828-NACC

www.NACCchildlaw.org

NACC



The 35th National Child Welfare, Juvenile, and Family Law Conference:

Families Matter — Advocacy for All Parties in the Child's Best Interests

This conference is the NACC's premier training and is the product of 35 years of experience. It is designed primarily for attorneys who practice child welfare, juvenile, and family law. NACC members and attendees dedicate most of their practice to the representation of children and youth, parents, or the state in juvenile dependency, delinquency, or family law cases. Due to the multi-disciplinary nature of this work, professionals from the fields of medicine, mental health, social work, probation, law enforcement, and education also belong to the NACC, attend our conferences, and serve as faculty. The conference is comprised of Plenary and Breakout Sessions.

New Breakout Sessions!

This year Breakout Sessions will feature revised tracks:

- TRACK 1: BEGINNER** — Sessions are aimed at practitioners with 0-5 years of experience in child welfare law;
- TRACK 2: INTERMEDIATE** — Targeted to those with 5-15 years of experience in child welfare law;
- TRACK 3: ADVANCED** — For those with 15 years and beyond;
- TRACK 4: SKILLS** — This track features sessions designed to help improve advocacy skills;
- TRACK 5: GENERAL INTEREST** — This track features a variety of topics of interest to NACC members and conference attendees.

The NACC

The adversarial system works best when all interested parties are competently represented. The NACC works to promote a justice system wherein every child has his or her voice heard with the assistance of well-trained, well-resourced independent lawyers resulting in the child's rights being protected and needs being met.

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PRE-CONFERENCE

Monday, August 13, 2012

9:00a-4:30p

NACC Red Book, 2nd Ed., 2010

Survey and Certification Exam Prep Course in Child Welfare Law and Practice

» **Crystal Room - 3rd Floor**

The course will follow the 2nd Edition of the Red Book (**Child Welfare Law and Practice: Representing Children, Parents, and State Agencies in Abuse, Neglect, and Dependency Cases**, Duquette and Haralambie, Bradford Publishing 2010). The course covers the major competency areas of dependency practice and prepares attendees for the NACC Child Welfare Attorney Certification Exam. Registration fee includes a copy of the Red Book for you to keep.

1:00-5:00p

Identifying, Documenting & Serving Drug Endangered Children: A Collaborative Response Between Criminal Justice & Child Welfare

» **Red Laquer Room - 4th Floor**

Ignored, abused, and abandoned — these are some of the chronic conditions experienced by children raised in environments where there is drug use, manufacturing, cultivation, and distribution. Drug endangered children are part of a very large and growing population of children whose lives have been seriously and negatively impacted by dangerous drugs. Attendees will gain an understanding of opportunities to identify children living in dangerous drug environments and encourage intervention at the earliest possible point when endangerment is suspected to reduce physical and psychological harm to children; how exchanging information, altering activities, and sharing resources enhances the capacity of each agency for the mutual benefit of all to achieve a common outcome; and provide better service to children and families. Attendees will also learn more about what evidence can be collected and documented to show the risk of neglect, physical or emotional abuse, or exposure to criminal activity to help demonstrate the life of the child so appropriate services can be provided. And lastly, the course will review a multi-disciplinary response that considers the unique and often limited resources within a community and how these resources can be coordinated and applied in a manner that allows the child to receive better care.

- **Lori Moriarty**, National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children
- **Stacey Read**, Office of Colorado's Child Protection Ombudsman
- **Eric Nation**, Jasper County Sheriff's Office, Newton Iowa

2:00-5:00p

Registration Open

» **Grand Ballroom Foyer - 4th Floor**

CONFERENCE

Tuesday, August 14, 2012

7:30a

Registration Opens

» Grand Ballroom Foyer – 4th Floor

8:00–8:30a

Continental Breakfast

» State Room – 4th Floor

8:45–10:15a

Keynote Address: Families Matter: Supporting Lifelong Connections for Court-Involved Youth

» Grand Ballroom – 4th Floor



Judge Patricia M. Martin is the Presiding Judge of the Child Protection Division of the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois and President the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. She has chaired the Supreme Court of Illinois Judicial Conference Study Committee on Juvenile Justice and has been a member of other Illinois Supreme Court committees.

10:15–10:30a

Coffee Break

» State Room – 4th Floor

10:30a–12:00p

Breakout A

TRACK 1 : BEGINNER

» Wabash Room – 3rd Floor

Healthy Development & Well-being for Youth: What Your Client Needs to Thrive

• Charlyn Harper Browne • Martha Raimon
• Youth Presenter

TRACK 2 : INTERMEDIATE

» Wilson Room – 3rd Floor

Fathers and Children in Foster Care: Challenges and Opportunities in Social Work, Law and Parenting

• Kevin Brown • Richard Cozzola
• Sonia Velazquez

TRACK 3 : ADVANCED

» Grand Ballroom – 4th Floor

Recent Case Developments in the Complex, Fascinating, and Challenging Field of Dependency Law

• Bruce Boyer • Erik Pitchal

TRACK 4 : SKILLS

» Red Lacquer Room – 4th Floor

Representation Without Words: Techniques for Interviewing and Representing the Non-Verbal Child

• Roxanna Alavi • Jeanine McKelvey
• Jennifer Kelleher • Nathan Thomas

TRACK 5 : GENERAL INTEREST

» Crystal Room – 3rd Floor

Getting it Right from the Start: An Interactive Training for Child Welfare / Court System Stakeholders on the Courts Catalyzing Change (CCC) Benchmark for Judges

• Judge Patricia Martin

12:00–1:45p

Lunch on your own OR Networking Lunch: Reforming the ICPC: “How We Can Move the Conversation Forward”

• Josh Gupta-Kagan
• Stephen Pennypacker
• Vivek Sankaran



» Chicago – 5th Floor



The ICPC has been subject to much criticism and recently a national effort has emerged to reform the Compact. The luncheon presentation will provide an overview of the Compact and discuss efforts to reform

the process. There will also be an opportunity to share strategies with practitioners from across the country.

» **Separate registration and fee:** \$50 for attendees and guests. Space is limited – visit the registration desk to register.

2:00–3:30p

Breakout B

TRACK 1 : BEGINNER

» Crystal Room – 3rd Floor

Effective Representation of Very Young Children in Dependency Proceedings

• Candice Maze

TRACK 2 : INTERMEDIATE

» Wilson Room – 3rd Floor

Qualified Expert Witnesses under the Indian Child Welfare Act

• Tana Fye

TRACK 3 : ADVANCED

» Red Lacquer Room – 4th Floor

Creating and Sustaining Effective Local Collaboration to Improve Outcomes for Families and Children

• Diane Nunn • Christopher Wu

TRACK 4 : SKILLS

» Grand Ballroom – 4th Floor

From Courtroom to Schoolroom to Conference Room: A Practitioner’s Guide to Advocacy at Informal Meetings

• Richard Cozzola • Erin Han

TRACK 5 : GENERAL INTEREST

» Wabash Room – 3rd Floor

DHHS Enforcement of Child Welfare Standards: A Better Option than Reform Litigation

• Robert Fellmeth • Steve Keane
• Christina Riehl

3:30–3:45p

Break

» Note: no beverages will be served.

3:45–5:15p

Plenary Session I: Story-Telling & Lawyering: Changing the Narrative in Child Welfare

• Matthew Fraidin • Faith Mullen

» Grand Ballroom – 4th Floor



Professor Matthew Fraidin is a Visiting Professor at Georgetown University Law Center – where he teaches in the Domestic Violence Clinic – and Associate

Professor of Law and Director of the University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law HIV/AIDS legal clinic. Can we achieve our goals of limiting entries to foster care and speeding exits from it by looking for the strengths of the people involved in our cases rather than their weaknesses? The session will focus on the power of storytelling in law and using your lawyering skills to help families build.



Faith Mullen is an Assistant Clinical Professor supervising law students in the General Practice Clinic at the Columbus School of Law at The Catholic University of America. She has previously worked as a Senior Policy Advisor at the Public Policy Institute with AARP and as an attorney with Legal Counsel for the Elderly and the Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia. While at the Legal Aid Society, she represented parents in child welfare cases. She writes about access-to-justice issues and the use of story to improve lawyer performance. She has been a member of the District of Columbia Bar since 1984.

5:15-6:30p

CWLS Recognition Ceremony

» Red Lacquer Room - 4th Floor

Join your colleagues for appetizers, drinks, and a performance by former foster youth, now rapper, **Kris Prince**.

Wednesday, August 15, 2012

7:45-8:45a

Special Session: Introduction to the Child Welfare Mediation Guidelines

• Frank Vandervort • Kelly Olson

» Grand Ballroom - 4th Floor

8:00-9:00a

Continental Breakfast

» State Room - 4th Floor

9:00-10:30a

Plenary Session II: A Daubert Analysis of Abusive Head Trauma

» Grand Ballroom - 4th Floor

Dr. Sandeep Narang, MD/JD, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, University of Texas Health Center at San Diego

In recent years, there have been challenges to the science for diagnosing shaken baby syndrome resulting in legal commentary arguing that judgments, civil or criminal, are unsupported. Dr. Narang will review the leading science literature in the context of Daubert standards and offer options for judges dealing with the admissibility of complex medical expert testimony.

10:30-10:45a

Coffee / Exhibitor Break

» State Room - 4th Floor

10:45a-12:15p

Breakout C

TRACK 1 : BEGINNER

» Chicago - 5th Floor

The Intersection of Immigration and Child Welfare: Abuse, Neglect, and Green Cards — the Nuts and Bolts of Representing Undocumented Minors

• Julie Sollinger • Mony Ruiz-Velasco

TRACK 2 : INTERMEDIATE

» Crystal Room - 3rd Floor

AWA, SORNA & U = OMG!: Understanding How Sex Offenses and the Adam Walsh Act Affect Children and Families

• Mitchell Feld • Ken Harris

TRACK 3 : ADVANCED

» Wabash Room - 3rd Floor

Building Resilience in Traumatized Children: What Children's Lawyers Can Do

• Jim Henry • Mark Sloan • Frank Vandervort

TRACK 4 : SKILLS

» Red Lacquer Room - 4th Floor

Win the Case, Save the Child, Change the Law

• Jeff Koy • Shari Shink • Former Foster Youth

TRACK 5 : GENERAL INTEREST

» Wilson Room - 3rd Floor

Representation of the Severely Maltreated Infant

• Diane Baird • Donald Bross • Antonia Chiesa

12:30-2:00p

Annual Luncheon

» Grand Ballroom - 4th Floor

Alison Arngrim is an actress, stand-up comedian, and author best known for her portrayal of Nellie Oleson on the television series **Little House on the Prairie**. She is also a survivor of childhood abuse. Her 2010 memoir, **Confessions of a Prairie Bitch: How I Survived Nellie Oleson and Learned to Love Being Hated**, has been critically praised for her ability to mix humor and personal tragedy.

Presentation followed by book-signing.

» Separate registration required; no fee. If you have not registered for the event but would like to attend, please visit the registration desk on the first day of the conference as space is limited.

2:15-3:45p

Breakout D

TRACK 1 : BEGINNER

» Chicago - 5th Floor

Educational Legal Advocacy for Foster Youth: Challenges and Opportunities

• Richard Cozzola • Erin Han

TRACK 2 : INTERMEDIATE

» Crystal Room - 3rd Floor

Undocumented and Abused Kids: Who They Are and How We Can Help Them

• Jessica Daman

TRACK 3 : ADVANCED

» Wabash Room - 3rd Floor

Kids, Social Media, and the Law

• Marsha Levick • Mae Quinn

TRACK 4 : SKILLS

» Red Lacquer Room – 4th Floor

Analyzing and Preparing Cases Involving Medically-Based Allegations of Child Abuse

- Bruce Boyer • Diana Rugh Johnson
- Stephanie Plasier • Melissa Staas

TRACK 5 : GENERAL INTEREST

» Wilson Room – 3rd Floor

Maximizing Training Resources: Developing Comprehensive Training Programs and Partnerships

- Wilma Brier • Nancy Drane

3:45–4:00p

Break

» Note: no beverages will be served.

4:00–5:30p

Breakout E

TRACK 1 : BEGINNER

» Chicago – 5th Floor

Parental Substance Abuse and Children: Complications, Consequences, and Cures

- Demetra Frazier • Clara Goetz
- Brad Martin • Ellen Werlin

TRACK 2 : INTERMEDIATE

» Wabash Room – 3rd Floor

Ready or Not, Case Closed!: Strategies to Help Older Youth Transition to Adulthood

- Rohit Chandra • Chase Gordon
- Robert Harris • Jeremy Harvey
- Katina Smith

TRACK 3 : ADVANCED

» Crystal Room – 3rd Floor

Polyvictimization and Child Trauma: Identifying and Addressing Client Needs

- Elena Cohen • Lisa Conradi
- Howard Davidson • Lisa Pilnik

TRACK 4 : SKILLS

» Red Lacquer Room – 4th Floor

Common Pitfalls and Hot Button Topics in Evidence

- William Ladd • Deborah Paruch
- Jennifer Pilette

TRACK 5 : GENERAL INTEREST

» Wilson Room – 3rd Floor

Automation of Case Management: A Success Story

- Lori Brown • Rick Smith

6:15p

**Off-Site Activity:
Chicago Skyline Boat Tour**

Join your colleagues in the lobby at 6:15p for a short walk to the Navy Pier and an hour Skyline Cruise highlighting the stories behind dozens of Chicago landmarks. A cash bar is available on the boat.

» Separate registration and fee: \$29

Thursday, August 16, 2012

8:00–9:00a

Continental Breakfast

» State Room – 4th Floor

8:00–9:00a

**Special Session:
Moving Forward? The Latest Updates on the Right to Counsel for Children Movement**

- Cathy Krebs
- Ira Lustbader
- Casey Trupin

» Grand Ballroom – 4th Floor

9:15–10:45a

Breakout F

TRACK 1 : BEGINNER

» Chicago – 5th Floor

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders as a Mitigating Factor in Juvenile Litigation and Sentencing

- Ira Chasnoff • Carole Hurley

TRACK 2 : INTERMEDIATE

» Red Lacquer Room – 4th Floor

Drug Testing in Child Welfare Cases: Understanding the Chemistry, Methodology, and Legal Implications

- Diana Rugh Johnson • LaMia Saxby

TRACK 3 : ADVANCED

» Wabash Room – 3rd Floor

Finding Another Path to Permanency: The Policy Argument for a Statutory Right to Reinstate Parental Rights

- Meredith Schalick

TRACK 4 : SKILLS

» Crystal Room – 3rd Floor

How to Talk with Teens About Sexual & Reproductive Health Issues

- Leslie Heimov
- Commissioner Anthony Trendacosta

TRACK 5 : GENERAL INTEREST

» Wilson Room – 3rd Floor

A New Day in Tribal Engagement: ICWA Compliance and Innovative Court Collaboration

- Gina Jackson • William Thorne

10:45–11:00a

Break

» Note: no beverages will be served.

11:00a–12:30p

Closing Session: Child Representation in America: Update on QIC

- Professor Don N. Duquette

» Grand Ballroom – 4th Floor



In 2009 the U.S. Children’s Bureau named University of Michigan Law School the National Quality Improvement Center on the Representation of Children in the Child Welfare System (QIC-ChildRep). Professor Duquette will report on his efforts to gather, develop, and communicate knowledge on child representation, promote consensus on the role of the child’s legal representative, and provide one of the first empirically-based analyses of how legal representation for the child might best be delivered.

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Congratulations to the 2012 Award Recipients!

STUDENT ESSAY:

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ChildRep

QIC ChildRep Fee Waiver

Starting in January, the U.S. Children's Bureau's National Quality Improvement Center on the Representation of Children in the Child Welfare System (*QIC-ChildRep*) is providing a waiver for one-half of the \$600 certification fees. **The waiver will be applied to the \$300 application fee on a first-come first-served basis to the first 200 applications submitted to the NACC.** Attorneys who receive the QIC ChildRep Waiver will be responsible for the \$300 examination fee. To be eligible for the waiver attorneys must submit with their application a commitment to sit for the exam if eligible.

Interested?

Contact the NACC to obtain the Certification Standards and an application or visit our website for additional information.

National Association
of Counsel for Children

www.NACCchildlaw.org
Advocate@NACCchildlaw.org

1-888-828-NACC

Child Welfare Law Certification — *QIC ChildRep Fee Waiver*

Child Welfare Law Certification

NACC Child Welfare Law Certification is available to attorneys who serve in the role of Child's Attorney (including Guardian ad Litem, Law Guardian, Attorney ad Litem), Parent's Attorney, and Agency / Department / Government Attorney. The specialization area as approved by the ABA is defined as "the practice of law representing children, parents or the government in all child protection proceedings including emergency, temporary custody, adjudication, disposition, foster care, permanency planning, termination, guardianship, and adoption. Child Welfare Law does not include representation in private child custody and adoption disputes where the state is not a party".

If you represent children, parents, or the state child welfare agency you may be eligible to become certified in child welfare law. The NACC certification program is accredited by the ABA and has been endorsed by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, the Conference of Chief Justices, and the Conference of State Court Administrators.

Certification Eligibility Requirements

Child Welfare Law is an increasingly complex and sophisticated area of practice requiring special training and expertise. To become a Child Welfare Law Specialists attorneys must demonstrate *Good Standing*; show *Substantial Involvement* in child welfare law; supply evidence of sufficient *Educational Experience*; provide peer references; submit a *Writing Sample*; and pass the *Child Welfare Law Certification Exam*. The certification exam questions are drawn from the 2nd Edition of the NACC "Red Book" (*Child Welfare Law and Practice, Representing Children, Parents and State Agencies in Abuse, Neglect and Dependency Cases*, Duquette and Haralambie, Bradford Publishing 2010). Lawyers certified in child welfare must be knowledgeable in relevant state and federal laws; principles of child development, family dynamics and psychology; familiar with collateral systems impacting children and their parents; and recognize the professional responsibility and ethical issues that arise out of child welfare proceedings.

Certification Preparation

Your legal education, practice experience, and continuing legal education in child welfare, delinquency, family law, and related areas all help prepare you for the certification exam. Upon submitting a certification application, you will also receive a copy of the Red Book.