

6th Annual: Adjusting the Bar: The Definitive Ad Litem Seminar in DFPS Cases

Friday, April 29, 2016 & Saturday, April 30, 2016

The Council on Recovery, 303 Jackson Hill, Houston, Texas, 77007

Fee

The conference registration fee is \$150.00 per person for early registration and payment of \$175.00 per person for on site registration. Your registration fee includes cost of seminar, breaks, lunch on Friday and Saturday and any materials distributed on a CD at the conference and on the web at www.myvoiceincourt.org. The registration fee may be paid by check or money order only. No credit cards are accepted. Please make checks payable to:

Juvenile Law Section – Houston Bar Association

How to Register

To register, please complete this form and mail it along with payment to Brian Fischer, 6200 Gulf Freeway Suite 202, Houston, Texas 77023. Online registration is not available. Pre registration is preferred by April 20, 2016 since conference enrollment is limited to 300 participants.

Location and Parking

The conference will be held at the offices of The Council on Recovery Houston located at 303 Jackson Hill Street, Houston, Texas 77007. Telephone 713.942.4100 or online at www.councilhouston.org. There is ample garage parking available free of charge.



Credit Hours

The Juvenile Law Section – Houston Bar Association has requested 13.5 participatory hours (including 8.0 hours of ethics) for continuing education credits from the State Bar of Texas.

Cancellation and Refunds

Conference cancellations and refund requests may be made by contacting Brian Fischer at 713.520.7500 or bjflaw@hotmail.com. Your full conference fee will be refunded if notice is received by April 20, 2016. After this date, no refunds will be granted.

Course Materials

In order to contain costs and keep a lower conference registration fee, participants will be provided with electronic materials provided on a CD and on the web at myvoiceincourt.org.

Audio and Video Recording

This course will not be audio or video recorded.



Registration Form

*Due to space limitations, pre registration is preferred.
Conference enrollment is limited to 300.*

Please fill out the information below in its entirety so that we can plan accordingly for the conference. We respectfully ask that you complete this form and return it by April 20, 2016 to Brian Fischer at the contact information listed below.

General Information

Printed Name _____

Bar Card Number _____

Firm / Department _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone () _____

\$150.00 Early Registration Fee Enclosed

\$175.00 On-Site Registration Fee [The on-site fee will apply if the registration fee has not been received by April 20, 2015.]

Questions and Correspondence

Juvenile Law Section – Houston Bar Association
c/o Brian Fischer
6200 Gulf Freeway Suite 202
Houston, Texas 77023
Tel: 713.520.7500 Email: bjflaw@hotmail.com

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Sponsored by the Juvenile Law Section of the Houston Bar Association

Schedule of Events: April 29 & 30, 2016

The Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse Houston

Friday April 29, 2016

- 3:00 a.m. Registration
- 3:45 a.m. Welcome and Opening Remarks
- 3:50 a.m. **Understanding the Medical Evidence in Child Physical Abuse**
Rebecca Giardet, M.D.
- 3:45 a.m. **Contested Emergency Hearing Demonstration: Ethical Considerations of Representation**
Jessica Diaz, J.D. (Harris County Attorney's Office)
Other participants to be announced.
Honorable Mike Schneider Judge
- 10:30 a.m. Break
- 10:45 a.m. **Defending a DFPS Case 262 Hearing: Ethical Considerations and Effective Assistance of Counsel**
William B. Connolly, J.D.
- 11:15 a.m. **Adversary Hearing Demonstration: Ethics of Representation of Parents and Ad Litem in Hearing**
Stephen Pierce, J.D.
Ryan Mitchell, J.D.
Steven Frazier, J.D.
Evan Glick, J. D. (dad)
Dena Fisher, J.D. (Caseworker)
David Masquelette, J. D.
Honorable Angela Ellis, Judge
- 12:00 Noon. Lunch (provided)
- 1:00 p.m. **Constitutional Issues of a 264 Hearing: Ethical Considerations:**
Stephen Pierce, J.D.
- 1:30 p.m. **264 Participation in Services Demonstration: Ethics of Representation of Parents and Ad Litem in Hearing**
Michelle Moore, J.D. (Harris County Attorney's Office)
Xhmeile Baca-Mjaltaj (Caseworker)
William Thursland, J.D. AAL, Don Crane J.D. (Atty for Mom)
Samantha Davis, J.D. (Mom), Honorable Stephen Newhouse Judge
- 2:45 p.m. **DFPS Project Court: Ethical Considerations of Representation**
Honorable Katrina Griffith, Judge DFPS Project Court
Harris County
- 2:15 p.m. Break
- 3:30 p.m. **Status Hearing Demonstration: Ethical Representation Of Clients.**
Stephanie Ewing, J.D. (Harris County Attorney's Office)
Gary Polland, J.D. AAL, Hank Rhodes, J.D.,
Jonathan Chan (Caseworker), Anna Stool, J.D. (Mother)
Mike Schneider Judge
- 4:15 p.m. **DFPS/ Delinquency Case Overlap**
Sara Bruchmiller J.D., Angela Phea J.D.
Debra Reyna, DFPS Supervisor
- 5:00 p.m. Adjourn

Saturday, April 30, 2016

- 8:00 a.m. Registration
- 8:30 a.m. **Permanency Hearing Demonstration: Ethics of Representation of Parents**
Deanna Carlson, J.D., (Harris County Attorney's Office)
Alex Hunt, J.D. (Acting as Caseworker)
Honorable Glen Devlin Judge
- 9:15 a.m. **Mediation in DFPS Cases: Ethics of Representation of Parents and Children in Mediation:**
Amy Lacy, J.D.
- 9:45 a.m. **Appellate Issues Formulation of the Case for Appeal, Preservation of Error and Perfection of Appeal: Ethical Obligations: Effective Assistance of Counsel**
William Thursland, J.D.
- 10:15 a.m. Break
- 10:30 a.m. **Case Law Update: Ethical Responsibilities of Keeping Current on Appellate Case Law**
Brian J. Fischer, J. D.
- 11:15 a.m. **Alternatives When DFPS Does Not Follow the Rules, Regulations, Procedures and Laws Relative to DFPS; Ethical Responsibilities:**
Stephen Newhouse, Associate Judge, 313th District Court
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch (provided)
- 12:45 p.m. **Trial demonstration: Ethics of Representation of Parents and Children at Trial**
Gene Wu, J.D. Ad litem, Patricia Flenniken, J.D. (County Attorney), JoAnn Shaffer, J.D. (Attorney for Mom), Josette Ledoux, J.D. (Mom), Davonda Brown-Traylor (Attorney for Dad), Mitchel Nelson, J.D. (Dad), Honorable Mike Schneider Judge,
- 1:45 p.m. **Ad Litem Out of the Box Services and Placements, Challenging DFPS at All Levels**
Anna Stool, J. D.
- 2:15 p.m. **Qualifications, Presentation and Challenges to Expert Testimony – Daubert (i.e. Is a DFPS Caseworker an Expert)**
Ted Jereb, J.D.
- 2:45 p.m. Break
- 3:00 p.m. **Daubert, Robinson, Kelly, etc., Demonstration:**
Bill Thursland, J.D., Macy Cassin, J.D., (Harris County Attorney's Office), Mary Alvarez, Ph.D., Honorable Brian Fischer, Judge
- 3:45 p.m. **Interventions in DFPS Cases**
Ronnie Harrison, J.D.
- 4:30 p.m. Adjourn