

Keeping Current

A monthly newsletter for CCAN attorneys | Published by Children's Law Center | December 2017

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Upcoming Events

Half Day Ethics Training, Wednesday, December 13, 2017 from 9:30am to 2:00pm at DC Superior Court Conference Room 4440

9:30-10:55—Staying Connected: The Duty to Maintain Meaningful Communication with Clients

This interactive training centers around client communication. We will explore some of the challenges attorneys face when trying to engage hard to reach clients, best practices to engage clients of varying developmental levels in communication and legal substance, and opportunities attorneys have to empower clients through their representation. The following Rules of Professional Conduct will be incorporated into the training: 1.2, 1.3, 1.4 and Practice Standard C—Attorney Client Relationship.

Presenters: Melinda Cooperman and Judith del-Cuadro Zimmerman

11:05-12:30—Who Calls the Shots? Counseling v. Advocacy in the Attorney-Client Relationship

This session will focus on how to collaborate with clients to make decisions about strategy and legal goals and how to move forward with court cases in light of Ethical Rules 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 2.1 & 3.1. The presenters will present information from the perspectives of both stated interest and best interest representation. The session will provide a refresher of relevant Rules and leave attendees equipped to make decisions about when they must advocate for the client's wishes, versus when they can execute a strategic decision that is in within the purview of the lawyer.

Presenters: Allison Green and Gabby Majewski

12:45-2:00—Case Rounds Brown Bag

Case Rounds will offer attorneys an opportunity to discuss the issues explored in the morning sessions, but will also be open to any other issues participants want to raise.

Presenter: Naïké Savain

To RSVP, please email trainings@childrenslawcenter.org by Monday, December 11th. However, if you do not RSVP you are still welcome to attend!

Lunch and Learn Webinar: Internet and Social Media Research Strategies, Tuesday, January 9, 2018 from 12:00pm to 1:00pm

Sophie Vick, Children's Law Center investigator, will lead this innovative training that focuses on the use of the internet and social media websites in family and civil court case investigation and advocacy. Participants will learn about the innumerable types of information available on the internet as well as creative ways of finding and using that information. This training offers strategies and powerful search tools for finding hard-to-locate people on the internet and information they or others have inadvertently disclosed. The strategies learned will be useful both in the child welfare context and more broadly in civil litigation.

To join, dial 641-715-3680 and use passcode: 964021#. You are welcome to submit questions in advance to Kristen Pisani-Jacques, GAL Project Deputy Director, at kpisani@childrenslawcenter.org. Same-day questions can be sent to events@childrenslawcenter.org. Prior registration is not required. Webinar log-in information to follow.

Quarter Litigation Training: Discovery, Wednesday, January 17, 2018 from 12:00pm to 1:30pm at DC Superior Court, Family Court Conference Room (4224)

Join Children’s Law Center attorneys Adrienne Clark, Megan Conway, and Cara Morse to take a deep dive into discovery – the rules, the case law, and the many ways to use discovery to support your case at trial. Participants will take away key tips and practices to integrate into their own discovery and will learn why a robust discovery practice is essential to zealous advocacy in child welfare cases.

To RSVP, please email trainings@childrenslawcenter.org by Monday, January 15th. However, if you do not RSVP you are still welcome to attend!

Don’t forget about Children’s Law Center’s Helpline!

Our **Helpline** provides CCAN attorneys with legal information and advice.

- Staffed by Children’s Law Center attorneys
- Confidential
- Legal information and assistance on general and case-specific topics, such as help identifying resources and services, sample pleadings, and other materials
- All Helpline calls are screened to identify potential conflicts of interest

Call (202) 467-4900 (Option 3) — Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Reports and Publications

[Self-Care Skills and Strategies for Foster Parents](#) (The Annie E. Casey Foundation, November 2017)

“Tools and exercises for self-care are part of Trauma Systems Therapy for Foster Care (TST-FC), a powerful new training curriculum that helps caregivers meet the needs of kids and teenagers who have experienced trauma.”

[The Relationship between Housing and Asthma among School-Age Children](#) (Urban Institute, October 2017)

“Understanding the relationship between asthma, ER and urgent care visits, and housing-related triggers is difficult, but the 2015 American Housing Survey includes a special module with questions on asthma and triggers in the home. This dataset helped us explore variations in asthma prevalence and asthma-related ER use among school-age children (ages 5 to 17) by a wide array of housing and household characteristics.”

[Lessons from the Waterfront: Economic Development Projects Must Do More to Lessen DC’s Worsening Income Inequality](#) (DC Fiscal Policy Institute, October 2017)

“The District of Columbia can use its economic development efforts to stem the tide of the city’s rising income inequality, but it is failing to do so. Instead, the District’s economic development efforts—including the enormous Wharf project—often support creation of low-wage jobs with minimal benefits, a lost opportunity to reduce inequities. By not including requirements to create high-quality jobs, the District encourages developers to compete for projects and profits by aggressively cutting labor costs—at the expense of workers’ ability to live in the District and support their families.”

News

Local

[Homeless shelters may be harder to get into under bill up for final vote in DC Council](#) (WAMU, 12/5/17)

[My daughter can’t breathe: Keeping asthma under control as climate change increases triggers](#) (WAMU, 12/4/17)

[Thousands of MD. youth are homeless; African-American, LGBT youth represented disproportionately](#) (The Baltimore Sun, 12/4/17)

[DC City Council considers keeping suspended students in school](#) (WAMU, 12/2/17)

[DC food stamp recipients say new computer system left them without benefits](#) (WAMU, 11/30/17)

[Georgetown medical students and DC General Family Shelter team up to bring free medical services to shelter residents](#) (Street Sense Media, 11/30/17)

[Does DC charter schools' autonomy come at the cost of public accountability?](#) (Washington City Paper, 11/30/17)

[How Washington winks at violent discipline of special needs kids](#) (Politico Magazine, 11/29/17)

[Trying to bite the 'elephant' of addiction](#) (The Calvert Recorder, 11/28/17)

[DC leaders hope revamped apprenticeships can bring more residents to the middle class](#) (The Washington Post, 11/28/17)

[DC establishes \\$10 million fund to preserve disappearing affordable housing](#) (The Washington Post, 11/26/17)

[DC Council proposes measure to rein in school suspensions](#) (The Washington Post, 11/22/17)

[New DC bill seeks to incentivize good landlord behavior](#) (Washington City Paper, 11/21/17)

[Bill could eliminate out-of-school suspensions for DC students, except in extreme cases](#) (WAMU, 11/21/17)

[Howard University Hospital, Unity Health Care ink obstetrics partnership](#) (Biz Journal, 11/20/17)

[Sanford Capital to 'negotiate exclusively' with Congress Heights tenants over their property's future](#) (Washington City Paper, 11/17/17)

[Overflow shelter guests feel unwelcomed by hotel staff and city services](#) (Street Sense Media, 11/15/17)

National

[US charter schools put growing numbers in racial isolation](#) (Education Week, 12/3/17)

[Number of American children in foster care increases for 4th consecutive year](#) (NPR, 11/30/17)

[States sound warning that kids' health insurance is at risk](#) (NPR, 11/30/17)

[How the loss of US psychiatric hospitals led to a mental health crisis](#) (NPR, 11/30/17)

[Staggering new numbers on youth homelessness demand action](#) (Advocate, 11/30/17)

[Trauma may have fallout over generations](#) (The New York Times, 11/29/17)

[For LGBTQ people of color, discrimination compounds](#) (WAMU, 11/28/17)

[Poll: Majority of LGBTQ Americans report harassment, violence based on identity](#) (NPR, 11/21/17)

['Precious Little Evidence' that vouchers improve achievement, recent research finds](#) (Education Week, 11/17/17)

[Pronouncing students' names correctly should be a big deal](#) (Education Week, 11/15/17)

[Patchwork services fail youth aging out of foster care, national survey concludes](#) (Richmond Times-Dispatch, 11/14/17)

CLC Trainings Schedule 2017-2018

Half and Full-Day Trainings

- Half-Day Special Education Training: February 21, 2018, 9:30am-2:00pm
- Full-Day New GAL Training: April 18, 2017, 9:30am-4:30pm
- Half-Day Advanced GAL Training: June 20, 2018, 9:30am-2:00pm
- Trial Simulation: August 15, 2018, 9:30am-4:30pm
- Half-Day Special Education Training: September 19, 2018

Lunch and Learn Teleconferences

All Lunch and Learn Teleconferences are held from 12:00pm-1:00pm. Check Keeping Current and <http://www.childrenslawcenter.org/events> for call-in information.

- April 10, 2018, Topic TBD
- May 8, 2018, Topic TBD
- July 10, 2018, Topic TBD

Quarterly Litigation Trainings

All litigation trainings are held from 12:00pm-1:30pm on the third Wednesday of the month.

- March 21, 2018—Topic TBD
- May 16, 2018—Topic TBD