

# Keeping Current

April 2011

*Keeping Current* is a compilation of relevant news and information, including trainings and events. The materials referenced in *Keeping Current* are intended to be additional resources for consideration by members of the CCAN community, and Children's Law Center cannot verify the quality of all the materials or events referenced herein. CCAN attorneys should conduct their own independent research when reviewing these materials, and should review the weekly CCAN e-mail for current information. Please contact Nancy Drane, Training Director, with comments or suggestions. *Keeping Current* is also posted on the Family Law page of ProBono.net/dc and [www.childrenslawcenter.org](http://www.childrenslawcenter.org).

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## D.C. Court of Appeals

### New Opinions from the D.C. Court of Appeals:

**Melendez v. U.S., 08-CF-244 (March 3, 2011)** – Criminal case with a discussion of a four-year-old child's statement as admissible under the "excited utterance" hearsay exception.

Available at: <http://tiny.cc/kdv1a>.

**Jordan v. Jordan, 09-FM-1152, 09-FM-1337, 10-FM-375 (March 10, 2011)** – Appeal of an award of joint custody and the appointment of a parenting coordinator which was affirmed. Issues on appeal were whether the court properly considered the allegations and findings of domestic violence (vis-a-vis the statutory presumptions of, and against, joint custody), and whether the court had the authority to appoint a parenting coordinator. Also includes interesting discussion of experts' testimony. Available at: <http://tiny.cc/rj9uv>.

**Upcoming Oral Arguments of Interest:** None in April

## D.C. Council

### **Selection of Kaya Henderson as DCPS Chancellor: A Community Conversation (Committee of the Whole)**

April 6, 2011 at 6:00 PM — Stuart Hobson Middle School, 410 E St. NE

April 7, 2011 at 6:00 PM — Lafayette Elementary School, 5701 Broad Branch Road NW

### **Public Briefing on Mayor's FY 2012 Proposed Budget (Committee of the Whole)**

April 6, 2011 at 10:00 AM — Wilson Building, 1350 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Council Chamber (Room 500)

### **Child and Family Services Agency (Committee on Human Services)**

May 2, 2011 at 10:00 AM — Wilson Building, 1350 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Room 123

*Selected D.C. Council hearings are broadcast online at: <http://www.dccouncil.washington.dc.us>*

## Child Welfare News (Local and National)

**Child Welfare Hearing Shows City Agency [CFSA] Still Struggling** (Washington City Paper)

Available at: <http://tiny.cc/h90ca>.

**A Rainbow of Resources** (Washington Blade) Discussing a new contract between CFSA and KidsPeace to provide foster homes for LGBTQ foster children. Available at: <http://tiny.cc/wdwu8>.

**D.C. Worker Sentenced for “Double-Dipping”** (Washington Examiner) Available at: <http://tiny.cc/nd1gy>.

**Gray Hires New Juvenile Justice Chief** (Washington Examiner) Available at: <http://tiny.cc/htb6n>.

**Profile on Youth Villages** (NY Times) A two-part profile of mental health service provider Youth Villages and its approach. “A Families-First Approach to Foster Care” can be accessed at <http://tiny.cc/nkwdg>. “A Network of Support” can be accessed at <http://tiny.cc/8ywki>.

**Should Child Welfare Hearings be Public?** (Washington City Paper) Available at: <http://tiny.cc/aurbz>.

**Child Pornography Cases Rise Dramatically in D.C. Area, U.S.** (Washington Examiner) Available at: <http://tiny.cc/gkzmg>.

**Officials Push to Combat Cyber-Bullying** (Washington Examiner) Available at: <http://tiny.cc/ukgwq>.

**Obamas and the White House Focus on Antibullying Efforts** (NY Times) Available at: <http://tiny.cc/d1afg>.

**Negative Factors in Class Adversely Affect Kids’ Mental Health** ([www.themedguru.com](http://www.themedguru.com)) Available at: <http://tiny.cc/jm449>.

**Shaken-Baby Syndrome Faces New Questions in Court** (NY Times) Available at: <http://tiny.cc/w1yga>.

**States Prosecute Fewer Teenagers in Adult Courts** (NY Times) Available at: <http://tiny.cc/flin9>.

## Education News (Local and National)

**Evaluation of D.C. Teachers is a Delicate Conversation** (Washington Post) Available at: <http://tiny.cc/mnqy7>.

**District Investigates Special-Ed School [Rock Creek Academy]** (Washington Post)

Available at: <http://tiny.cc/2vvka>.

**Panel Members Worried about Selection Process for New D.C. Schools Chancellor** (Washington Examiner)

Available at: <http://tiny.cc/uqxmz>.

**DCPS Receives Record Number of Applications for School [Out-of-Boundary] Lottery** (Washington Examiner)

Available at: <http://tiny.cc/sl8ok>.

## Other News (Local and National)

**D.C. Ranks At the Top of Medicaid Costs** (WAMU) Available at: <http://tiny.cc/fs5z6>.

**D.C. Could Limit Hours on Student Transit Passes** (Washington Examiner) Available at: <http://tiny.cc/szucs>.

**Gap Between Rich and Poor in D.C. Metro Area Widens** (Washington Examiner)  
Available at: <http://tiny.cc/i0a64>.

**Study: Diet May Help ADHD Kids More than Drugs** (NPR) Available at: <http://tiny.cc/dkcns>.

## Reports and Publications

### CHILD WELFARE

#### **NRCPPFC Information Packet: Bullying and the Child Welfare System**

This resource from the National Resource Center for Permanency and Family Connections provides information on bullying, and was recently updated to include discussion of cyber-bullying, as well as statistics and information on bullying and LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning) youth. It explores characteristics of bullies and victims, and explains why bullying is an important and relevant topic in child welfare. It offers steps families and child welfare professionals can take to provide help, as well as an array of resources on the subject of bullying. Available at: <http://tiny.cc/0r87j>.

### JUVENILE JUSTICE

#### **New Publication: *The Connector***

*The Connector: Working Together for Multi-System Youth* is an electronic quarterly from Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps and the Center for Juvenile Justice Reform at Georgetown University's Public Policy Institute that will present cutting edge information about multi-system youth and the cross system efforts designed to better meet their needs. It will include information about new initiatives, model programs, research, and important policy updates – spanning the child welfare and juvenile justice systems, as well as the related systems of substance abuse, mental health, and education. The Connector is available at: <http://tiny.cc/ixfcr>.

#### **Improving Outcomes for Youth in the Juvenile Justice System**

In this report, the National Center for Youth Law describes the workings of the Alameda County's Collaborative Mental Health Court, its participants, and the results the Court has seen since it began in 2007. The report is available at: <http://tiny.cc/wt3dm>.

#### **New Report Describes Legislation To Remove Youth From the Adult Justice System**

The Campaign for Youth Justice recently released a report, *State Trends: Legislative Changes from 2005 to 2010 Removing Youth from the Adult Criminal Justice System*. The report explains the dangers of placing youth in the adult justice system and describes 27 pieces of legislation enacted in 15 states in the past 5 years to keep youth out of adult courts, jails, and prisons. The full report is available at: <http://tiny.cc/t62rt>.

## Reports and Publications (cont.)

### LGBTQ YOUTH

#### **Facilitating Discussion of Transgender Issues: A Primer**

This PowerPoint Presentation by Dr. Gerald P. Mallon, DSW, Director of the National Resource Center for Permanency and Family Connections, provides information on strategies that are useful in creating an environment conducive to discussion of transgender issues with adolescents. It addresses the following topics: active demonstration of transgender awareness and sensitivity; routinely screening for gender concerns; dilemmas in diagnosis of gender concerns in adolescence; and conducting a detailed trans-inclusive psychosocial evaluation. Available at: <http://tiny.cc/y02qe>.

#### **Sticks and Stones Can Break Your Bones: The Bio-Psycho-Social Consequences of LGBT Bullying**

This PowerPoint Presentation by Dr. Gerald P. Mallon, DSW, Director of the National Resource Center for Permanency and Family Connections, provides information on bullying, focusing on bullying and LGBTQ youth and discussing the impact of bullying and harassment on the education and mental health of LGBTQ youth. It provides information on what we can do to help, as well as additional resources. Available at: <http://tiny.cc/ua9z1>.

#### **Struggling to Survive: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer/Questioning Homeless Youth on the Streets of California**

The purpose of this issue brief from the California Homeless Youth Project is to highlight the challenges faced by LGBTQ homeless youth in California based on an in-depth review of existing research on this population, including a recently released report from the Hollywood Homeless Youth Partnership, as well as a series of interviews conducted with LGBTQ homeless youth and service providers throughout the state. These narratives support the existing research and highlight the policy recommendations found in the literature. The unique and challenging circumstances faced by these youth strongly suggest the need for targeted state policy attention and intervention. Available at: <http://tiny.cc/7t85h>.

### PARENTS

#### **You Are Not Alone: An Empowering Guide for Parents Whose Children are in Foster Care**

This guide was written by parents for parents and published by Parents Helping Parents—The Roundtable of Support, Inc. and Family Nurturing Center of Massachusetts, Inc. The guide includes stories and quotes from parents and also provides information on the following topics: *Answering First Questions; Helping Yourself Helps Your Child; Learning Quickly: The First Day; Visiting Your Child; Making Decisions about Your Child's Care; Managing Your Case; Understanding the Legal System; Working with DCF; Creating Your Service Plan; and Resources and Tools*. Available at: <http://tiny.cc/krijag>.

#### **Rise Magazine (March 2011)**

This issue features *A Guide to Show Parents They Are Not Alone*, a discussion of a parent's experiences with the child welfare system, and her work to develop the guide. Available at: <http://tiny.cc/gmnbo>.

#### **Engaging Fathers in Child Welfare Web Conference – Archived Webinar**

This archived webinar features Mr. Randy A. Jenkins, MSW, a national expert on engaging fathers in child welfare, and two father panelists. The training focuses on father engagement; father engagement and assessment; stories of non-custodial fathers in the child welfare system; discussion of the results of a group study of social workers who have engaged fathers; and discussion of focus group results of fathers who have been engaged by social workers. Available at: <http://tiny.cc/y4tir>.

## Reports and Publications (cont.)

### HEALTH

#### **Who are America's Poor Children? Examining Health Disparities among Children in the United States**

This report from the National Center for Children in Poverty draws on the National Health Interview Survey and the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey to provide an overview of the health of America's children by poverty status from 2007 to 2009. To assess health disparities between poor and non-poor children, it identifies a list of publicly available annual indicators within the broad domains of health: environmental health, health insurance coverage, access to healthcare services, behavior, and health outcomes. Report available at: <http://tiny.cc/6mwzy>.

#### **REMINDER for CCAN PANEL**

Children's Law Center **HELPLINE** provides CCAN attorneys with legal information and assistance.

- Staffed by CLC 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 4) — Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

## Upcoming Trainings and Events

#### **Meet the Mayor and D.C. Council Chair**, sponsored by D.C. Bar D.C. Affairs Section

Thursday, April 7, 2011 from 12:30-2:00 PM — Wiley Rein LLP, 1776 K Street, NW, Main Conference Room  
*What do the newly elected leaders of the District of Columbia have as their goals and priorities over the next four years? How will the fiscal constraints on the District impact on District policies and programs? Come meet Mayor Vincent C. Gray and D.C. Council Chairman Kwame R. Brown and hear them talk about their goals and agendas for the District government and their perspectives on the future of our City. FREE.*

#### **Children's Law Center Advanced GAL Training**

Friday, April 8, 2011 from 10:00 AM-4:00 PM — D.C. Superior Court, Room 3300  
*Topics include: "Pre-Trial Motion Practice for GALs," "Brown Bag Lunch and Discussion: How Can You Do That Work? Strategies for Surviving GAL Practice," "Strategies for Representing Emancipating Youth," and "Advocacy Tools for School Discipline Issues." Interested CCAN attorneys should RSVP to Nancy Drane at [ndrane@childrenslawcenter.org](mailto:ndrane@childrenslawcenter.org) or 202-467-4900 ext. 502.*

#### **Substance Use and Adolescents – The Impact of Substance Use on the Adolescent Brain, Consequences of Use and Treatment Options**, sponsored by Youth For Tomorrow & North Spring Behavioral Healthcare

Friday, April 8, 2011 from 11:00AM – 1:00PM — Youth For Tomorrow, 11835 Hazel Circle Drive, Bristow, VA  
*Speakers include Cindy Blanton, CSAC, NCAC & Patricia Schneeman, LSATP. Please RSVP to Diane Creech at 703-297-5791 or at [diane.creech@psysolutions.com](mailto:diane.creech@psysolutions.com) or Terry R Tinsley, PhD at [ttinsley@yftva.com](mailto:ttinsley@yftva.com) to ensure a place at this informative training session. Lunch is provided!*

## Upcoming Trainings and Events (cont.)

### **D.C. Bar Family Law Section Courthouse Meeting: Innovative Court Programs in Domestic Relations,**

*sponsored by the D.C. Bar Family Law Section*

Tuesday, April 12, 2011 from 12:30-1:30 PM — D.C. Court of Appeals, 430 E Street, N.W., Multi-Purpose Room  
Join representatives from the Family Court Self-Help Center, the PAC Program, the Office of the Parent Coordinator and the Attorney Negotiator Program to discuss these helpful initiatives in the Domestic Relations Branch. As an event in the Courthouse Meeting series, please feel free to bring your own lunch.

### **Strategies to Support School Stability and Continuity – Part 2**

Tuesday, April 12, 2011 at 2:30 PM EDT -- WEBINAR

*This free webinar is the second session in a two-part series on school stability and continuity and will focus on collaborative strategies with two key partners: education and courts. They'll highlight a variety of strategies that involve collaboration with education systems and hear about collaborations with courts and the role courts can play in promoting educational stability and continuity for children in child welfare. Additional information (including a rebroadcast of the first session) and registration is available at: <http://tiny.cc/geaqq>.*

### **Answers to Frequently Asked Questions About the D.C. Rules of Professional Conduct,** *sponsored by D.C. Bar*

Thursday, April 14, 2011 from 9:30-11:45 AM — D.C. Bar, 1101 K St. NW

*Find out what issues your colleagues are calling the D.C. Bar about and learn practical solutions under the D.C. Rules of Professional Conduct. FEE = \$89 or \$99 (depending on membership). [Register at www.dcb.org](http://www.dcb.org).*

### **Effective Writing for Lawyers Workshop,** *sponsored by D.C. Bar*

Friday, April 15, 2011 from 9:30AM-4:30PM — D.C. Bar, 1101 K St. NW

*This essential course for new or seasoned attorneys teaches participants how to recognize and correct common writing problems. Through a series of interactive exercises, you will learn how to fix those problems and make dull and bureaucratic language clear and concise. You also will learn about the writing process, including how to edit. The course includes 10 tips for turning ordinary writing into crisp, sharp and convincing prose. This class will help you communicate more effectively with your clients and others in the legal process. Class is limited to 24 registrants. FEE = \$279 or \$289 (depending on membership). Register at [www.dcb.org](http://www.dcb.org).*

### **Monthly Family Court Training: Expert Witnesses in Neglect and Juvenile Matters**

Wednesday, April 20, 2011 from 4:30-6:00 PM — D.C. Superior Court, Juror's Lounge

*Judge J. Michael Ryan will head up a panel to discuss this issue. He asks that all attendees read Jones v. U.S., 990 A.2d 970 (D.C. 2010) in advance. The case is available at: <http://tiny.cc/x16al>.*

### **Child Abuse Prevention Month Policy Forum,** *sponsored by CFSA and The Washington Children's Foundation*

Thursday, April 21, 2011 from 9:00AM-12PM — National Press Club, 529 14<sup>th</sup> St. NW

*The event, part of Child Abuse Prevention Month, will feature experts presenting from national and local perspectives. District policymakers and leaders from both the public and private sectors can engage with a panel of experts to explore: the latest research about effective prevention efforts; innovative practices from across the nation; and implications for new local policy directions. FREE. Register at: <http://tiny.cc/p8awr>.*

### **Meet the Press,** *sponsored by the D.C. Bar D.C. Affairs Section*

Thursday, April 21, 2011 from 12:00-1:30 PM — Wiley Rein, 1750 K St. NW, East Conference Room

*Join the most seasoned members of the D.C. press core as they engage in a lively discussion of what's hot in D.C. politics, government and business and make predictions for the upcoming news year. The panel will consist of: Harry Jaffe, Washingtonian Magazine; Davis Kennedy, Current Newspapers; Mike DeBonis, Washington Post; Nikita Stewart, Washington Post; Tom Sherwood, NBC News Channel 4; and Alan Suderman, Washington City Paper. Registration information (including fee) will be available soon at [www.dcb.org](http://www.dcb.org).*

## Upcoming Trainings and Events (cont.)

**What Every Lawyer Should Know About Immigration Law Series**, sponsored by the D.C. Bar  
 Tuesdays—April 26 and May 3, 10 and 17, 2011 from 5:30-8:45 PM — D.C. Bar, 1101 K St. NW  
*Part 1 (April 26) will focus on Immigration Law Overview and Family-Based Immigration Law. Part 2 (May 3) will focus on Employment-Based Immigration: Nonimmigrant Visas. Part 3 (May 10) will focus on Employment-Based Immigration: Immigrant Visas, Corporate Compliance, and Ethical Considerations in Immigration Law. Part 4 (May 17) will focus on Overview of Immigration Litigation, Asylum and Humanitarian Relief.* FEE = \$249 or \$269 for entire series or \$89 or \$99 for individual sessions (depending on membership). More specific information about each session and registration is available at: [www.dcbar.org](http://www.dcbar.org).

**Domestic Relations Branch Bench-Bar Dialogue**, sponsored by the D.C. Bar Family Law Section  
 Thursday, April 28, 2011 from 5:30-8:00 PM — Arnold & Porter LLP, 555 12th St. NW  
*Join Judicial Officers from the D.C. Superior Court Domestic Relations Branch and other family law practitioners for a discussion of the state of the domestic relations docket.* Registration information will soon be available at: [www.dcbar.org](http://www.dcbar.org).

**Advanced Effective Writing for Lawyers Workshop**, sponsored by D.C. Bar  
 Friday, April 29, 2011 from 9:30AM-1:45PM — D.C. Bar, 1101 K St. NW  
*This hands-on writing course will delve into style and editing problems that are critical to legal writing. The course will focus on organization and grammatical problems that arise in legal writing and emphasize skills such as opening with clear and compelling language to engage your audience, choosing the right words to convey precise meaning, using topic sentences and transitions to guide readers, and using rhythm and tone to enhance your writing. Students will edit their own writing samples as they learn to apply these techniques. To participate in the course, students must bring samples (preferably unedited by someone else) of their own writing to the course. Course instructors may look at the samples, but the samples will not be shared with other students. Class is limited to 20 registrants.* FEE = \$209 or \$229 (depending on membership). Register at [www.dcbar.org](http://www.dcbar.org).

**Healing the Hurt: Help for Traumatized Children**, sponsored by Adoptions Together  
 Friday, April 29, 2011 from 9:00 AM-4:00 PM — Owen Brown Community Center, 6800 Cradlerock Way, Columbia, MD 21045 (see [www.owenbrowncommunityassociation.org](http://www.owenbrowncommunityassociation.org))  
*Children who have experienced trauma and disrupted attachments can present with a complex array of psychological and behavioral issues that require a comprehensive relationship-based treatment approach. This workshop will provide participants with an overview of an evidence-based, effective, and empirically validated form of treatment for children with complex trauma and reactive attachment disorder: Dyadic Developmental Psychotherapy. Participants will learn the principles of Attachment Focused Family Therapy and will also be taught specific interventions that can be used in practice. The core components of Dyadic Developmental Psychotherapy provide a framework that can be applied in a number of different settings and at various stages of treatment. Demonstrations, DVD's of treatment sessions, lecture, discussion, and PowerPoint will be used. The workshop will cover: Principles of Dyadic Developmental Psychotherapy; Creating the Capacity for Healthy Attachment; Establishing the Foundation for Treatment Success; Phases of Treatment; Differential Use of Treatment Components; Specific Treatment Techniques and Strategies Across Settings. Conference Speaker: Arthur Becker-Weidman, Ph.D., the Director of the Center for Family Development in Williamsville, New York where he practices Dyadic Developmental Psychotherapy, an evidence-based attachment focused treatment method for families struggling with attachment challenged children. Free parking available in community center parking lot. FEE = \$99/individual (includes CEUS); Agencies/organizations registering 3 or more individuals will receive a \$15 discount per person. Fee includes continental breakfast, lunch, all supplies and materials. Register at: <http://tiny.cc/krskd>.*

## Save the Date

### **Best Practices: Tax Issues**, sponsored by the D.C. Bar Family Law Section

Thursday, May 5, 2011 from 6:00-8:00 PM — D.C. Bar, 1101 K Street NW

*Tax law for domestic relations practitioners.* Registration information will soon be available at: [www.dcbar.org](http://www.dcbar.org).

### **D.C. Bar Family Law Section Courthouse Meeting: Best Practices with Psychological Evaluations**, sponsored by the D.C. Bar Family Law Section

Friday, May 6, 2011 from 12:30-1:30 PM — D.C. Superior Court, Room 3300

*FREE. No registration required. As an event in the Courthouse Meeting series, please feel free to bring your own lunch.*

### **Basic Estate Planning Series**, sponsored by D.C. Bar

Mondays, May 9, 16 and 23, 2011 from 6:00-9:15 PM — D.C. Bar, 1101 K St. NW

*Part 1 (May 9) will focus on basic will and estate planning for the single person or for a couple with an estate valued at less than the federal applicable credit amount equivalent. Part 2 (May 16) will address the will and estate plan for a married couple with a combined taxable estate ranging between \$2-7 million. Part 3 (May 23) will look at the will and estate plan for the senior surviving spouse with surviving children and grandchildren who has an estate in excess of the federal applicable credit amount equivalent and who may be contemplating remarriage. FEE = \$179 or \$199 for entire series or \$89 or \$99 for individual sessions (depending on membership). Register at [www.dcbar.org](http://www.dcbar.org).*

### **Ethics and Pro Bono: Remaining Ethical While Doing Good**, sponsored by D.C. Bar

Wednesday, May 11, 2011 from 9:30-11:45 AM — D.C. Bar, 1101 K St. NW

*The D.C. Rules of Professional Conduct have numerous provisions that are particularly relevant to attorneys handling pro bono matters. From the applicability of rules requiring written fee agreements to dealing with pro se litigants or impaired clients to conflict-of-interest issues, our faculty members will help you better understand your ethical obligations. Using hypothetical scenarios based on actual issues and questions that have been raised by pro bono attorneys, D.C. Bar ethics counsel will give you the tools you need to avoid ethical problems when representing pro bono clients. This class is relevant to any attorney engaged in pro bono work. The issues are also important to those employed by legal services provider organizations. FEE = \$89 or \$99 (depending on membership). Register at [www.dcbar.org](http://www.dcbar.org).*

### **Family Court NITA Training**, sponsored by D.C. Superior Court

May 19-20, 2011 – D.C. Superior Court

*The Family Court will be holding a two-day trial skills training taught by the National Institute of Trial Advocacy (NITA). This will be similar to the NITA training held at the court last year. Applications will be available soon. This training will be open to CCAN and GAL Panel attorneys. In addition, a few slots will go to OAG and CLC attorneys. Preference will go to attorneys who did not attend last year. If there are enough slots available we will accommodate attorneys who want to attend again.*

### **Effective Writing for Lawyers Workshop**, sponsored by D.C. Bar

Friday, May 20, 2011 from 9:30AM-4:30PM — D.C. Bar, 1101 K St. NW

*This essential course for new or seasoned attorneys teaches participants how to recognize and correct common writing problems. Through a series of interactive exercises, you will learn how to fix those problems and make dull and bureaucratic language clear and concise. You also will learn about the writing process, including how to edit. The course includes 10 tips for turning ordinary writing into crisp, sharp and convincing prose. This class will help you communicate more effectively with your clients and others in the legal process. Class is limited to 24 registrants. FEE = \$279 or \$289 (depending on membership). Register at [www.dcbar.org](http://www.dcbar.org).*

## Save the Date (cont.)

### **D.C. Superior Court's First Annual Reunification Day – “Family Celebration Day”**

Saturday, June 4, 2011

*The court, along with CFSA, will host Family Celebration Day, the first D.C. court and agency sponsored event to recognize the achievements of families who have successfully reunified with their children. This local event is part of a series of events taking place across the country in recognition of reunified families formerly involved in the child welfare system. You can find more information on the National Reunification Day at:*

*<http://tiny.cc/5k8wm>. Family Celebration Day will involve a picnic, games for children, and brief speeches from city dignitaries. More information on this event will be available soon.*

### **D.C. Bar Family Law Section Courthouse Meeting: Legislative Update**, sponsored by the D.C. Bar Family Law Section

Friday, June 10, 2011 from 12:30-1:30 PM — D.C. Superior Court, Room 3300

*FREE. No registration required. As an event in the Courthouse Meeting series, please feel free to bring your own lunch.*

### **Monthly Family Court Training: Overview of Mental Illness**

Wednesday, June 15, 2011 from 4:30-6:00 PM — D.C. Superior Court, Juror's Lounge

*Dr. Sonali Mahajan will head up a panel to discuss this issue.*

### **D.C. Bar Family Law Section Courthouse Meeting: Domestic Violence Bench-Bar Dialogue**, sponsored by the D.C. Bar Family Law Section

Friday, June 10, 2011 from 12:30-1:30 PM — D.C. Court of Appeals, Historic Courthouse, 430 E Street, N.W., Multi-Purpose Room

*FREE. No registration required. As an event in the Courthouse Meeting series, please feel free to bring your own lunch.*