

Keeping Current

A monthly newsletter for CCAN attorneys | Published by Children's Law Center | January 2018

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Upcoming Events

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!

My School DC Training, Monday, January 22, 2018 from 3:00pm to 4:30pm at Children's Law Center (501 3rd Street, NW, 8th Floor)

My School DC is the single, common lottery used to determine school placement for PK3-12th grade students for DCPS schools and the majority of the city's public charter schools. On January 22nd from 3:00-4:30, we will be joined by Aryan Bocquet, Director of Partnerships and Engagement for My School DC, to learn the ins and outs of the lottery system and the way the lottery's algorithm works, who needs to apply to the lottery, and key deadlines for the lottery and school enrollment. This is a practical training for all GALs and parents' attorneys who navigate the DC school system in some capacity.

To RSVP, please email trainings@childrenslawcenter.org by Friday, January 19th. However, if you do not RSVP you are still welcome to attend!

Half-Day Education Training: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 from 9:30am-2:00pm at D.C. Superior Court, Conference Room 4440

9:30 AM – 10:30 AM: Effective Secondary Transition Planning for Students with Disabilities

This training will cover the legal framework for secondary transition planning for students with disabilities under the IDEA as well as discuss effective advocacy strategies in developing transition plans. It will also discuss what evaluations to request in developing a transition plan and services for students with disabilities.

Presenter: Maria Blauer, Director of Programs and Outreach, Advocates for Justice and Education

10:45 AM – 11:45 AM: Secondary Transition Services for DCPS and Charter School Students

This session will cover the different secondary transition services offered to DCPS and Charter School students.

Presenters: Rebecca L. Foster, DC Special Education Cooperative and Presenter TBD, DCPS Transition Team

12:00 PM – 12:30 PM – Uniform Order on Appointment of Educational Decision-Maker/Surrogate Parent

This session will review changes to the uniform order regarding the appointment of new educational decision-maker or surrogate parent in abuse and neglect cases.

Presenters: Megan Dho, Supervisor of Education and Child Care, CFSA, and Rebeca Aulie, Child Find Field Coordinator, Early Stages

12:45 PM – 1:45 PM: 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: Bridget Koza, senior education attorney, Children’s Law Center

To RSVP, please email trainings@childrenslawcenter.org by Monday, February 19th. 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

[Racial Inequities in the Washington, DC Region 2011-15](#) (Urban Institute, December 2017)

“The Washington, DC, region is increasingly diverse and prosperous, offering many opportunities to its residents. Yet, decades of systemic racism and discriminatory policies and practices have produced significant inequities in education, income, employment, and housing for people of color—the majority in the region. These inequities are not confined to one jurisdiction, they exist within all jurisdictions in the region. A DC region with greater inclusion will expand the economy and increase the skills and training of the workforce. To make progress, this brief defines the inequities and shows what equity would mean for residents of color across the region.”

[Racial Inequalities in Prince George’s County: 2011-15](#) (Urban Institute, December 2017)

“Prince George’s County, Maryland, faces a challenge in overcoming the racial and ethnic inequities in education, income, employment, and homeownership that differ by outcome and by council districts. This brief measures inequities by race and ethnicity in Prince George’s County and its council districts and provides a profile on what racial equity would look like in the county. Quantifying this information will help agencies, policymakers, and advocates recognize the community’s needs and to build new solutions and create a more equitable county.”

[Transitions to Adulthood: Succeeding in College](#) (American Institutes for Research, December 2017)

“At 21, many foster youth ‘age out’ of financial benefits and supports from the child welfare system—before they even finish college. Given the challenges they face, it’s not surprising that only 3 to 10 percent of them earn undergraduate degrees compared with 34 percent of young adults who weren’t in foster care. What can states do to ensure foster youth have the support they need to graduate from college? In this blog post, Patricia Campie provides an overview of the educational challenges foster students face in the transition to college.”

[Equity Starts Early: Addressing Racial Inequities in Child Care and Early Education Policy](#) (The Center for Law and Social Policy, December 2017)

This report “explores these critical racial equity issues in major early childhood programs, policies, and systems, including CCDBG, Head Start, and state pre-kindergarten programs. It provides demographic and historical context for creating racially equitable early childhood policies and analyzes policy issues related to access,

quality, and the early childhood workforce. Finally, the report offers state and federal policy strategies that can begin to address inequities.”

News

Local

[Can home health visits help keep people out of the ER?](#) (NPR, 1/2/18)

[DC youth detention emerges as model of improvement, but struggles persist](#) (USA Today, 12/30/17)

[Is DC's '80/20' attendance rule unfair to students?](#) (The Washington Post, 12/29/17)

[Ballou parents say graduation controversy shows schools need more support](#) (WAMU, 12/20/17)

[Appeals court expands public access to oral arguments with live audio streaming](#) (The Washington Post, 12/19/17)

[At Bright Beginnings, homeless parents get some useful job-seeking advice](#) (The Washington Post, 12/19/17)

[Advocates press DC Council to restrict access to some court records](#) (The Washington Post, 12/14/17)

[This website will help DC homeless youth connect to resources](#) (Street Sense Media, 12/13/17)

[Judge blasts District's handling of Medicaid contracts, orders reevaluation](#) (The Washington Post, 12/13/17)

[DC Council toughens shelter eligibility rules for the homeless](#) (The Washington Post, 12/5/17)

National

[US Supreme Court sides with Florida's program protecting child](#) (ABC 27, 1/3/18)

[Telemedicine helps pediatricians better identify mental illness in children](#) (News Wise, 1/3/18)

[How the news media distorts black families](#) (The Washington Post, 12/29/17)

[How racism may cause black mothers to suffer the death of their infants](#) (WAMU, 12/20/17)

[Restrictions on foster parents loosened to allow more normal experiences for children](#) (Times Free Press, 12/17/17)

[More than 20 states in 2017 consider laws to promote shared custody of children after divorce](#) (The Washington Post, 12/11/17)

[Treating anxiety in children](#) (The New York Times, 12/11/17)

[When immigration detention means losing your kids](#) (WAMU, 12/8/17)

[US inner-city children suffer 'war zone' trauma](#) (BBC News, 12/7/17)

[Making it harder to fail than pass can improve student engagement](#) (Education DIVE, 12/7/17)

[Research says juveniles need their own Miranda Rights](#) (Governing, 12/17)

CLC Trainings Schedule 2017-2018

Half and Full-Day Trainings

- 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 Webinars

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