

The Pursuit of Permanency: The First 90 Days

June 11–12, 2020

Presented by the University of San Diego School of Law's Children's Advocacy Institute

Sponsored by the Judicial Council of California

Course Overview

This unique 12-hour training will provide valuable information and insights on promising and effective practices and strategies to accelerate permanency and improve permanency outcomes, with a special focus on the first 90 days of a child welfare case. This training is intended for judicial officers, attorneys, child welfare professionals, probation officers, tribal representatives and advocates, community advocates, CASAs, and others.

Agenda

June 11, 2020: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

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| 8:00–8:05 | Welcome / Overview of Training Program |
| 8:05–10:05 | Cornerstone Advocacy Training <i>Michele Cortese, Center for Family Representation</i> <i>Rebecca Ingerman, Children's Law Center of California</i> |
| 10:05–10:15 | Break |
| 10:15–12:15 | Cornerstone Advocacy Training (cont'd) |
| 12:15–12:30 | Break |
| 12:30–2:30 | Improving Dependency Court Performance and Accelerating Permanency <i>Panelists Hon. Marian Gaston, Carolyn Griesemer, Adam Reed, Caitlin Rae, Alice Kennedy, Sarah Pauter; moderated by Christina Riehl</i> |
| 2:30–2:40 | Break |
| 2:40–3:40 | Improving Dependency Court Performance and Accelerating Permanency (cont'd) |
| 3:40–4:40 | Strategies/Efforts/Advocacy in the First 90 Days: Ethical Considerations <i>Panelists Hon. Marian Gaston, Carolyn Griesemer, Adam Reed, Caitlin Rae, Alice Kennedy, Sarah Pauter; moderated by Christina Riehl</i> |
| 4:40–5:00 | Participant feedback re Day 1 curriculum |

June 12, 2020: 8:00 am - 12:15 pm

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| 8:00–9:30 | Population-Specific Permanency Issues <i>Antonia Torres, County of San Diego Health & Human Services Agency</i> <i>Sue Abrams, Children's Law Center of California</i> |
| 9:30–9:35 | Break |
| 9:35–11:05 | How Recent Policy Changes (Family First, CCR) Effect Permanency <i>Jennifer Rodriguez, Youth Law Center</i> |
| 11:05–12:05 | Identifying and Addressing Bias and How it Impacts Permanency Efforts <i>David Meyers, Dependency Legal Services</i> |
| 12:05–12:15 | Participant feedback re Day 2 curriculum/closing remarks |

The University of San Diego School of Law is a State Bar of California-approved MCLE provider and this event has been approved for 10 hours of general MCLE credit hours, 1.0 hour of Legal Ethics MCLE credit and 1.0 hour of Elimination of Bias MCLE credit.

The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this program are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Judicial Council.

The Judicial Council of California, Center for Families, Children & the Courts (CFCC), provider number 58804, is approved by the California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists (CAMFT) to sponsor continuing education for licensees of the California Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS). The Pursuit of Permanency: The First 90 Days” provided by the Children’s Advocacy Institute at the University of San Diego School of Law, maintains responsibility for this program/course and its content.

Registration/Refund/Cancellation Policy. *This program is provided free by the Judicial Council of California Center for Families, Children & the Courts. Because no fees are charged to participants, the program does not require a refund policy. Those who register for the program and later find they cannot attend are asked only to notify Elisa Weichel at eweichel@sandiego.edu prior to the training date.*

Grievances. *If a program participant has a complaint, the participant may contact Program Lead Kathleen O’Neill at kathleen.o’neill@jud.ca.gov or 916-643-4671, who will provide a grievance form on which the complainant will be asked to provide the title, date and location of the program, as well as specific details of the grievance and any requested remedy. The Program Lead or other agency representative will respond to the grievance within 21 days.*

Accessibility. *The Judicial Council of California, Center for Families, Children & the Courts supports the Americans with Disabilities Act, which promotes public accessibility for persons with disabilities. If participants require special equipment or services, they may contact the Administrative Specialist Charina Zalzos at Charina.Zalzos@jud.ca.gov or 415-865-8977.*

Learning Objectives

Cornerstone Advocacy Training:

- Participants will understand the Cornerstone Advocacy approach to visits that speed reunification, well-tailored service plans, placement options that support a child's attachment to their parent, families, culture and community and out of court advocacy opportunities
- Participants will learn to develop legal theories and strategies to advance the objectives of their client and improve timeliness to permanency
- Participants will identify opportunities to make small adjustments in their own practice (all stakeholders)
- Participants will be able to identify next steps in their jurisdiction or among pertinent stakeholders to advance one or more of the Cornerstones, i.e. develop visit host guidelines.

Improving Dependency Court Performance and Accelerating Permanency:

- Participants will learn about the assessment tools used in the screening and intake process to support structured decision-making.
- Participants will learn agency responsibilities with respect to provision of services, risk assessment, ICWA assessment, education assessment and family connections.
- Participants will learn the role of each system participant in ensuring that Indian children are identified in a timely manner to avoid disruptions in case plan and permanency.
- Participants will learn the language of assessment and structured decision making to support collaborative advocacy.
- Participants will add to their advocacy skills by learning important advocacy tools, including collaboration, to use in supporting permanency at the detention hearing.
- Participants will learn about evaluating whether an agency had reason to believe or know a child was an Indian child and met the requirements for emergency removal, and how to advocate for return of an Indian child to parental custody.
- Participants will be reminded of the importance of visitation for parents and children in the path toward permanency.
- Participants will learn how to best utilize mandated timelines to support permanency.
- Participants will add to their advocacy skills by learning important advocacy tools, including collaboration, to use in supporting permanency at the jurisdiction and disposition phases of the case.
- Participants will commit to the tools they will utilize to support permanency.

Strategies/Efforts/Advocacy in the First 90 Days: Ethical Considerations

- Participants will learn how to navigate ethical considerations as they advocate for permanency.

Population-Specific Permanency Issues

- Participants will learn about permanency challenges and opportunities specific to Indian children and families.
- Participants will learn about tools available for Native American families that will help lead to greater permanency.
- Participants will learn about permanency challenges specific to pregnant and parenting youth, older youth, non-minor dependents, and high needs youth.
- Participants will learn how to best advocate for permanency for pregnant and parenting youth, older youth, non-minor dependents, and high needs youth.

How Recent Policy Changes Effect Permanency

- Participants will learn how Continuum of Care Reform impacts permanency advocacy in California.
- Participants will learn about the potential impacts of the Family First Act on prevention services.

Identifying and Addressing Bias and How it Impacts Permanency Efforts

- Participants will learn to identify bias in their own practices and daily lives.
- Participants will learn how to address inherent bias and its impact on permanency for their clients.