



The Maine Judicial Branch Family Division Presents:
From Child Protective to Child Welfare: Redefining the Role of a Child Welfare Professional
October 27th-30th, 2020
Virtual

Tuesday, October 27, 2020

- 8:30-8:45 **Welcome & Introductions**
- *Hon. Jed French, Chief Judge, Maine District Court*
 - *Hon. Rick Lawrence, Deputy Chief Judge, Maine District Court*
- 8:45-9:00 **Conference Kick-Off**
- *Hon. Andrew Mead, Acting Chief Justice, Maine Supreme Judicial Court*
- 9:00-10:00 **Keynote Address: Transforming a Child Protection System into a Child Welfare System**
- *Professor Vivek Sankaran, Esq. Clinical Professor of Law, Child Advocacy Law Clinic, Child Welfare Appellate Clinic, University of Michigan Law School*
- 10:00-10:15 **Break**
- 10:15-11:15 **A View from the Bench**
- *Hon. Rick Lawrence (facilitator), Deputy Chief Judge, Maine District Court*
 - *Hon. Michael Duddy, Judge, Maine District Court*
 - *Hon. Maria Woodman, Judge, Maine District Court*
 - *Hon. John Martin, Judge, Maine District Court*
- 11:15-12:15 **The Removal Hearing: How to Prevent the Unnecessary Separation of Families**
- *Professor Vivek Sankaran, Esq. Clinical Professor of Law, Child Advocacy Law Clinic, Child Welfare Appellate Clinic, University of Michigan Law School*
- 12:15-12:45 **Break**
- 12:45-1:45 **Maine's System's Response to Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children**
- *Jess Bedard, Director of Program Planning and Performance, MECASA*
 - *Elizabeth Ward-Saxl, Executive Director, MECASA*
- 1:45-2:45 **OFI Benefits and Process 101**



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- *Vanessa DeWitt, Training Unit Supervisor, Office for Family Independence, Department of Health and Human Services*
- *Karen Verrell, Regional Policy Specialist, Office for Family Independence*

2:45-3:00

Break

3:00-4:00

Dual System Collaboration in Juvenile Justice and Child Protective Case

- *Hon. Peter Darvin, Judge, Maine District Court*
- *Chris Northrop, Esq., Clinical Professor, University of Maine School of Law*
- *Steve Carey, Esq., Guardian ad Litem, The Carey Law Firm*
- *Tanya Pierson, Esq., ADA, York County District Attorney's Office*
- *Michael Kearney, Esq., AAG, Office of the Attorney General*

Wednesday, October 28th

8:30-9:30

ICWA: The Gold Standard

- *Xi Chen, Esq., AAG, Office of the Attorney General*
- *Alivia Moore, Former Youth in Care*
- *Martha Proulx, Policy and Training Specialist, ICWA Liaison, Office of Child and Family Services*
- *Michael Augustine, Director of Social Services at Penobscot Nation*
- *Lori Jewell, LMSW, Houlton Band of Maliseets ICWA Director*
- *Esther Anne, Policy Associate II, University of Southern Maine*

9:30-10:30

Case Manager 101

- *Liam Shaw, LCSW, MBA, MaineGeneral*

10:30-10:45

Break

10:45-11:45

Family Matters: The Role of Family Matters Cases in Child Welfare Involvement

- *Hon. Brianne Martin, Magistrate, Maine District Court*
- *Karen Dostaler, Esq., AAG, Office of the Attorney General*
- *Lisa Chmlecki, Esq., Rioux, Donahue, Chmlecki, and Peltier, LLC*
- *Debby Willis, Esq., AAG, Department of Health and Human Services, Support Enforcement and Recovery*

11:45-12:15

Break

12:15-1:15

Office of the Attorney General Organizational Update

Aaron Frey, Esq., Attorney General



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- 1:15-2:15 **Educational Stability for Children in Foster Care**
- *Sara DePasquale, Esq., Associate Professor of Public Law and Government, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.*
- 2:15-2:30 **Break**
- 2:30-3:30 **Review of Family First Prevention Services Act**
- *Dr. Todd Landry, Director, Maine Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child and Family Services*
 - *Christine Theriault, Family First Prevention Services Program Manager, Office of Child and Family Services*
- Thursday, October 29th**
- 8:30-9:30 **Collaborating to Achieve Positive Outcomes for Families**
- *Bobbi Johnson, Associate Director of Child Welfare, Office of Child and Family Services, Department of Health and Human Services*
- 9:30-10:30 **Appellate Practice in Child Protection Matters**
- *Julian Richter, Esq., Richter Law*
 - *Meghan Szylvian, Esq., AAG, Office of the Attorney General*
- 10:30-10:45 **Break**
- 10:45-11:45 **Addressing Multi-System Involved Families: Criminal, Protection from Abuse and Protective Custody Cases**
- *Angela Thibodeau, Esq., Holmes Legal Group*
 - *Lucia Hunt, Directing Attorney, Family Law and Victim Rights, Kids Legal, Pine Tree Legal Assistance*
 - *Melissa Martin, Staff Attorney, Pine Tree Legal Assistance*
- 11:45-12:15 **Break**
- 12:15-1:15 **Evictions: Loss of Housing and Its Implications in a Child Welfare Case**
- *Chet Randall, Esq., Deputy Director, Pine Tree Legal Assistance*
 - *Erica Veazey, Esq., Staff Attorney, Pine Tree Legal Assistance*
- 1:15-1:30 **Break**
- 1:30-2:30 **Minor Guardianship as Private Child Protection Action**
- *Deirdre Smith, Esq., Director, Cumberland Legal Aid Clinic*



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- 2:30-3:30 **Humanitarian Pathways to Lawful Immigration Status**
- *Phil Mantis, Esq., Legal Director, Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project (ILAP)*
- Friday, October 30th**
- 8:30-9:30 **Children’s Behavioral Health Developments, Services, and Options**
- *Dr. Todd Landry, Director, Maine Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child and Family Services*
 - *Elissa Wynne, Associate Director, Children's Development & Behavioral Health*
- 9:30-10:30 **Child Protective Appellate Updates**
- *Hunter Umphrey, Esq., AAG, Office of the Attorney General*
 - *Amy McNally, Esq., Woodman Edmands Danylik Austin Smith & Jacques, P.A*
- 10:30-10:45 **Break**
- 11:00-12:00 **Ethics Issues in Protective Custody Cases**
- *Justin Andrus, Esq., Special Bar Counsel, Maine Board of Overseers of the Bar*
- 12:00-12:15 **Closing Remarks and Adjournment**
- *Hon. Jed French, Chief Judge, Maine District Court*