



**ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY  
AND CONCILIATION COURTS**

## ***AFCC's Online Training Program***



### **Advanced Issues for Family Law and Dispute Resolution Professionals**

*A 12-hour on-line training program for family law, mental health,  
and dispute resolution professionals.*

**January 16-18, 2024**

#### **Topics Include:**

- Child Sexual Abuse
- Intimate Partner Violence
- Interviewing Children
- Court-Involved Therapy
- Ethics

#### **Training Team**

- Gabrielle Davis, JD
- Lyn Greenberg, PhD
- Mindy F. Mitnick, EdM, MA
- Matthew Sullivan, PhD
- Nancy Ver Steegh, JD
- Jeffrey P. Wittmann, PhD

**AFCC is an international and interdisciplinary association of professionals dedicated to improving the lives of children and families through the resolution of family conflict.**

# Advanced Issues for Family Law and Dispute Resolution Professionals

A 12-hour on-line training program for family law, mental health, and dispute resolution professionals.

**January 16-18, 2024**

This program addresses the challenges often associated with the most intractable family disputes, including intimate partner violence, interviewing children, child abuse/neglect, and new this year, court-involved therapy, and ethical considerations. Presenters will share the latest and most relevant research, while examining the many controversies related to these issues from multiple perspectives.

The program takes place in two segments per day, two hours each. Registration includes access to recordings of all training program sessions.

## Learning Objectives

Participants in this training will be able to:

- Identify four ways that abuse allegations arise during family law cases.
- Distinguish between reliable and unreliable assessments of abuse allegations.
- Apply information about how children disclose sexual abuse.
- Use developmentally appropriate questions in child interviews.
- Apply a continuum of suggestiveness of questions in child interviews.
- Ask children about specific topics relevant to family law cases.
- Recognize the language and logic of coercive control.
- Recognize the similarities and differences between the language of coercive control and the language spoken by professionals in the family court system.
- Respond to common challenges in cases involving coercive control.
- Describe how distinguishing services and roles assists with professional risk management efforts.
- Identify how to record services and roles in court involved cases to facilitate ethical decision-making.
- Describe three ways careful consideration of broad values and considerations when faced with ethical dilemmas can help reduce professional risk.
- Distinguish how court-involved therapists are distinct from other professional roles in family court.
- Discuss ways in which a court-involved therapist can support clients during family litigation without further complicating the overall case.
- Discuss the role of the court-involved therapist in case collaboration.

## Agenda

	Seattle	Chicago	Toronto	Dublin	Barcelona	Tel Aviv
<b>January 16</b>						
Child Sexual Abuse	8am-10am	10am-12pm	11am-1pm	4pm-6pm	5pm-7pm	6pm-8pm
Child Interview	11am-1pm	1pm-3pm	2pm-4pm	7pm-9pm	8pm-10pm	9pm-11pm
<b>January 17</b>						
Intimate Partner Violence	8am-10am	10am-12pm	11am-1pm	4pm-6pm	5pm-7pm	6pm-8pm
Ethics	11am-1pm	1pm-3pm	2pm-4pm	7pm-9pm	8pm-10pm	9pm-11pm
<b>January 18</b>						
Court-Involved Therapy Part I	8am-10am	10am-12pm	11am-1pm	4pm-6pm	5pm-7pm	6pm-8pm
Court-Involved Therapy Part II	11am-1pm	1pm-3pm	2pm-4pm	7pm-9pm	8pm-10pm	9pm-11pm

# Training Team



**Gabrielle Davis, JD**, is an attorney and former national legal policy advisor with the Battered Women's Justice Project. She co-created the SAF<sup>ER</sup> model for DV-informed decision making in matters related to the family and juvenile court systems. Before joining BWJP, she was a Clinical Professor of Law at the University of Toledo College of Law where she founded and directed a domestic violence clinic and taught courses in gender violence and feminist legal theory. She chaired the local DV coordinated community response and fatality review teams, conducted community-based research, and helped shape local domestic violence policy and practice in the civil and criminal justice systems. Her community work has been recognized by numerous awards, including a 2009 Jefferson Award for Public Service and a 2018 Fulbright Specialist designation.



**Lyn R. Greenberg, PhD, ABPP**, has over 30 years' experience working with court-involved children and families. She provides parenting plan coordination, specialized treatment, consultation, training, and expert witness services. She is the lead author and editor of *Evidence-Informed Intervention for Court-Involved Families* and has been recognized by both AFCC and the American Psychological Association for her work. Lyn served on the AFCC Task Force on Court Involved Therapists and serves on the APA Working Group on High Conflict Families.



**Mindy F. Mitnick, EdM, MA**, is a Licensed Psychologist specializing in complex custody evaluations and cases with child abuse allegations. She provides training on the use of expert witnesses in child abuse and divorce cases, effective interviewing techniques with children, interventions in high-conflict divorce, and the impact of psychological trauma. She served on the AFCC Task Force that developed the 2019 Guidelines for Parenting Coordination, the AFCC Task Force on Guidelines for Court-Involved Therapy and was co-chair of the Minnesota Child-Focused Parenting Time Guide Working Group. She is a Past-President of AFCC.



**Matthew Sullivan, PhD**, has been specializing in forensic and clinical work in the Family Courts for over 30 years. He is the author of numerous peer-reviewed articles on topics related to work in high conflict shared custody situations. He is a pioneer in the development of Parenting Coordination role internationally and trains family justice professionals about understanding and intervening in parent-child contact problems in high conflict shared parenting arrangements. He is a past-president of the AFCC. He served on the American Psychological Association Ethics Committee from 2016-2018. He is the co-founder of Overcoming Barriers, Inc., which is a non-profit organization that has developed a variety of innovative programs for high conflict shared custody arrangements.



**Jeffrey Wittmann, PhD**, is a trial consultant whose practice concentrates on trial support for attorneys in custody and access matters and on forensic peer reviews. He serves as a consultant for major law firms nationally and has taught forensic psychology at the doctoral level. Dr. Wittmann is a recognized expert on the intersection of law and psychology. His most recent book is entitled: *Evaluating Evaluations: An Attorney's Handbook for Analyzing Child Custody Reports*.



**Nancy Ver Steegh, JD**, is an Emerita Professor at Mitchell Hamline School of Law in St. Paul, Minnesota. Her publications include articles exploring intimate partner violence in the context of child-related decision making and implications for processes such as mediation, collaborative law, and court system triage. She was a consultant to the Battered Women's Justice Project (BWJP) on the development of SAF<sup>ER</sup>. Prof. Ver Steegh is a member of the Board of Editors of the *Family Court Review* and previously served as President of AFCC. She was the reporter for the AFCC Task Force that developed guidelines for child custody evaluators examining the effects of intimate partner violence on children and parenting.

# General Information

## What's Included?

The registration fee includes live attendance to the program, access to the program materials including recordings and handouts from the presentation, and a certificate of attendance. Each attendee's certificate will reflect the hours viewed live only.

*Note: If you are unable to attend live, recordings of the training programs will be available at a reduced price following the completion of the training programs. Continuing education credit is available only for programs attended live. For information, please contact AFCC at [afcc@afccnet.org](mailto:afcc@afccnet.org) or 608-664-3750.*

## What Equipment Do I Need?

AFCC recommends using a desktop or laptop computer to take full advantage of Zoom's capabilities. This will provide a better viewing experience and will permit access to features not available on the Zoom app on tablets and smart phones. A stable internet connection is imperative for the best viewing experience. If you lose internet service, you may call into the training (call in numbers will be included in your confirmation email) and follow the slides that are available in advance of each program. If you need assistance, please call the AFCC office at 608-664-3750.

A Zoom account is not required if you are simply joining Zoom as a participant. It may, however, be simpler to sign on if you have an account. Please note that you must sign on from your own Zoom account. If you use a Zoom account that is registered in someone else's name, your attendance will not be recorded and AFCC will not be able to issue you a certificate of attendance. To insure you receive proper credit, use a Zoom account associated with the same email address you use for your AFCC profile. You can sign up for a free Zoom account at [zoom.us/signup](https://zoom.us/signup).

## Continuing Education Credits

The Advanced Issues for Family Law and Dispute Resolution Professionals training program is eligible for 12 hours of continuing education for psychologists. AFCC is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. AFCC is recognized by the New York Education Department's State Board for Psychology as an approved provider of continuing education for licensed psychologists #PSY-0190. AFCC maintains responsibility for the program and its content. AFCC will make application for continuing education credits for social workers through the National Association of Social Workers. A certificate of attendance will be provided to all attendees. Attendees may use the AFCC Certificate of Attendance to verify attendance and apply for continuing education in their jurisdiction. Each attendee's certificate will reflect the training hours viewed live only. Other professionals may opt to apply for continuing education credits in their discipline in their jurisdiction by providing their certificate of attendance, the brochure, and any training materials directly to their accrediting body.

## Cancellation Policy

Transfer of registration to another person may be made once, at any time without a fee. All requests for refunds must be made in writing. Written notice of cancellation received by fax, sent, and confirmed by email or postmarked by January 3, 2024, will be issued a full refund minus a \$75 administrative fee. No refunds will be issued for cancellations received after January 3, 2024. AFCC reserves the right to cancel any training or substitute any presenter should circumstances beyond our control arise.

## Time Zones

While it is not possible to schedule all sessions for daylight hours in all countries, recordings will be made available for purchase after the program has concluded. Please contact AFCC at [afcc@afccnet.org](mailto:afcc@afccnet.org) for further information. The certificate of attendance will only include time logged while attending the initial live sessions.

## More Information

For program and registration inquiries, contact AFCC at 608-664-3750 or [afcc@afccnet.org](mailto:afcc@afccnet.org)

# Registration

Join AFCC when you register for the training and save up to \$165! Select "New Membership Special" below.

Register online at [www.afccnet.org](http://www.afccnet.org) or return this completed form with payment.

Please type or print clearly.

(Dr./Mr./Ms./Judge) First Name \_\_\_\_\_ M.I. \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ Degree \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle appropriate amount(s)  
below and total at the bottom

## New Membership Special

Join AFCC\* for 12 months and  
register at AFCC member rates!  
For first-time members only

## Advanced Issues in Child Custody

January 16-18, 2024

**TOTAL:**

**AFCC Member**

**Non-Member**

\$150

\$235

\$400

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*AFCC membership includes an electronic subscription to the AFCC quarterly academic journal, *Family Court Review*, with full online access to all archives. Membership also includes a subscription to the AFCC eNEWS; reduced registration rates for AFCC conferences, webinars, and training programs; access to the online Member Center featuring archived webinars; and the searchable Member Directory. More information is available at [www.afccnet.org](http://www.afccnet.org).

## Payment

Registrations must be paid in full prior to attendance.

Check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed (US currency only, please.)

Charge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to my Visa / MasterCard / American Express / Discover Credit card. Transactions will be processed in US dollars; exchange rate on day of transaction will apply.

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

You may register online at [www.afccnet.org](http://www.afccnet.org) or return the completed form and payment to:

## AFCC

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