



---

## PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

*The Advocacy Institute Is Pleased to Present*

### NAVIGATING JURISDICTIONAL ISSUES IN FCs WITH 18-21 YEAR OLDS

**November 24, 2020  
1:45 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

## WEBINAR

### *Program Summary*

This program will cover the statutory basis for court jurisdiction under the FC docket for continued oversight of young adults involved with DCPD. The presenters will discuss the client's policy regarding continued court oversight and provide examples of our office's attempts to have such matters dismissed, including the issues raised, the arguments made and the resulting outcomes.

### *Eligibility*

This program is only open to Deputy and Assistant Attorneys General in the DCF practice group and DCF agency attorneys invited to attend. Registrants will receive the course materials prior to the program date.

### *Faculty*

**AAG Christian Arnold** is a Deputy Director in the Department of Law and Public Safety's Division of Law. Prior to his current position, AAG Arnold was an Assistant Attorney General in Charge of the DCF Practice Group. He was previously an Assistant Section Chief of DCF North, where he represented the Division in both protective services litigation and guardianship matters. AAG Arnold began his legal career as a Deputy Attorney General in the Public Utilities Section of the Division of Law. He is a graduate of Harvard Law School.

**DAG Lisa Rusciano** is the Section Chief of the Department of Children and Families Essex Section of the Division of Law's DCF Practice Group. She was previously an assistant section chief in the Essex Section, and before that, a line deputy practicing in Passaic, Hudson, and Essex Counties. Throughout her employment with the Division, DAG Rusciano has handled all aspects of DCPD litigation at the trial and appellate levels. Prior to joining the Division, she was in private practice, primarily in the areas of family law and criminal defense. DAG Rusciano clerked for the late Hon. Edwin J. Nicklewicz, J.S.C. in Passaic County. She received an undergraduate degree from Rutgers University and received her law degree, magna cum laude, from Seton Hall Law School.

**DAG Lisa Nemeth** is a member of the Department of Children and Families Central Section of the Division of Law's DCF Practice Group, where she handles both FN and FG cases. She has also has briefed and argued cases before the Appellate Division. Prior to joining the DCF practice group, she was in the Tort Litigation Section. Prior to joining DOL, she was in private practice, concentrating in insurance defense litigation. DAG Nemeth was a law clerk in Ocean County for both the Hon. James D. Clyne, P.J.Cv., and the Hon. Robert A. Fall, P.J.F.P. She holds a B.A. from Seton Hall University and a J.D. from Seton Hall Law School.

**DAG Morgan Merkowsky** is a member of the Department of Children and Families Central Section of the Division of Law's DCF Practice Group, where she primarily handles abuse and neglect matters through all stages of litigation, including her own appeals. Prior to joining the Division of Law, DAG Merkowsky clerked for the Honorable Richard J. Nocella, P.J.F.P. She graduated magna cum laude from The College of New Jersey and cum laude from Temple University Beasley School of Law.

### *CLE Credit*

**NJ CLE Credit:** This program has been approved by the Board on Continuing Legal Education of the Supreme Court of New Jersey for 1.5 hours of Alternative Verifiable Learning Format (AVF) total CLE credit. Of these, 0.0 qualify as hours of credit for ethics/professionalism.

### *Registration*

Those who are eligible to apply should use the Zoom Webinar registration link in the Program Announcement email. Students who are registered will receive a confirmation email with a link to access the program.

**Students must download Zoom before the webinar in order for the AGAI to record polling responses that are required for attendance verification and CLE credit.**

The AGAI will be unable to verify attendance or grant CLE credit to students who have not downloaded Zoom before the webinar.