

CHIPS Conference
Sugar Lake Lodge – Grand Rapids MN
September 18 – 20, 2019

Proposed Agenda

Wednesday, September 18, 2019

7:30 am – 8:30 am Registration and Breakfast

8:30 am – 10:30 am CHIPS 101

This session will provide a crash course for attorneys who have 0-3 years of experience doing Child Protection; basic terminology, acronyms, helpful hints and resources will be provided.

Rachel Cornelius, Waseca County Attorney
Susan DeVos, Assistant Blue Earth County Attorney
Breck Rolfsrud, Assistant Blue Earth County Attorney

10:30 am – 10:45 am Break

10:45 am – 12:15 pm Permanency 101

An overview of permanency dispositions along with special considerations, including extensions and creative resolutions.

Rachel Cornelius, Waseca County Attorney
Tracy Harris, Assistant Sherburne County Attorney
Deb Simonson, Assistant Scott County Attorney

12:15 pm – 1:00 pm Lunch

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm Trial Strategy

A nuts and bolts approach to trial preparation, including frequently used motions, forms and group participation brainstorming more ideas for everyone's benefit... everything from identifying witnesses and exhibits to how to get them admitted during your hearing.

John Bowen, Assistant Wright County Attorney
Sherry Haley, Jackson County Attorney

2:30 pm – 2:45 pm Break

2:45 pm – 3:30 pm Post Permanency

This 101 Post-Permanency session will address potential issues that arise after a Termination of Parental Rights or Transfer of Permanent Legal and Physical Custody. Topics addressed will include disruptions in placements, sibling separation, notification of relatives, extended foster care and Northstar Policy and its implications.

Jennifer L. Christensen, Juvenile Division Manager, Carver County Attorney's Office
Lisa Godon, Assistant Hennepin County Attorney

3:30 pm – 4:00 pm Break

Wednesday, September 18, 2019 – Continued

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm CHIPS Potpourri

Panel of attorneys discuss a wide variety of child protection topics, legal issues, and practices through a moderated question and answer format. Participants are encouraged to submit topics and questions, whether unique or common, prior to and during the conference. This is your opportunity to receive input on novel or complicated issues you are facing or just to brainstorm and compare how other counties across the state are handling recurring issues we all face and seek to improve.

Moderator: Maya Tester, Assistant Hennepin County Attorney
Christos Jensen, Assistant Ramsey County Attorney
Amy Olson, Assistant McLeod County Attorney

Thursday, September 19, 2019

7:30 am – 8:30 am Breakfast and Registration

8:30 am – 10:00 am New Legislation, Juvenile Rules Committee, and Case Law Update

Learn about new legislation; gone but not forgotten: bills that will be back next year; amendments to juvenile protection rules and a case law update.

Ann Ahlstrom, Hennepin County Administration
Kathryn Eilers, Assistant Ramsey County Attorney
Erin Johnson, Assistant Washington County Attorney
Paul Regan, Staff Attorney, Legal Counsel Division, State Court

Administrator's Office

10:00 am – 10:15 am Break

10:15 am – 12:00 pm Breakout 1: Case Plans

This session will cover the statutory requirements for case plans in child protection cases. The discussion will include the drafting of case plans that include meaningful goals, the challenges and barriers to case planning, methods for involving parties and documenting the agency's reasonable efforts. As a part of this discussion, the panel will discuss recent case law related to case plans and offer legal strategies to the case planning process to avoid pitfalls and protect your record upon appeal.

Bryce A.D. Ehrman, Assistant Scott County Attorney
Kristin Malin, Child Protection Supervisor, SW Health & Human Services

Nicole Springstead, Assistant Lyon County Attorney
Sarah Winge, Assistant Aitkin County Attorney

Breakout 2: The Nuts and Bolts of Appellate Practice

This session will provide an overview of appellate practice from drafting a proposed order to withstand an appeal to tips for handling cases at the Court of Appeals and Supreme Court. Some of the topics that will be discussed include post-trial motions and how they impact an appeal, brief writing, preparing for and presenting an oral argument, responding to a petition for review by the Supreme Court, and determining the next steps when a case is remanded to district court. Please come with questions, and we will do our best to answer them.

Kathryn Eilers, Assistant Ramsey County Attorney
Britta Nicholson, Assistant Hennepin County Attorney

Thursday, September 19, 2019 - Continued

10:15 am – 12:00 pm Breakout 3: Examining Critical Incidents in Child Mortality Reviews

Attendees will attain a high-level understanding of Collaborative Safety's model. This model is used to better understand and address systemic improvements related to child maltreatment fatalities and near fatalities. The training will review the transition from an "old view" to a "new view" of child fatality and near fatality reviews, which is trauma-informed and focuses on understanding the "second story," or an in depth understanding of influences that direct decision making in the child welfare system. The training will also address development of creating a safety culture within child welfare, and will inform attendees of the new on-site child fatality and near fatality review process in detail.

Kelly Knutson, MSW, Supervisor, Continuous Quality Improvement, Child Safety and Permanency Division, Minnesota Department of Human Services

12:00 pm – 12:45 pm Lunch

12:45 pm – 2:15 pm Ethics: Data Privacy

This session will discuss data classification, sources, and types of data; data sharing issues that arise with sharing information on multi-disciplinary teams, between programs, and during joint investigations; discovery issues; and how to handle data crossover between simultaneous CHIPS and criminal litigation. If participants have specific questions on these topics, they are encouraged to submit them to the presenters prior to the conference.

**Crysta Parkin, Assistant Dodge County Attorney
Janet Reiter, Chisago County Attorney**

2:15 pm – 2:30 pm Break

2:30 pm – 4:00 pm Breakout 4: Case Plans - Repeats

Bryce A.D. Ehrman, Assistant Scott County Attorney
Kristin Malin, Child Protection Supervisor, SW Health & Human Services
Nicole Springstead, Assistant Lyon County Attorney
Sarah Winge, Assistant Aitkin County Attorney

Breakout 5: Expedited Permanency Matters: When to File, What to File and How to Proceed

This session will focus on Bypass Cases including Egregious Harm, Predatory Offender and Prior Involuntary TPR's/TPLC.

**Gayle Borchert, Assistant Stearns County Attorney
Kari Willis, Assistant Wright County Attorney**

Thursday, September 19, 2019 - Continued

10:15 am – 12:00 pm

Breakout 6: Permanency Oddballs

Jennifer Jackson, Assistant Dakota County Attorney, and Michelle Thompson, Assistant Anoka County Attorney will discuss some of the oddballs of permanency including Guardianship under Minn. Stat. §260C.325 when both parents are deceased, subsequent CHIPS cases after a juvenile transfer of custody long after finalization of a transfer of custody (how to handle the bio parents), disruptions of transfers of custody while pending Northstar approval, how to successfully rule out relatives after the recent December 2018 Court of Appeals opinion In Re the Welfare of the Children of J.L.G., D.M. and J.T.B. (924 N.W.2d 9) and avoid a late relative challenge to the agency's adoptive placement, and contested adoptive placements.

Jennifer Jackson, Assistant Dakota County Attorney

Michelle Thompson, Assistant Anoka County Attorney

4:00 pm – 4:15 pm

Break

4:15 pm – 5:30 pm

Drug and Alcohol Monitoring

Does poppy seed contain morphine? What methods of detection are available, which one should be used and what can they detect? Just what is a negative result and what could it mean? The answer to these questions and more will be provided.

Michelle Johnson, Accounts and Programs Director, Minnesota Monitoring Inc

Friday, September 20, 2019

7:30 am – 8:30 am

Breakfast and Registration

8:30 am – 10:00 am

CHIPS Potpourri

Panel of attorneys discuss a wide variety of child protection topics, legal issues, and practices through a moderated question and answer format from topics and questions, submitted during the conference. This session will include a discussion on IV-E funding.

Moderator: Maya Tester, Assistant Hennepin County Attorney

Amy Olson, Assistant McLeod County Attorney

Christos Jensen, Assistant Ramsey County Attorney

10:00 am – 10:15 am

Break

10:15 am – 12:00 pm

Bias: ICWA

This session will walk through a case from initial report to dismissal, highlighting ICWA requirements and issues the Department and County Attorneys need to be aware of and address. Audience participation will be encouraged and practical handouts/links will be provided.

The Honorable Jamie Cork, First Judicial District

Maya Tester, Assistant Hennepin County Attorney