

NYS Office of Indigent Legal Services announces nominations are now open for the **Ella B. Family Justice Award**. This award recognizes efforts to advance high quality representation for low-income parents and caregivers threatened with the temporary or permanent loss of their children to state custody. See *In Re Ella B.*, 50 N.Y.2d 352 (1972) (establishing the constitutional right of indigent parents to assigned counsel in child welfare proceedings; codified in 1975 in Family Court Act § 262).

Nominees must be attorneys or other advocates (social worker, investigator, parent advocate, legislator, policy advocate, etc.) working to advance high quality representation for low-income parents in proceedings brought against them by a child protection services agency.

The nominee must meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Advancement of high quality representation in accordance with one or more provisions of the NYS Office of Indigent Legal Services Standards for Parental Representation in State Intervention Matters (<https://www.ils.ny.gov/content/parent-representation-standards>)
- Outstanding fidelity to client-centered representation
- Generous collaboration with colleagues to achieve justice for families

Nomination forms and further instructions can be found on the NYS ILS Family Court website: <https://www.ils.ny.gov/node/59>

Nomination packets must be received by
Monday, April 9, 2018

MCLE Credit

NYSDA has been certified by the New York State Continuing Legal Education Board as an Accredited Provider of Continuing Legal Education in the State of New York (2016–2019). This transitional/nontransitional program has been approved in accordance with the requirements of the Continuing Legal Education Board for a maximum of 9.0 credit hours. No CLE credit may be earned for repeat attendance at any accredited CLE activity within any one reporting cycle. Tuition assistance for financial hardship is available. Please contact lmccarthy@nysda.org for more information.

NEW YORK STATE DEFENDERS ASSOCIATION
194 Washington Avenue, Suite 500
Albany, New York 12210-2514

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FAMILIES MATTER

STATEWIDE FAMILY
DEFENDER CONFERENCE

APRIL 20-21, 2018

ALBANY LAW SCHOOL

ALBANY, NEW YORK

Parents' fundamental liberty interest in the companionship, care, custody, and control of their children "does not evaporate simply because they have not been model parents or have lost temporary custody of their child to the State . . . parents retain a vital interest in preventing the irretrievable destruction of their family life."

—Santosky v. Kramer, 455 U.S. 745, 753 (1982)

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P R O G R A M

Friday, April 20, 2018

12:30 pm

Sign In

1:20 - 2:00 pm - Welcoming Remarks

Hon. Karen K. Peters

Former Presiding Justice, Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Third Judicial Department

Martin Guggenheim

Fiorello LaGuardia Professor of Clinical Law, NYU School of Law

2:15 - 3:30 pm - Select One

The Evidence Is In: Advancing Permanency Through

Quality Hearings

Christine Kiesel, NYS Child Welfare Court Improvement Project Coordinator

Family Court Case Law Update

Margaret Burt, private practice, Rochester, NY

3:30 - 3:45 pm - Break

3:45 - 5:00 pm - Select One

Family Court Appeals: Making a Good Record

Kate Woods, Co-Deputy Director of Operation, Legal Assistance of Western New York, Inc. and Saul Zipkin, Appellate Attorney, Family Defense Practice, The Bronx Defenders

A Removal is a Removal: Matter of Elizabeth C.

Rebecca Horvitz Ingeman, Director of Government Affairs and Special Projects, Center for Family Representation and Tracey Orick, Litigation and Trial Attorney, Latham & Watkins, LLP

5:15 - 7:00 pm - Welcome Reception

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Special Conference Rate of \$125 expires March 2, 2018.

Hilton Garden Inn

(Albany Medical Center Hilton, across the street from Albany Law) 62 New Scotland Ave, Albany NY

Call 1-877-782-9444 or 518-596-5500

to make your reservation now!

Group Code: NYSDA

Check In Date: 4/20/18

Check Out Date: 4/21/18

P R O G R A M

Saturday, April 21, 2018

9:00 - 10:15 am - Select One

Preparing Your Neglect Case: Try Everything

Nancy Farrell and Amanda McHenry, Supervising Attorney and Assistant Supervising Attorney, Hiscock Legal Aid Society and Sophia Bernhardt, Senior Staff Attorney, Family Defense Practice, Brooklyn Defender Services

Litigating Permanency

Michelle Burrell and Michael Weinstein, Managing Attorney and Supervising Staff Attorney, Neighborhood Defender Service of Harlem

10:15 - 10:30 am - Break

10:30 - 11:45 am - Select One

The Art of Cross-Examination of CPS and DSS Caseworkers

Laurie Shanks, Clinical Professor of Law, Emerita, Albany Law School

Collaboration: Making Interdisciplinary Practice Work for Your Clients

Jessica Horan-Block, Supervising Attorney, Noemi Cotto, Social Work Supervisor, Dimah Adames-Ortiz, Parent Advocate Supervisor, Family Defense Practice, The Bronx Defenders and Linda Lovell, Assistant Public Defender and Dawn Westfall, LMSW, Cattaraugus County Public Defender's Office

11:45 am - 1:30 pm - Lunch

Ella B. Family Justice Award Ceremony

1:30 - 2:45 pm - Select One

Discovery Is Everything

Bob Ballan, private practice, St. Lawrence County and Kristal Padolina, Senior Staff Attorney, Family Defense Practice, Brooklyn Defender Services

The State Central Register: What Family Court Lawyers Should Know

Christine Gottlieb, Adjunct Professor of Clinical Law, Co-Director, NYU School of Law Family Defense Clinic and Kylee Sunderlin, Senior Staff Attorney, Family Defense Practice, Brooklyn Defender Services

2:45 - 3:00 pm - Break

3:00 - 4:15 pm - Adjournment Session

1983 Actions, Article 78, Habeas Corpus, and the Future of Family Court: Finding Allies and Changing the Law
Linda Gehron, President and CEO, Hiscock Legal Aid Society, Anya Mukarji-Gonnolly, Supervising Attorney, Family Defense Practice, Brooklyn Defender Services and David Lamsner and Carolyn Kubitschek, Partners at Lamsner and Kubitschek

REGISTRATION FORM: Statewide Family Defender Conference - April 20-21, 2018

Please complete this form and return it, along with your payment, one of the following three ways:

- 1. By Mail: NYSDA, 194 Washington Ave, Suite 500, Albany, NY 12210
2. By Fax: 518-465-5249
3. By Email: dgeary@nysda.org - Attach a copy of the fillable portion or scan and send a pdf of your registration form, with credit card information.

Please make check for \$125 payable to NYSDA or complete the credit card authorization below.

Your registration form must be received by March 30, 2018.

NAME: OFFICE:

ADDRESS:

CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE:

TELEPHONE: CELL PHONE: EMAIL:

I am not engaged in the prosecution of FCA Article 10 cases. If you have any special needs, please check box and we will contact you prior to the event.

Please check all that apply: NYSDA Member 18-B Attorney Legal Aid Society Attorney Public Defender Other Family Advocate

To pay by credit card: VISA MasterCard Discover American Express

CARD BILLING ADDRESS:

CREDIT CARD NUMBER: EXP. DATE: /

CARDHOLDER'S SIGNATURE: