

AAL v. amicus duties and forms (.75 hrs MCLE/.5 ethics) Alston

SUSAN GEIGER ALSTON graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education – Secondary English/Language Arts. Upon graduation, Susan taught English and Reading at the secondary level in the Fort Bend Independent School District. While teaching full-time, Susan attended the University of Houston-Victoria from which she obtained a Master of Science Degree in Education – Counseling. While working full-time as a counselor, Susan attended South Texas College of Law where she earned her Doctor of Jurisprudence Degree. Susan brings a unique approach to the practice of family law by combining her counseling experience with her legal experience to assist clients in all areas of family law. Susan is a member of the Texas Bar Association, the Family Section of the Texas Bar Association, and the Galveston County Bar Association. She is also certified as an attorney ad litem and guardian ad litem for children in family law proceedings. She has been appointed to numerous CPS cases by the court.

Ad litem and amicus roles and the ethical obligations and dilemmas created by each role.

Report 2018 Study of Legal Rep in CPS Cases (1 hr MCLE) Moench

Dylan S. Moench joined the Supreme Court of Texas as a Staff Attorney for the Permanent Judicial Commission for Children, Youth and Families in October of 2016. His focus is on improving outcomes for Texas children through projects on parent resources, legal representation, mediation, and the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. Prior to working for the Supreme Court, he worked as a Staff Attorney for the Travis County Office of Child Representation and as a mediator specializing in child welfare mediation. He earned a Juris Doctorate from the University of Texas School of Law in 2003 and Bachelor of Science in Philosophy from the University of Utah in 1999 and he is a National Association of Counsel for Children certified Child Welfare Law Specialist.

This presentation was previously approved for 1 hour of MCLE at the Child Welfare Judges Conference Nov 12-14, 2018.

In 2017, the Texas Legislature passed House Bill 7 which included a requirement to conduct a statewide study and produce a report on legal representation in CPS cases across Texas. Children's Commission Staff Attorney Dylan Moench will give an overview of the survey results, analysis and conclusions, with a focus on recommended take-aways for improving the quality of legal representation.

Finding/Obtaining CPS records (.75 hrs MCLE) DFPS-TJ Wasden

TJ Wasden serves as Director of Records Management Group (RMG) for the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, overseeing more than 150 employees working in multiple offices around the state. TJ holds master's and bachelor's degrees in social work from The University of Texas at Austin.

Previously approved for 1 hour at the 2018 TDCAA Crimes Against Kids seminar. The presentation will focus on open records requests and case records requests, how to request these records, protecting confidential information in un-redacted records, law enforcement information requests and subpoenas.

Video Viewing of *All Rise: for the Good of the Children* Ricketts

Connie Ricketts has a corporate human services background having attended Tyler Junior College and Texas A & M University. She spent the first 10 years of her career in Telecommunications Human Resources in various roles with in the compensation and benefits department garnering the President's Award in 1991. Ms. Ricketts left her career to become involved in the child welfare system beginning in 1992 as a foster parent. Having fostered many children and adopted three from the foster care system Ms. Ricketts turned to volunteering with the local CASA program as a volunteer and also holding board positions including the executive board. She returned to the work force as part of the local CASA program in Collin County in 2000 and later moved into a leadership role in a local CASA Program in Massachusetts in 2006 serving in that role for almost 8 years and has currently been the executive director CASA of Galveston County for 3 years.

A video documentary about the Drug Court created by Judge Carole Clark of Tyler, Texas.

The film chronicles an innovative process for Parents in CPS courts when the core issue is addiction.

Documenting the parents who have successfully had their children returned, the film addresses the court's process and procedures as the parents, CPS workers, Ad Litem Attorneys and service providers work together toward actual addiction recovery as opposed to just quitting substances to regain custody of their children.

The film teaches the shift in thinking and the change in the litigation process in order to be successful for the long term.

The challenges, pitfalls and success stories are presented in a way that will prepare CPS Ad Litem Attorneys for a new more effective way to heal families and return children to their parents.

Authentication & Identification of Social Media Evidence (.5 hrs MCLE) Tillinger

Christina Tillinger has been practicing exclusively family law in the Houston, Galveston, and Brazoria County areas for the past twenty years. Mrs. Tillinger attended The University of Texas and graduated in 1994. From there, she immediately went to law school at South Texas College of Law, graduating with her Doctor of Jurisprudence in 1997. She took the bar exam immediately, and was licensed in November 1997. Christina has assisted parents and children in the CPS system, and has served as Guardian Ad Litem and Amicus Attorney in hundreds of cases over the years. Christina is also a mediator, and has been conducting successful mediations since 1996, while still in law school. Christina is often appointed by the judges in Harris and Galveston counties to represent children in divorces and modification cases, as well as CPS and private adoptions.

I. Variations of Social Media Commonly Used

- A. Facebook
 - B. Instagram
 - C. Snapchat
 - D. WhatsApp
 - E. Others
- II. Privacy Issues in Social Media
- III. Retrieval of Social Media Information, Posts, and Messages
- A. Client retrieval of his/her own SM Information and Documentation
 - 1. Facebook
 - 2. Instagram
 - 3. Snapchat
 - 4. WhatsApp
 - 5. Others
 - B. Obtaining opposing party's SM Information through discovery
 - 1. Facebook
 - 2. Instagram
 - 3. Snapchat
 - 4. WhatsApp
 - 5. Others
- IV. Authentication of Social Media Information and Documentation in Court
- V. Presentation of Social Media Information and Documentation in Court
- VI. Ethical Considerations in Social Media Evidence

Procedures and Scheduling of Galveston County's New CPS Specialty Courts: Teen Court and Drug Court (.5hrs MCLE) Hon Anne Darring
Judge Anne B. Darring practiced family law in Texas City for 25 years before becoming the Family Court Judge. Originally from Mobile, Alabama, the Judge got her Bachelor's Degree with honors from University of Louisiana at Lafayette. Her legal education at South Texas College of Law. After a couple of years with a small firm, Judge Darring opened a Family Law Practice in Texas City where she lives and raised her family.

This session will cover the new specialty courts being implemented in the 306th. This will include the practices and procedures for the already commenced Preparation for Adult Living (PAL)/Teen Court. Additional discussion regarding the model the court intends to use for the Drug Court and useful resources for review by those who anticipate practicing in the Court. This will include discussion of Dr. Karen Purvis TBRI model and the book *The Body Keeps The Score*, by Bessel Van Der Kolk, M.D.

GCADF Adoption Primer/Procedure/Forms (.75 hrs MCLE) Mangle
Christine Mangle has been practicing family law in Galveston County for 25 years. During this time she has received countless cases and has been appointed by multiple courts to serve as Guardian Ad Litem and Amicus Attorney in cases. Christine is often appointed by judges in

Galveston county represent children in divorces and modification cases, as well as CPS and private adoptions.

The presentation will cover the process to file and consummate an adoption of a child/children in the CPS system or who is/are living with a relative (for the Lone Star Legal Aid Petitioner) after termination of all biological parental rights has been completed. The documents required in said cases will be presented and reviewed.

Power of Perception/Positive Impact of Humanizing Justice (.5 hrs MCLE) Moench

See above for bio.

This presentation was previously approved for 1 hour of MCLE at the Child Welfare Judges Conference Nov 12-14, 2018.

Children's Commission Staff Attorney Dylan Moench will discuss the concept of procedural fairness, and why having a humane and fair courtroom process has more impact on the parties than the actual decision.

Adversary, Status and Permanency Hearings In Galveston County and Discussion (.75 hrs MCLE)

Hon Jamie Rawlinson

Judge Rawlinson was appointed to replace Judge Eric Andell. Judge Rawlinson serves as the cluster court judge for Fort Bend, Galveston, and Wharton counties. Judge Rawlinson comes with great experience in the child welfare legal system as she was formerly an Assistant County Attorney representing CPS in Harris County.

A review of the laws applicable to Chapter 262 removal hearings and the requirements for the subsequent statutory hearings. The review and discussion will include an overview of DFPS obligations with respect to each hearing as well as the requirements, legally, procedurally and ethically of ad litem appointed to represent parents and children. Participants will be provided an opportunity after the overview to ask questions regarding best practice with respect to preparation for statutory hearings and courtroom practice.