

1484-12
Administrative Office of the Courts
201 South Carson Street, Suite 250
Carson City, Nevada 89701-4702

The Nevada Supreme Court
Court Improvement for the Protection and Permanency of
Dependent Children Project Committee (CIP)
in conjunction with
the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
and the National Resource Center - ABA Center on Legal
and Judicial Issues

Proudly Sponsors

Focus on Kids

An Interactive Judicial and Legal
Conference on
Child Abuse & Neglect Matters



December 6-7, 2007

Embassy Suites Hotel-
Convention Center
Las Vegas, Nevada

WELCOME

Dear Judges, Juvenile Hearing Masters and Attorneys:

In my State of the Judiciary speech given to the Nevada Legislature in March, 2007, I reported that child abuse and neglect issues were one of the Court's highest priorities for the coming year.

At the Judges and Family Law Conference in Ely this year, outreach was made to raise the level of awareness and importance among judges and attorneys who are involved in these very complex cases. Additionally, attorneys were asked to help at-risk children and families in the form of pro bono representation. Many of you are among those attorneys who answered the request for assistance.

I am pleased to inform you that, as promised, a training session on child abuse and neglect matters has been scheduled for **December 6 & 7, 2007** at the Embassy Suites Hotel-Convention Center in Las Vegas.

This will be an interactive training of Judges and Juvenile Hearing Masters who hear or are interested in hearing child welfare matters. In addition to judicial officers, this training is targeted to attorneys, including District Attorneys, Attorneys General, and Public and Private Attorneys for Children and Parents. Attorneys who are currently handling these cases or have taken a case pro bono during the past 24 months, or those who would be willing to take a case pro bono, will be given preference. Twelve hours of CLE credit will be offered, including 1.5 ethics credits.

On behalf of the Court Improvement Project, Justice Saitta and I extend this personal invitation to you and hope you will give strong consideration to attending this important and very worthwhile training opportunity.

Sincerely,

A. WILLIAM MAUPIN, Chief Justice

NANCY M. SAITTA, Associate Justice

For **kids**...some things should only be experienced at **play time**...not in our justice system...

...like **Hair-Raising Experiences**



TRANSPORTATION

PERSONAL VEHICLE: Mileage for personal transportation is reimbursed at \$.485 per mile, but in the case of long-distance solo driving for personal convenience when a less expensive mode of transportation is available, the reimbursement rate is \$.2425 per mile.

AIRPORT PARKING: If you leave your personal vehicle at the Reno airport, *parking receipts MUST be provided with your Claim for Travel Expense* form in order to be reimbursed. Please use long-term parking whenever possible. Parking will be reimbursed to a maximum of \$12.00/day.

AIR TRAVEL: Airfare on Southwest Airlines to Las Vegas, Nevada may be charged directly to AOC through Classic Travel in Carson City (775-883-9331) or The Travel Center in Reno (775-323-0110). If charging your airline ticket directly to AOC, use budget account number 1484-12. Participants are encouraged to purchase the fully refundable airline ticket. Spouse and guest tickets may not be charged to AOC. Lower fares may be available with cancellation penalties; however, please note, cancellation penalties are not reimbursable by AOC. *The passenger coupon of your airline ticket or, if flying ticketless, the ticketless itinerary of your airline ticket MUST accompany your Claim for Travel Expense.*

GROUND TRANSPORTATION: Only taxi and shuttle expenses between the Las Vegas Airport and the Embassy Suites Hotel-Convention Center will qualify for reimbursement. Receipts for such travel must be submitted with your Claim for Travel Expense following the Conference.

HOTEL INFORMATION

ROOM RESERVATIONS: Reservations can be made by calling the Embassy Suites Hotel-Convention Center at (702) 893-8000 or (888) 243-9146. **Reservations must be made by Friday, November 15, 2007. When making reservations, reference Embassy Suites-Convention Center and group code "CIP-Court Improvement Project."** The room rate for Wednesday, December 5, and Thursday, December 6, is \$108.00 plus 9% tax per night.

Receipts must be attached to your Claim for Travel Expense. A guarantee by an acceptable credit card for the first night is required to reserve your room. Rooms must be cancelled 48 hours prior to arrival to avoid first night's room penalty. **Cancellation penalties are not reimbursable by AOC.**

AOC will reimburse the total nightly lodging cost at the above rate, plus taxes, in the amount of \$117.72/night for Wednesday and Thursday nights (receipt required).



CONFERENCE INFORMATION

This AOC-sponsored education program will be held at the Embassy Suites Hotel-Convention Center, 3600 Paradise Road (near the Las Vegas Convention Center), Las Vegas, Nevada 89169, (702) 893-8000, December 6-7, 2007. **Please return the enclosed Conference Registration form to AOC, LoRee Burt, by fax at (775) 684-1738 or mail no later than November 15, 2007. Note: You can also complete your registration online at www.nvsupremecourt.us (click on Administrative Office of the Courts, then on Court Improvement Project) and then return by fax or e-mail to lburt@nvcourts.nv.gov. Questions? Call Sheryl Overstreet at (775) 684-1712.**

NOTE: See Hotel Information for Room Reservations

BUFFET BREAKFAST: Buffet breakfasts are scheduled for **Thursday, December 6, and Friday, December 7, 2007.** Breakfast will be available from 6:00 - 8:30 a.m. in the Atrium. *Note for participants not staying at the Embassy Suites:* Tickets are required and will be provided at Conference registration. Please indicate on the Conference Registration form if you will be attending these breakfasts. These breakfasts are part of the Conference package and therefore will not otherwise be reimbursed.

LUNCH: A buffet lunch will be provided on **Thursday, December 6** and a box lunch will be provided on **Friday, December 7.** Please indicate on the Conference Registration form if you will be attending these lunches. These lunches are part of the Conference package and therefore will not otherwise be reimbursed.

JUDICIAL EDUCATION HOURS: A maximum of twelve hours of Continuing Legal Education instruction is available for full attendance at the Conference, including 1-1/2 hours of ethics and professional conduct credit. PLEASE NOTE: Participants attending less than 50% of the available CLE hours will qualify only for commensurate reimbursement of travel, lodging and meal expenses.

ATTIRE: Attire for the Conference is business casual. Also, due to the unpredictability of conference room ventilation systems, we strongly recommend that you dress in layers.

CLAIM FOR TRAVEL EXPENSE: Following the Conference, please submit your completed Claim for Travel Expense form, which will be included in the Conference binder. You will also need to attach your ticketless itinerary for air flight, your hotel lodging receipt, your airport parking receipt, and your ground transportation receipts for travel between the Las Vegas Airport and the Embassy Suites Hotel-Convention Center, to be reimbursed for these expenses. Meals not provided as part of the Conference may be claimed by participants traveling from over 25 miles (one-way) from their home bases. PLEASE NOTE: Claims for Travel Expense, and required receipts, must either be submitted at the Conference or MAILED TO THE AOC following the Conference. Faxed and electronic submissions of Claims for Travel Expenses will not be honored.

VENDOR REGISTRATION: Individual participants who are not state employees or judges, but who will be claiming reimbursement of expenses to attend the Conference will need to complete a Vendor Registration Form and submit that Form to the Administrative Office of the Courts with the Claim for Travel Expense. The Vendor Registration Form will be included in the Conference binder.

For **kids**...some things should only be experienced at **play time**... not in our justice system...



...like **Dangling**

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2007

6:00 - 8:30 AM	BREAKFAST BUFFET (PROVIDED IN ATRIUM) <i>(Ticket required for non-hotel guest participants)</i>
7:00 - 8:30 AM	REGISTRATION (CONFERENCE CENTER FOYER I)
8:30 - 8:45 AM	WELCOME: CHIEF JUSTICE MAUPIN & JUSTICE SAITTA
8:45 - 9:45 AM	<u>PLENARY SESSION:</u> THROUGH THE EYES OF A CHILD
9:45 - 10:00 AM	BREAK
10:00 AM - NOON	<u>PLENARY SESSION:</u> ROLES PANEL ATTORNEY FOR PARENTS ATTORNEY FOR KIDS ATTORNEY FOR AGENCY JUDGE SOCIAL WORKER
NOON - 1:30 PM	LUNCH (PROVIDED IN ATRIUM)
1:30 PM - 3:00 PM	<u>BREAKOUT SESSIONS:</u> I. JUDGES ROLE OF THE JUDGE ASFA—THE LAW, THE RULES II. ATTORNEYS ADVOCACY AROUND ASFA AND RELATED CHILD WELFARE LAWS, SUCH AS THE INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ACT UNDERSTANDING THE FEDERAL LAW FOUNDATION FOR DEPENDENCY PROCEEDINGS
3:00 - 3:15 PM	BREAK
3:15 - 4:45 PM	<u>BREAKOUT SESSIONS:</u> I. JUDGES BENCH BOOK EXPERIENTIAL HEARINGS—A STEP-BY-STEP WALK THROUGH THE LEGAL REQUIREMENTS OF STAGES OF THE DEPENDENCY PROCESS, WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON THE FINDINGS REQUIRED BY FEDERAL AND STATE LAW. SESSION WILL FOCUS ON HEARINGS AND REVIEWS REQUIRED IN FIRST SIX MONTHS.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2007 (CONTINUED)

3:15 - 4:45 PM

BREAKOUT SESSIONS (CONTINUED):

II. ATTORNEYS

NEVADA-SPECIFIC ISSUES THROUGH A HYPOTHETICAL CASE: MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES, RELINQUISHMENT/OPEN ADOPTION, ADEQUACY OF SERVICES IN A CASE PLAN THAT INCLUDES INDEPENDENT LIVING, SIBLING PLACEMENT/ RIGHTS, ADEQUATE VISITATION, ETC. (HYPOTHETICAL CASE WILL BE DISTRIBUTED IN ADVANCE, IDENTIFYING ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION)

4:45 - 5:00 PM

PLENARY SESSION: WRAP-UP OF DAY ONE

5:00 PM

DINNER (ON YOUR OWN)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2007

6:00 - 8:30 AM

BREAKFAST BUFFET (PROVIDED IN ATRIUM)
(Ticket required for non-hotel guest participants)

8:30 - 8:45 AM

RE-CAP—SUMMARY OF DAY ONE

8:45 - 10:15 AM

BREAKOUT SESSIONS:

I. JUDGES

EXPERIENTIAL HEARINGS (CONTINUED)
PERMANENCY HEARINGS, TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS, ADOPTION

II. ATTORNEYS

OLDER YOUTH AND PERMANENCY

10:15 - 10:30 AM

BREAK

10:30 AM - NOON

BREAKOUT SESSIONS:

I. JUDGES

LEGAL ETHICS

II. ATTORNEYS

LEGAL ETHICS

NOON - 1:00 PM

LUNCH (PROVIDED IN ATRIUM)

For **kids**...some things should only
be experienced at **play time**...
not in our justice system...



...like **Messy Situations**

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2007 (CONTINUED)

1:00 - 2:15 PM

PLENARY SESSION:

**COURT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (CIP) OVERVIEW
AND FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS
HOPES AND DREAMS FOR CIP**

2:15 - 3:30 PM

BREAKOUT SESSIONS (3 GROUPS):

I. WASHOE COUNTY

II. CLARK COUNTY

III. RURAL COUNTIES

IDENTIFICATION OF LOCAL ISSUES; RELATION OF ISSUES TO
CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES REVIEW (CFSR) AND TO
PROJECT IMPROVEMENT PLAN (PIP) COMMITTEES AND
OTHER INVOLVEMENTS (FACILITATED DISCUSSIONS)

3:30 PM

WRAP-UP, EVALUATIONS AND ADJOURNMENT

BENCHBOOK

Each judicial officer at the Conference will be provided with the latest draft of the first-ever Nevada Benchbook for Child Welfare Cases. This publication, the result of combined efforts from family jurisdiction judges and masters, UNLV Boyd School of Law, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, and the National Resource Center - ABA Center on Legal and Judicial Issues, will serve as the basis for much of this Conference.