

# CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

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FRIDAY, MAY 31, 2024

2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

## **AGEISM, ELDER ABUSE AND FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION DURING COVID AND BEYOND** (1.5 HOURS)

Ageism, elder abuse and financial exploitation are prevalent in our society. This session will address how we can raise awareness of ageism and the pernicious impact of ageist perceptions, including elder mistreatment. The session will further provide attendees with an understanding of what constitutes elder mistreatment, with a focus on financial exploitation, which arises in a host of different types of cases, including criminal, civil and Surrogate's court matters. Recent New York case law where financial exploitation is present will be discussed. In addition, the presenters will speak about situations where financial abuse may not be readily apparent but may be lurking beneath the surface of a case.

*Speakers: Hon. Deborah A. Kaplan, Joan Levenson, Esq.*

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## **FUNDAMENTALS OF NEW YORK ADOPTION PROCEEDINGS** (1.5 HOURS)

This presentation will serve as a comprehensive introduction to adoption proceedings in the State of New York. This program is an excellent introduction for attorneys who are new to adoption proceedings and a welcomed refresher for more seasoned adoption attorneys. This course will cover the statutory and regulatory fundamentals governing adoption proceedings, and will provide the understanding needed to advise clients and navigate any issue that arise. This presentation will discuss important considerations before an adoption is filed, during the pendency of the proceedings and after it has been completed.

*Speakers: Michael Andreani, Esq., Hon. Jacqueline Ricciani*

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3:45 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.

## **ETHICS AND THE USE OF AI IN THE PRACTICE OF LAW** (1.0 HOUR)

With the world and technology rapidly changing, the question is not one of whether or not attorneys should use AI but rather how one might use AI ethically. This panel will focus on and explore the ethics of using Artificial Intelligence in the practice of law.

*Speakers: Anne L. LaBarbera, Esq., Hon. Nicole McGregor Mundy*

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## **THE IMPACT OF SFFA ON AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND DEI PROGRAMS IN THE WORKPLACE** (1.0 HOUR)

In June 2023, the Supreme Court overruled its past precedent on affirmative action in college admissions, holding that Harvard and UNC violated both the Equal Protection Clause and the Fourteenth Amendment by considering race as a "plus factor" in admissions. The holding in the Students for Fair Admissions ("SFAA") cases did not squarely address affirmative action programs or diversity equity, and inclusion ("DE&I") initiatives in the workplace but the case may nonetheless have consequences in the employment discrimination context. In this program, we will explore the historical legal framework applicable to employer diversity initiatives and the EEOC guidance on voluntary affirmative action plans. We will also discuss the recent challenges to employer DE&I policies both in anticipation of and in the immediate wake of the SFFA decision, including several employment discrimination cases filed by individual plaintiffs and advocacy groups. These cases include activist challenges to broader DEI policies and programs, as well as individuals "reverse discrimination" claims. Finally, we will discuss compliant DE&I policies and the components of programs that may be vulnerable.

*Speakers: Meredith Cavallaro, Esq., Angela Wanslow, Esq.*

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SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 2024

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

## **TRIAL & ERROR: NAVIGATING THE MAZE OF TRIAL PRACTICE (1.0 HOUR)**

This presentation will provide guidance on how to organize and execute each case for a successful trial, from intake through closing arguments. This CLE will explore the intricacies of trial practice, providing attorneys with insight and strategies to navigate the complexities of the courtroom with confidence. Discussing case law, practice tips and errors to avoid, attendees will gain a comprehensive understanding of the trial process to improve their case presentation, anticipate challenges and better advocate for their clients.

*Speaker: Kathleen Feroletto, Esq.*

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## **VULNERABILITIES OF TRUSTS IN MATRIMONIAL LAW (1.0 HOUR)**

This program is a comprehensive exploration of the dynamic intersection between family law and trusts. Attendees will gain insights into the nuances of equitable distribution, unravel the complexities of separate and marital property in matrimonial law, learn of the impact of active versus passive contributions, and the distinctions between direct and indirect contributions. Most importantly, you will understand how trust structures can impact legal outcomes. Join us to navigate the nuanced landscape of trusts in matrimonial law and equip yourself with the knowledge to safeguard your clients assets effectively.

*Speakers: Margaret M. Donohoe, Esq, Paul Talbert, Esq.*

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11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

## **TAKING AND DEFENDING DEPOSITIONS - TOOLS FOR WOMEN AND YOUNG ATTORNEYS (1.0 HOUR)**

Depositions are crucial in litigation as they allow counsel to obtain key information which sets the tone for future case handling. They bind the witnesses to their story, provide support for summary judgment, and facilitate settlement negotiations. Given their significance, it is especially important that the deposition process is not frustrated by difficult adversaries and/or attorney misconduct. This presentation provides a toolbox, which includes New York State rules, case law, practice tips and strategies, for women and young litigators, who are often the target of adverse conduct during depositions. The goal of the presentation is to inspire, educate and encourage more women and young litigators to feel confident taking and defending depositions.

*Speakers: Leslie G. Abele, Esq., Devika Kapoor, Esq.*

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11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

## **COMPREHENSIVE MODALITIES FOR PROTECTING VICTIMS/SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (2.0 HOURS)**

Globally, it is estimated that “736 million women - almost one in three - have been subjected to physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence, non-partner sexual violence, or both at least once in their life.” In addition, according to the World Health Organization, an estimated 38% of all murders of women are committed by intimate partners. This program will address: (1) legislation, mechanisms and procedural best practices for the protection of victims/survivors under New York State law; (2) country obligations to protect victims/survivors under the existing framework of international jurisprudence; (3) a comparative analysis of country legislation pertaining to the protection of victims/survivors; and (4) the particular vulnerability of marginalized groups to domestic violence, as well as how socio-economic factors may impact access to justice.

*Speakers: Sarah Bahrenburg, PhD, MSc, MBA, Allison A. Dunlop, Esq., Keisha A. Godfrey, Esq., Dr. Ari Niki-Tobi, Fay Y. Parris, Esq., Saloni Sethi, Somaia Shariff Zada, Esq.*

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