

THE NEW YORK STATE JUDICIAL INSTITUTE

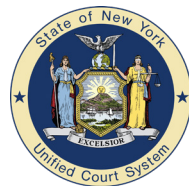
Furthering Justice Through Education



NEW JUDGES

S E M I N A R * 2 0 2 5

January 2, 2025 - January 10, 2025



Hon. Rowan D. Wilson

Chief Judge of The State of New York

Hon. Joseph A. Zayas

Chief Administrative Judge of The State of New York

Hon. Norman St. George

First Deputy Chief Administrative Judge of The State of New York

Hon. Kathie E. Davidson

Dean of The New York State Judicial Institute



VIRTUAL DAY 1

Thursday, January 2, 2025

9:00 - 9:15

Welcome

Hon. Kathie E. Davidson, Dean of the New York State Judicial Institute

9:15 - 10:15

PLENARY | History, Overview and Structure of the Court System

Hon. Richard A. Dollinger (Ret.)

In this session, the speaker will provide an overview of New York's court system from its establishment to how it has evolved over the years. The speaker will also discuss how the state's numerous courts and court procedures fit within the system and share his views on the future of New York's courts.

10:25 - 11:25

PLENARY | The Judge's Role as Supervisor and Manager

Kay-Ann Porter Campbell, Esq., Christy Bass

The Inspector General of the Court System and the Human Resources Director and will discuss the rules, regulations, and policies concerning a judge's personal conduct as well as a judge's responsibilities regarding complaints of bias, discrimination, and harassment by staff and others.

11:35 - 12:35

PLENARY | Language Access and Working with Court Interpreters

Ann Ryan

This session will address how to access language services for litigants who need the assistance of an interpreter. By participating in exercises based on real-world scenarios, judges will have an opportunity to work through interpreter-related issues that may arise in the courtroom.

12:35 - 1:05

Lunch Break

1:10 - 2:10

PLENARY | Disability Accommodations and the ADA

Hon. Robert Pipia, Hon. Carol Sharpe, James F. Tardy, Esq., Amy M. Pontillo, Esq.

Requests for disability accommodations, whether from lawyers or litigants, can be challenging. In this session, the speakers will discuss requests for disability accommodations under the ADA and the procedure judges should follow when presented with these requests.

2:20 - 2:40

PLENARY | Remarks from OCA's Counsel

David Nocenti, Esq.

This session will provide judges an introduction to Counsel's Office and an overview of that office's broad range of responsibilities.

2:50 - 3:50

PLENARY | Technology Overview

Christine Sisario

The Court System's Director of Technology will discuss the technological tools available to assist judges and their staff in performance of their duties.

4:00 - 5:00

PLENARY | Practical Strategies for Working with Unrepresented Litigants

Cathy A. Cramer, Esq., Nathalie Gonzalez, Esq.

This session will provide judges with practical tools and strategies for effectively interacting with unrepresented litigants to promote access to justice and efficient court proceedings. Attendees will gain insights into techniques and steps they can take to ensure fairness, clarity, and professionalism in the courtroom.



VIRTUAL DAY 2

Friday, January 3, 2025

9:15 - 10:30

PLENARY | Judicial Security

Chief Michael Magliano, Major Kevin Scherer, Captain Charles Hollon

This session will provide information to assist in the safety and security needs of judges. The speakers will discuss the Judicial Security Guidelines, judicial threats and inappropriate communications, judicial protection, and sovereign citizens.

10:45 - 12:15

PLENARY | The Advisory Committee on Judicial Ethics

Hon. Debra L. Givens, Hon. Lillian Wan, Laura L. Smith, Esq.

The Advisory Committee was formed to help New York State's judges and justices adhere to the Rules Governing Judicial Conduct. The speakers will discuss the standards set forth in these Rules, the authority of the Committee, and the presumption afforded to a judge that relies on a formal advisory opinion issued by the Committee.

12:30 - 1:30

PLENARY | The Commission on Judicial Conduct

Robert H. Tembeckjian, Esq.

The Commission's objective is to enforce high standards of conduct for judges. The speaker will provide an overview of the Commission, its procedures, common examples of judicial misconduct, and the responsibilities of a judge that becomes the subject of a formal complaint.

1:30 - 2:10

Lunch Break

2:15 - 3:15

PLENARY | Judicial Resources

Hon. William C. Donnino (Ret.)

In this session, the speaker will discuss two valuable resources that are available to the bench and bar: the Guide to New York Evidence and the Criminal Jury Instructions and Model Colloquies.

3:25 - 3:55

PLENARY | The Role of the Judicial Wellness Coordinator

Daniel T. Lukasik, Esq., Hon. Patrick O'Sullivan

Developing methods for working through challenges, including stress or anxiety, is important for maintaining wellness and well-being on and off the bench. The Court System's Judicial Wellness Coordinator will provide an overview of his role and resources available to help judges identify and manage stress, develop coping strategies, and build resiliency.

4:00 - 4:30

PLENARY | OCA's Director of Communications

Alfred J. Baker

The mission of OCA's Communications Department is "[t]o facilitate deeper public understanding of the courts through sustained engagement with the media and civic stakeholders across New York." This session provides an overview of the Communications Department and its units. The speaker also discusses the procedures to be followed when judges are contacted by the media, permissible conduct of the media during pending court proceedings, and what to do when confronted with "camera in the courtroom" issues.



In-Person DAY 1

Monday, January 6, 2025

9:00 - 10:00	Registration and Breakfast	Lobby/Omni Room
10:00 - 1:00	Welcome Hon. Kathie E. Davidson, Dean of the New York State Judicial Institute	Lecture Hall
	Welcome and Remarks from the Executive Officers Hon. Rowan D. Wilson, Chief Judge of the State of New York Hon. Joseph A. Zayas, Chief Administrative Judge of the State of New York Hon. Norman St. George, First Deputy Chief Administrative Judge of the State of New York	
	Welcome and Remarks from the DCAJ's Hon. Edwina G. Richardson, Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for Justice Initiatives Hon. James P. Murphy, Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for the Courts Outside New York City Hon. Adam Silvera, Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for the New York City Courts	
	Welcome and Remarks from the Statewide Judicial Officers Hon. Jeffrey S. Sunshine, Statewide Coordinating Judge for Matrimonial Matters Hon. Richard Rivera, Statewide Coordinating Judge for Family Court Matters	
1:00 - 1:15	Class Picture	Lecture Hall
1:15 - 2:25	Networking Lunch	Omni Room
2:30 - 4:00	PLENARY Judges and Psychiatrists Leadership Initiative: Behavioral Health Knowledge for All Judges Hon. Marcia Hirsch, Hon. Juan Merchan, Merrill Rotter, M.D. This session will provide an overview of common mental health and substance use disorders judges encounter in the courtroom. Utilizing an interactive format, the speakers will present strategies for cases involving persons with mental health issues and discuss skills to help increase positive outcomes. Systemic issues related to mental health and substance use will be examined, including access to care, receiving the right level of care and intervention, equity, and evidence-based practices. An overview of approaches to improve a court system's responses to people with mental health conditions will also be discussed.	Lecture Hall
4:00 - 4:15	Break	



In-Person DAY 1

Monday, January 6, 2025

4:15 - 5:45

Breakout Sessions

CITY & DISTRICT | Welcome to the City and District Courts

Omni Room

Hon. Tricia M. Ferrell, Hon. JaHarr Pridgen

This session will provide valuable tips and strategies to assist City Court and District Court judges in their new role. The speakers will discuss practical techniques for dealing with a wide range of legal actions, case and courtroom management issues, unrepresented litigants, and motions.

CRIMINAL | Welcome to the Criminal Courts

O-101

Hon. Tamiko Amaker, Hon. Susan Eagan

This session will provide an overview of the criminal courts within the Unified Court System. Significant time will also be dedicated to a discussion of what judges need to know with regard to bail law and procedure.

FAMILY | Welcome to Family Court

O-G01

Hon. Brenda Freedman, Hon. Wayne Humphrey, Hon. Caren Loguercio

This session will provide valuable tips and strategies to assist Family Court judges in their new role. The speakers will discuss practical techniques for dealing with the complex nature of the Family Court case docket, courtroom management issues, unrepresented litigants, and many other issues.

NYC CIVIL | Welcome to NYC Civil Court

O-G02

**Hon. Robert Helbock, Hon. Dana Catanzaro, Hon. Taisha Chambers,
Hon. Evelyn Gong, Hon. Mary Kavanagh, Hon. Javier Ortiz**

This session will provide valuable tips and strategies to assist NYC Civil Court judges in their new role. The speakers will discuss practical techniques for dealing with a wide range of legal actions, case and courtroom management issues, unrepresented litigants, and motions.

NYC HOUSING | Welcome to NYC Housing Court

J1-205

Hon. Jack Stoller, Hon. Christel F. Garland, Hon. Kisha L. Miller

This session will provide valuable tips and strategies to assist NYC Housing Court judges in their new role. The speakers will discuss practical techniques for dealing with case and courtroom management issues, unrepresented litigants, and motions.

SUPREME CIVIL & MATRIMONIAL | Welcome to Supreme Civil

Lecture Hall

Hon. Amy C. Martoche, Hon Lisa S. Ottley

This session will provide valuable tips and strategies to assist justices of the Supreme Court, Civil Term in their new role. The speakers will discuss practical techniques for dealing with a wide range of legal actions, case and courtroom management issues, unrepresented litigants, and motions.

SURROGATE'S | Overview of Wills, Trusts, and Future Interests

Library

Prof. William P. LaPiana

This session will provide an overview of the law governing the disposition of property under state statutes of succession and by will. This session will also examine the theory and practice of trust law, as well as possessory and future interests.

5:45 - 7:00

Dinner

Tudor Room



In-Person DAY 2

Tuesday, January 7, 2025

7:30 - 8:30	Breakfast	Omni Room
8:30 - 10:00	PLENARY Recognizing and Dealing with Cases Involving Claims of Domestic Violence <i>Hon. Andrew Crecca, Cindy Kanusher, Esq., Patti Reyes D'Agostino</i> The discussion of domestic violence in this session is intended to educate judges about the dynamics of abuse in intimate partner relationships. Judges will examine the significance of these principles to cases involving claims of domestic violence.	Lecture Hall
10:00 - 10:15	Break	
10:15 - 11:30	Breakout Sessions	
	CITY & DISTRICT, NYC CIVIL, NYC HOUSING, SUPREME CIVIL, SURROGATE'S, MATRIMONIAL Civil Practice and Procedure, Part 1 <i>Hon. Tracy Catapano-Fox, Hon. John R. Higgitt, Burt Lipshie, Esq.</i> The Civil Practice Law and Rules (CPLR) is central to civil practice in New York. This session will provide an overview of the CPLR provisions and civil practice issues judges frequently encounter in their daily work. The speakers will also share useful strategies and tips judges can readily use to resolve civil practice issues.	Lecture Hall
	CRIMINAL Domestic Violence and Orders of Protection in Criminal Cases <i>Hon. Audrey Stone, Hon. JaHarr Pridgen</i> In this session, judges will examine and discuss issues related to orders of protection and domestic violence in the context of criminal cases.	O-101
	FAMILY Best Practices for FCA Article 8 and Other Domestic Violence Considerations in Family Court <i>Hon. Mary Carney, Anna Maria Diamanti, Esq., Sheila Schwanekamp, Esq.</i> This session will provide an overview of FCA Article 8, including orders of protection, burden of proof, the judicial guide to risk and lethality factors, and will discuss the impact of domestic violence on children among other issues.	O-G02
10:45 - 11:00	Break	



In-Person DAY 2

Tuesday, January 7, 2025

11:45 - 1:00

Breakout Sessions

**CITY & DISTRICT, NYC CIVIL, NYC HOUSING, SUPREME CIVIL,
SURROGATE'S, MATRIMONIAL | Civil Practice and Procedure,
Part 2**

Lecture Hall

Hon. Tracy Catapano-Fox, Hon. John R. Higgitt, Burt Lipshie, Esq.

CRIMINAL | Facial Sufficiency

O-101

Hon. Efrain Alvarado (Ret.), Hon. Betty Calvo-Torres

Judges will define the different types of accusatory instruments, outline the technical requirements for an instrument to be legally sufficient under the Criminal Procedure Law, and develop a methodology for analyzing motions to dismiss for facial insufficiency.

FAMILY | Ex Parte Applications in Family Court

O-G02

Hon. Wayne Humphrey, Hon. Keith E. Brown

This session will provide practical tips for judges handling ex-parte emergency applications.

1:00 - 1:55

Lunch

Omni Room

2:00 - 3:30

Breakout Sessions

**CITY & DISTRICT, NYC CIVIL, NYC HOUSING, SUPREME CIVIL,
SURROGATE'S, MATRIMONIAL | Civil Practice and Procedure,
Part 3**

Lecture Hall

Hon. Tracy Catapano-Fox, Hon. John R. Higgitt, Burt Lipshie, Esq.

CRIMINAL | Arraignments

O-101

Hon. Keshia Espinal, Hon. Carrie Phillips

This session will address the various aspects of conducting an arraignment including which notices must be served, considerations when issuing temporary orders of protection, and the overall management of an arraignment calendar.

FAMILY | Custody & Visitation Matters in Family Court

O-G02

Hon. Anne-Marie Jolly, Hon. Stacey Romeo

In this session, the panelists will discuss custody and parental access cases and how the application of the "best interests standard" is applied to actual cases.

3:30 - 3:45

Break



In-Person DAY 2

Tuesday, January 7, 2025

3:45 - 5:00

Breakout Sessions

CITY & DISTRICT, NYC CIVIL, NYC HOUSING, SUPREME CIVIL, SURROGATE'S, MATRIMONIAL | Service of Process Fundamentals and Mock Traverse Hearing

Lecture Hall

Hon. Melissa Barrett, Hon. Richard J. Montelione, Rich Murajda, Esq.

This session will provide a framework and practical suggestions for efficiently addressing motions claiming service of process was not properly effected and conducting Traverse hearings.

CRIMINAL | Taking a Plea and Imposing Sentence

O-101

Hon. Craig Steven Brown, Hon. Joseph McCormack, Hon. Robert Schwartz

This session will explore issues that arise when a defendant decides to plead guilty in lieu of having a trial and the judge's obligations and responsibilities when accepting a plea.

FAMILY | Hearing the Youth Voice

O-G02

Hon. Anne-Marie Jolly, Dr. Alexandria Connally,
Arique Dross III, Esq., Ivory Bennett, Teyora Graves-Ferrell

This session will offer a view of the child welfare, juvenile justice and mental health systems through the lens of lived experience experts. There are countless benefits concerning magnifying youth voice and informed choice, and having lived experience experts work with those currently involved with youth serving systems, including youth guided and driven policy, planning, program evaluation and development. By uplifting youth voice and informed choice, lived experience experts work together with experienced professionals to create better outcomes for children, youth and families resulting in fortifying robust and safe communities of resilience.

5:00 - 5:15

Break

5:15 - 6:00

PLENARY | State Law Reporting Bureau

Lecture Hall

Thomas J. K. Smith, Esq.

The State Reporter of New York will introduce and illustrate the IFRAC system for writing trial court opinions efficiently and concisely and explain how the New York State Law Reporting Bureau edits and publishes opinions.

6:00 - 7:00

Dinner

Tudor Room



In-Person DAY 3

Wednesday, January 8, 2025

7:30 - 8:30	Breakfast	Omni Room
8:30 - 10:00	PLENARY Artificial Intelligence (“AI”) and Judicial Ethics - Some considerations for new judges Hon. Vito DeStefano, Hon. Patria Frias-Colón, Hon. Francis Ricigliano, Rosemary Garland-Scott, Esq. This session presented jointly by the Statewide Advisory Committee on Artificial Intelligence and the Advisory Committee on Judicial Ethics will explore some of the ethical considerations involved in the use of AI by attorneys and by judges, with primary focus on the former. One of a judge’s important functions is to enforce the ethics of the attorneys who appear before them. This requires judges to understand the Rules Governing the Conduct of Judges as well as the Rules of Professional Conduct, neither of which specifically addresses the use of AI. The speakers, who are members of both advisory committees, will explore judicial and attorney ethics rules, cases and Opinions pertinent to AI, and the misuse of AI.	Lecture Hall
10:00 - 10:15	Break	
10:15 - 11:15	Breakout Sessions	
	CITY & DISTRICT, NYC CIVIL, NYC HOUSING, SUPREME CIVIL, SURROGATE’S Default Judgments Hon. Cenceria P. Edwards, Hon. Deborah H. Karalunas The speakers will provide a step-by-step framework and practical tips for granting default judgments and addressing applications to vacate default judgments.	Lecture Hall
	CRIMINAL Search Warrants Hon. Teresa Corrigan, Hon. Giyang An This session will address the requirements for search warrant applications, including “no knock” and nighttime warrants, questioning confidential informants, the “staleness” doctrine and searches of cell phones and other devices.	O-101
	FAMILY Case Management Hon. Caren Loguercio, Hon. Erik Pitchal Given the high volume of family court cases, this session will provide practical tips for fair and efficient case management.	O-G02
	MATRIMONIAL Custody and Parental Access in Matrimonial Matters, Part 1 Hon. Bruce Wagner (Ret.) In this session, judges will focus on the application of the “best interests standard” to cases involving questions of custody and parental access.	JI-305



In-Person DAY 3

Wednesday, January 8, 2025

11:15 - 11:30 **Break**

11:30 - 12:30 **Breakout Sessions**

**CITY & DISTRICT, NYC CIVIL, NYC HOUSING,
SUPREME CIVIL, SURROGATE'S | Conferencing and Settling Cases**

Lecture Hall

Hon. Deborah H. Karalunas, Hon. Llinét M. Rosado

This session will provide techniques judges can readily use to move cases toward resolution. Following an examination of the various approaches and strategies used for negotiating and fostering settlement, the judges will participate in a mock settlement conference.

CRIMINAL | Overview of Grand Jury Practice

O-101

Hon. Efrain Alvarado (Ret.), Hon. Betty Calvo-Torres

This session will introduce judges to the principles of grand jury practice including the powers and duties of the grand jury, the standard for determining sufficiency, a defendant's right to testify and confidentiality.

**FAMILY | First Do No More Harm: Trauma Informed
Judicial Decision Making**

O-G02

Hon. Erin DeLabio, Hon. Caren Loguercio, Aimee L. Neri, LMSW

Trauma Informed Judicial Decision Making provides a framework for judicial practice using the evidence based approaches of Solution Focused language and Trauma Informed practices. The models are complimentary and promote the goals of improving outcomes, enforcing accountability and reducing recidivism rates in Family Court while allowing jurists to maintain ethical standards of practice and role specific responsibilities. This seminar will provide a brief foundation of how trauma impacts cognitive functioning and behavior; share an overview of the Trauma Informed Care and Solution Focused Strategies Models, highlight the necessity of judicial wellness and provide concrete strategies to put into practice immediately. Trauma Informed practices will never hurt AND it can always help.

**MATRIMONIAL | Custody and Parental Access in
Matrimonial Matters, Part 2**

JI-305

Hon. Bruce Wagner (Ret.)

12:30 - 1:25 **Lunch**

1:30 - 2:20 **Breakout Sessions**

**CITY & DISTRICT, NYC CIVIL, NYC HOUSING,
SUPREME CIVIL, SURROGATE'S, FAMILY | Decision Writing**

Lecture Hall

Hon. Mark C. Dillon

This session will provide an analytical framework for organizing, preparing, and delivering written decisions that are clear, concise, and credible.



In-Person DAY 3

Wednesday, January 8, 2025

CRIMINAL | Discovery, Part 1

O-101

Hon. Eric Sachs, Hon. Paul McDonnell

CPL Article 245 governs the sharing of evidence between the prosecution and defense in a criminal case. During this session, judges will discuss the application of Article 245 including the time frames with which both sides must comply, the statutory requirement for automatic discovery and the presumption of openness.

MATRIMONIAL | Papers, Parties and Procedure:

JI-305

What to Expect in Matrimonial Matters

Hon. Jeffrey S. Sunshine

The Hon. Jeffrey Sunshine, Statewide Coordinating Judge for Matrimonial Matters, will provide an overview of divorce proceedings including applicable rules and statutes, pleadings, motions and orders, case management techniques and more.

2:20 - 2:30

Break

2:30 - 3:30

Breakout Sessions

CITY & DISTRICT, NYC CIVIL | Consumer Debt & Name Change Petitions: Substantive Law and Motion Practice, Part 1

O-G01

Hon. Gregory J. Amoroso, Hon. Robert Helbock

Focusing on consumer debt and name change cases, this session will provide judges a framework and practical suggestions for efficiently resolving pre-answer motions to dismiss (CPLR 3211) and summary judgment motions (CPLR 3212).

CRIMINAL | Discovery, Part 2

O-101

Hon. Eric Sachs, Hon. Paul McDonnell

FAMILY | FCA Article 10, Part 1

O-G02

Hon. Alicea Elloras-Ally, Hon. Erik Pitchal, Hon. Keri Savona

The purpose of Article 10 of the Family Court Act is to provide due process for determining when a court can intervene to safeguard the physical, mental and emotional well-being of children. Judges will outline the steps in Article 10 proceedings from initial filing of the petition through disposition. Judges will also discuss the significant impact these matters can have on the lives of the families involved.

NYC HOUSING | NYC Housing Court Scenarios

JI-205

Hon. Miriam Breier, Hon. John S. Lansden

Using factual scenarios, this session will provide an overview of the legal and practical issues facing NYC Housing Court judges.



In-Person DAY 3

Wednesday, January 8, 2025

MATRIMONIAL | Economic Implications of Divorce, Part 1: Affidavit of Net Worth, Tax Returns and Attorney/Expert Fees

JI-305

Elena Karabatos, Esq., Hon. Wanda Negron, William P. Allen, CPA/ABV, CFE

This session will cover the role affidavits of net worth, tax returns and attorney/expert fees play in determining the financial ramifications in divorce proceedings.

SUPREME CIVIL | Serious Injury Threshold, Part 1

Lecture Hall

Hon. Christina L. Ryba, Hon. Thomas Whelan, Prof. Michael Hutter

This session will provide an overview of the important considerations regarding the threshold requirement of “serious injury” under Insurance Law §§ 5104(a) and 5102(d) as well as a framework for addressing summary judgment motions in this context. In addition to working through motion papers of an actual case, the judges will learn strategies for conducting settlement conferences in these cases.

SURROGATE’S & SUPREME CIVIL | Guardianships (MHL Article 81 vs. SCPA Article 17-A) and Supported Decision-Making, Part 1

Library

Hon. Kristin Booth Glen (Ret.), Hon. David H. Guy, Hon. Peter J. Kelly

Supported Decision Making (SDM), an alternative to appointing a guardian, provides persons with developmental disabilities individualized supports and services. The speakers will discuss the legal and ethical considerations for guardianship proceedings as well as how to utilize SDM to address the interests of litigants with developmental disabilities.

3:30 - 3:45

Break

3:45 - 4:45

Breakout Sessions

CITY & DISTRICT, NYC CIVIL | Consumer Debt & Name Change Petitions: Substantive Law and Motion Practice, Part 2

O-G01

Hon. Gregory J. Amoroso, Hon. Robert Helbock

CRIMINAL | Speedy Trial - CPL 30.30

O-101

Hon. Brendan T. Lantry, Hon. Michael Pinto

In New York, a defendant’s right to a speedy trial derives from both the Sixth Amendment to the United States Constitution and Section 30.30 of the Criminal Procedure Law. This session will focus on the mechanics of “30.30” and will provide a framework for deciding motions in which a defendant alleges the right to a speedy trial has been violated.

FAMILY | FCA Article10 - Part 2

O-G02

Hon. Alicea Elloras-Ally, Hon. Erik Pitchal, Hon. Keri Savona



In-Person DAY 3

Wednesday, January 8, 2025

NYC HOUSING | Non-Eviction Cases: Housing Part and Harassment Actions

JI-205

Hon. Daniele L. Chinae, Hon. Shorab Ibrahim

This session will provide a framework for addressing Housing Part (HP) actions, e.g., tenant-initiated actions, and harassment actions.

MATRIMONIAL | Economic Implications of Divorce, Part 2: Equitable Distribution

JI-305

Hon. Michael Katz, Elena Karabatos, Esq., Rosalia Baiamonte, Esq.

This session will cover the concepts, rules and cases governing the division of marital property..

SUPREME CIVIL | Serious Injury Threshold, Part 2

Lecture Hall

Hon. Christina L. Ryba, Hon. Thomas Whelan, Prof. Michael Hutter

SURROGATE'S & SUPREME CIVIL | Guardianships (MHL Article 81 vs. SCPA Article 17-A) and Supported Decision-Making, Part 2

Library

Hon. Kristin Booth Glen (Ret.), Hon. David H. Guy, Hon. Peter J. Kelly

4:45 - 5:00

Break

5:00 - 6:00

PLENARY | U-CAN Court Mentoring Program

Lecture Hall

Hon. Andra Ackerman, John Caher

U-CAN is a unique, court-based mentoring program in which young defendants lacking direction and a positive role model are paired with volunteer mentors for a period of interim probation. The program, conceived by Albany County Judge Andra Ackerman and implemented in conjunction with John Caher, the court system's Senior Advisor for Strategic and Technical Communications, provides a tough-love approach to young offenders who, because of their life experience, are unlikely to successfully navigate the structure of probation without the extra support this program provides. It has expanded to courts across the state, with extraordinary results. Recently, three young men in Albany, all facing state prison for criminal possession of a weapon, graduated after successfully completing the U-CAN requirements. Today, all three are living in the community in full compliance with probation requirements, working fulltime, paying taxes, and helping to support their families. In this session, Judge Ackerman and Mr. Caher will explain the mechanics and logistics of U-CAN, and provide a step-by-step tutorial on how to establish a program in any community.

6:00 - 7:00

Dinner

Tudor Room



In-Person DAY 4

Thursday, January 9, 2025

7:30 - 8:30	Breakfast	Omni Room
8:30 - 10:00	PLENARY Judicial Understanding of Wrongful Convictions and Their Impact Hon. Adam D. Perlmutter (Moderator), Hon. Michelle Johnson, Barry Scheck, Esq., Bryce Benjet, Esq., Karen Newirth, Esq., Derrick Hamilton, Renay Lynch This panel discussion will feature an overview of wrongful convictions in the United States and New York, factors leading to wrongful convictions, the role of Conviction Integrity Units, and other topics. The program will have a particular focus on the homicide exonerations of Renay Lynch and Derrick Hamilton, both of whom will be appearing as members of the discussion panel.	Lecture Hall
10:15 - 11:30	Breakout Sessions	
	CITY & DISTRICT, NYC CIVIL Small Claims Proceedings Hon. Gerald Lebovits This session will provide an overview of the substantive and procedural law applicable to Small Claims Court and practical guidance for presiding over Small Claims cases.	O-G01
	CRIMINAL Pre-Trial: Motions and Hearings, Part 1 Hon. Jeanette Rodriguez-Morrisk, Hon. Frances Wang This presentation will cover the substantive and procedural requirements for suppression and other common pre-trial hearings. Judges will leave this session with a framework for conducting these hearings and issuing the court's decision on the issues raised.	O-101
	FAMILY FCA Articles 4 and 5, Part 1 Hon. Gregory Gliedman, Thomas Gordon, Esq. This session will cover child support calculations under CSSA, legal standards governing modifications, COLA adjustments, enforcement and willfulness hearings. The session will also provide a basic overview of paternity proceedings and defenses.	O-G02
	MATRIMONIAL Maintenance and Child Support in Supreme Court, Part 1 Hon. Cheryl Joseph, Lee Rosenberg, Esq. This session will cover both the calculation, modification, and enforcement of child support, as well as the laws that govern spousal maintenance.	JI-305
	NYC HOUSING NYC Housing Court Motions Hon. Diane E. Lutwak, Hon. Julie Poley This session will provide new judges a framework and practical suggestions for efficiently resolving motions frequently seen in New York City Housing Court.	JI-205
	SUPREME CIVIL Construction Accident Litigation: Labor Law §§ 240(1) and 241(6) Hon. Devin Cohen, Hon. John Licata, Bryce Moses, Esq. The speakers will provide an overview of Labor Law §§ 240(1) and 241(6), and will also provide a framework for presiding over these cases, including deciding motions.	Lecture Hall



In-Person DAY 4

Thursday, January 9, 2025

SURROGATE'S | A Visit to the Westchester County Surrogate's Court

Hon. Brandon Sall, Hon. Stephen Cass,
and staff of the Westchester County Surrogate's Court

During this session, judges will have an opportunity to visit the Westchester County Surrogate's Court and get a practical overview of what the job of Surrogate entails. Among other things, judges will observe an experienced Surrogate preside over a busy calendar, learn the roles and responsibilities of the Court's Chief Clerk and other clerks, and discuss issues Surrogates must deal with on a regular basis.

11:30 - 11:45 **Break**

11:45 - 12:45 ***Breakout Sessions***

CITY & DISTRICT | Landlord-Tenant Law and Practice, Part 1

Omni Room

Hon. Stephen L. Ukeiley

This session will provide an overview of the substantive and procedural law applicable to summary proceedings in landlord-tenant cases. The speaker will discuss practical ways to address issues that arise frequently during appearances, settlement conferences, hearings, and trials.

CRIMINAL | Pre-Trial: Motions and Hearings, Part 2

O-101

Hon. Jeanette Rodriguez-Morrisk, Hon. Frances Wang

FAMILY | FCA Articles 4 and 5, Part 2

O-G02

Hon. Gregory Gliedman, Thomas Gordon, Esq.

MATRIMONIAL | Maintenance and Child Support in Supreme Court, Part 2

JI-305

Hon. Cheryl Joseph, Lee Rosenberg, Esq.

This session will cover both the calculation, modification, and enforcement of child support, as well as the laws that govern spousal maintenance.

NYC CIVIL | Commercial Landlord-Tenant Law

O-G01

Hon. Gerald Lebovits

This session will provide a primer on commercial landlord-tenant litigation in New York State. The speaker will identify and address a range of pertinent topics, e.g., complex commercial lease provisions, judges frequently encounter when presiding over commercial landlord-tenant matters.

NYC HOUSING | An examination of CPLR Rule 409: A small but powerful device

JI-205

Hon. John S. Lansden, Hon. Diane E. Lutwak

This session will start with an examination of the language of CPLR Rule 409 and how it fits into the Civil Practice Law and Rules ("CPLR")/Real Property Actions & Proceedings ("RPAPL") framework governing summary eviction proceedings. The speakers will then explore questions raised by CPLR Rule 409 such as how it relates to disclosure under CPLR 408, how it compares to a CPLR 3212 motion for summary judgment, when is it appropriate to exercise this discretion, and more.



In-Person DAY 4

Thursday, January 9, 2025

SUPREME CIVIL | Foreclosure Proceedings, Part 1

Lecture Hall

Hon. Tracy Catapano-Fox, Hon. Doris M. Gonzalez, Steven J. Helfont, Esq.

This session will provide an overview of the foreclosure process in New York and an analytical framework for addressing and deciding motions for summary judgment in foreclosure cases.

SURROGATE'S | A Visit to the Westchester County Surrogate's Court

Hon. Brandon Sall, Hon. Stephen Cass,
and staff of the Westchester County Surrogate's Court

12:45 - 1:40

Lunch

Omni Room

1:45 - 2:45

Breakout Sessions

CITY & DISTRICT | Landlord-Tenant Law and Practice, Part 2

Omni Room

Hon. Stephen L. Ukeiley

CITY & DISTRICT, NYC CIVIL | Infant Compromise Proceedings in Civil Court: What to Know and Expect

O-G01

Hon. Matthew Parker-Raso

This session will provide an analytical framework for managing an infant's compromise proceeding. The speaker will discuss: (1) the applicable rules and statutes, (2) reviewing the petition (or motion if the matter is pending), including the documents required to be submitted in this proceeding, (3) holding the hearing, and (4) post-hearing and order applications for the release of funds.

CRIMINAL | Wrongful Convictions and the Criminal Legal System: An Exoneree's Perspective for New Criminal Judges

O-101

Hon. Michelle Johnson, Karen A. Newirth, Esq., Renay Lynch

This session will feature a deep dive into Renay Lynch's wrongful conviction for the 1995 murder of her former landlord. The Honorable Michelle A. Johnson, Administrative Judge, Supreme Court (Queens County), Criminal Term, will guide Ms. Lynch and Karen Newirth, her post-exoneration attorney, through a detailed examination of Ms. Lynch's case from her first learning about her landlord's murder, through the case investigation, and Ms. Lynch's arrest, prosecution, and eventual freedom in 2024.

FAMILY | Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS), U-Visas & Immigration

O-G02

Hon. Alison Hamanjian, Terry Lawson, Esq.

This session will provide an overview of SIJS law and provide practical tips for family court judges handling these cases.

MATRIMONIAL | What I Wish I Would Have Known

JI-305

Hon. Jeffrey Sunshine, Hon. Jeffrey Goodstein,
Hon. Cheryl Joseph, Hon. Victor Grossman

This session takes the experience of judges who attended new judges last year and combines it with the experience of the supervising matrimonial judges from around the state to address common issues and concerns that arise during the first year of presiding over matrimonial matters.



DAY 4

Thursday, January 9, 2025

NYC HOUSING | Illegal Lock-Out Proceedings

Jl-205

Hon. Clifton A. Nembhard, Hon. Enedina P. Sanchez

This session will provide an analytical framework for managing illegal lock-out proceedings and determining whether/when restoration to possession is appropriate.

SUPREME CIVIL | Foreclosure Proceedings, Part 2

Lecture Hall

Hon. Tracy Catapano-Fox, Hon. Doris M. Gonzalez, Steven J. Helfont, Esq.

SURROGATE'S | The Surrogate's Court Program, Part 1

Library

Hon. Stephen Cass, Hon. Peter Kelly, Hon. Acea Mosey

This session will provide an overview of the role of the Surrogate, including the relationship between the court and the Public Administrator, and the myriad legal and practical issues that arise in Surrogate's Court.

2:45 - 3:00

Break

3:00 - 4:15

Breakout Sessions

CITY & DISTRICT, FAMILY, MATRIMONIAL, NYC CIVIL, NYC HOUSING, SUPREME CIVIL | The ADR Initiative

Lecture Hall

Hon. Doris M. Gonzalez, Hon. Joseph E. Lamendola, Lisa M. Courtney, Esq.

This session will provide an overview of the forms of ADR in New York State trial courts and Court-Connected ADR programs.

CRIMINAL | Managing DWI and Other VTL Cases

O-101

Hon. Joseph McCormack, Hon. Karen Bailey-Turner

In this session, the speakers will cover all aspects of presiding over DUI and DWI cases from arraignment through disposition.

SURROGATE'S | The Surrogate's Court Program, Part 2

Library

Hon. Stephen Cass, Hon. Peter Kelly, Hon. Acea Mosey

4:15 - 4:30

Break

4:30 - 6:00

PLENARY | Vicarious Trauma Recognition & Management

Lecture Hall

Raymond Shelton Ph.D., Fellow,

American Academy of Experts in Traumatic Stress ("F.A.A.E.T.S.")

Moderated by the Hon. Jeffrey Goodstein and Hon. Cheryl Joseph, this session will focus on vicarious trauma and how to cope with issues arising from traumatic experiences. Using specific situations, attendees will discuss and identify sources of trauma and will discuss solutions for addressing its impact on work and daily life.

6:00 - 7:00

Dinner

Tudor Room



In-Person DAY 5

Friday, January 10, 2025

7:30 - 8:30	Breakfast	Omni Room
8:30 - 10:00	PLENARY Interrupting Bias in the Courtroom Hon. Paulette Brown (Ret.) The speaker will discuss how judges can recognize and interrupt bias. After this session, judges will have a better understanding of both the barriers to and best practices for creating a bias-free court environment.	Lecture Hall
10:00 - 10:15	Break	
10:15 - 11:45	PLENARY Interactive Evidence Hon. Jack Stoller, Hon. Mark D. Cohen (Ret.), Prof. Michael Hutter Using hypotheticals, this session will provide a framework for identifying and resolving evidentiary issues judges frequently encounter.	Lecture Hall
11:45 - 12:00	Break	
12:00 - 1:00	Breakout Sessions	
	CITY & DISTRICT, NYC CIVIL, SUPREME CIVIL, SURROGATE'S Presiding Over Civil Trials, Part 1 Hon. Gregory Gilbert, Hon. Ramón E. Rivera, Hon. Saliann Scarpulla, Hon. Adam Silvera, Hon. Donna Siwek, David Oddo, Esq. This session will provide an overview of key stages of a civil trial and issues that may arise during each of those stages including, pre-trial matters, jury selection, motions in limine, managing evidence, charge conferences, verdict sheets, and protecting the record.	Lecture Hall
	CITY & DISTRICT, NYC HOUSING Managing Landlord-Tenant Trials, Part 1 Hon. Maija Dixon, Hon. Kisha L. Miller, Hon. Julie Poley, Hon. Remy Smith, Hon. Jack Stoller This interactive session will provide a framework for presiding over landlord-tenant trials. Tips and best practices for managing all aspects of the trial will be discussed throughout the session.	O-G01
	CRIMINAL Trial Practice, Part 1 Hon. Erika Edwards, Hon. Michael Yavinsky, Hon. Debra Young During this session judges will discuss topics including managing jury selection, instruction and deliberation; taking evidence and testimony; and ensuring fair and efficient trials that are free from reversible error.	O-101



DAY 5

Friday, January 10, 2025

FAMILY | The Role of the Attorney for Children (AFC) in Family Court

O-G02

Hon. Jacqueline Deane (Moderator), Judith Gerber, Esq.,
Dawne A. Mitchell, Esq., Hal Silverman, Esq.

This session will present an overview of the role of the AFC in family court cases from the perspective of panel and agency AFCs.

MATRIMONIAL | The Role of the Attorney for Children (AFC) in Matrimonial Proceedings

JI-305

Hon. Keri Fiore, Hon. Christi J. Acker, Robin Carton, Esq.

During this session, the panel will address the role of the AFC in matrimonial proceedings. Topics include the responsibilities of an AFC, timing of the appointment, payment of the attorney, Rule 7.2 as well as in camera/Lincoln hearings. The format will be conversational, and questions or comments are encouraged.

1:00 - 1:15

Working Lunch

Pick up lunch in Omni Room and bring it to your 1:15 session.

1:15 - 2:15

Breakout Sessions

CITY & DISTRICT, NYC CIVIL, SUPREME CIVIL, SURROGATE'S | Presiding Over Civil Trials, Part 2

Lecture Hall

Hon. Gregory Gilbert, Hon. Ramón E. Rivera, Hon. Saliann Scarpulla,
Hon. Adam Silvera, Hon. Donna Siwek, David Oddo, Esq.

CITY & DISTRICT, NYC HOUSING | Managing Landlord-Tenant Trials, Part 2

O-G01

Hon. Maija Dixon, Hon. Kisha L. Miller, Hon. Julie Poley,
Hon. Remy Smith, Hon. Jack Stoller

CRIMINAL | Trial Practice, Part 2

O-101

Hon. Erika Edwards, Hon. Michael Yavinsky, Hon. Debra Young

FAMILY | Family Court Matters & The Impact of Education Advocacy

O-G02

Hon. Jacqueline Deane (Moderator), Judith Gerber, Esq., Jackie Boissonnault, LMSW

A practical guide to the interplay between education and child welfare law and its implications for family court proceedings and outcomes. This session will introduce judges to the federal and state laws and guidance regarding such topics as school attendance, school stability for children placed in out-of-home care or in unstable housing, and access to special education programs and services.

MATRIMONIAL | Open Questions and Answers

JI-305

Hon. Jeffrey Sunshine



DAY 5

Friday, January 10, 2025

2:15 - 2:30

Break

2:30 - 3:30

Breakout Sessions

**CITY & DISTRICT, NYC CIVIL, SUPREME CIVIL, SURROGATE'S |
Presiding Over Civil Trials, Part 3**

Lecture Hall

Hon. Gregory Gilbert, Hon. Ramón E. Rivera, Hon. Saliann Scarpulla,
Hon. Adam Silvera, Hon. Donna Siwek, David Oddo, Esq.

**CITY & DISTRICT, NYC HOUSING | Managing
Landlord-Tenant Trials, Part 3**

O-G01

Hon. Maija Dixon, Hon. Kisha L. Miller, Hon. Julie Poley,
Hon. Remy Smith, Hon. Jack Stoller

CRIMINAL | Trial Practice, Part 3

O-101

Hon. Erika Edwards, Hon. Michael Yavinsky, Hon. Debra Young

FAMILY | FCA Art. 3 and Art. 7, Part 1

O-G02

Hon. Richard Rivera, Hon. Peter Passidomo

Individuals 17 and younger who are accused of committing acts that would constitute crimes if they were adults are designated as juvenile delinquents. In this session, judges explore the stages of a juvenile delinquency proceeding and will discuss characteristic youth behaviors, interventions and processes associated with Persons in Need of Supervision (PINS) petitions.

3:30 - 3:45

Break

3:45 - 4:45

Breakout Sessions

**CITY & DISTRICT, MATRIMONIAL, NYC CIVIL,
NYC HOUSING, SUPREME CIVIL, SURROGATE'S |
Fiduciary Appointments**

Lecture Hall

Meredith Jones, Esq., Valerie Avinger

This session will provide an overview of the fiduciary appointment process as well as judges' duties and obligations under Parts 36 and 26 of the Rules of the Chief Judge. The speakers will emphasize the great care a judge must take in making a fiduciary appointment.

FAMILY | FCA Art. 3 and Art. 7, Part 2

O-G02

Hon. Richard Rivera, Hon. Peter Passidomo



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