



AFCC eNEWS

MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER
VOL. 5 NO. 7
JULY 2010

AFCC is Going to Cambridge

AFCC is excited to bring the *Ninth Symposium on Child Custody Evaluations* to Cambridge, October 28–30, 2010. The program has an interdisciplinary faculty of more than 75 presenters with decades of experience in family law and child custody evaluations. It looks at child custody evaluation from all sides and presents more workshops than ever before. Register now by calling (608) 664-3750 or faxing in your registration to (608) 664-3751. Online registration will be available in August.

[Read more...](#)

[Program brochure...](#)

Things to do in the Cambridge/Boston Area

What better cities to be visiting than culturally savvy and energetic Cambridge and Boston, and during the crisp, cool days of fall? Here are a few ideas on how to spend your free time and some tips on how to get around.

[Read more...](#)

President's Message

AFCC President Bob Smith first attended an AFCC conference in 1994 and brings a rich background and history to the position.

[Read his first President's Message here...](#)

About AFCC's New President

Bob Smith, AFCC's new President, has led an amazingly interesting life to date. When asked for a brief bio to share with AFCC members, this is what he wrote:

A Somewhat Brief Bio [or: Get a Grip and Settle Down Into One Field, Would Ya....] My work life has probably been marked by serendipity, more than anything else; and my parents used to lament that I would never work long enough for one company to get their retirement gold watch. Nevertheless, here's how I made a living over the years...

[Read more...](#)

AFCC's 48th Annual Conference in Orlando June 1–4, 2011

UPCOMING CONFERENCES



AFCC Ninth Symposium on Child Custody Evaluations

October 28–30, 2010
Hyatt Regency Cambridge
Cambridge/Boston, MA

AFCC 48th Annual Conference

June 1–4, 2011
Hilton Orlando Bonnet
Creek Resort
Orlando, Florida

AFCC Regional Training Conference

October 27–29, 2011
Hyatt Regency Indianapolis
Indianapolis, Indiana

AFCC 49th Annual Conference

Call for Presenters Available Now

Research, Policy and Practice in Family Court: What's Gender Got to do with it? Gender issues are frequently front and center when it comes to family law. But how important is gender? Do men and women parent differently? What is the relationship between gender and domestic abuse? Does the well-being of children differ based on their parenting time with mothers and fathers? What does the research tell us?

[Read the call for presenters...](#)

[Submit a proposal...](#)

Research on Shared Care Parenting and Family Violence

The Australian Government has just published reports of research since the 2006 family law reform in three important areas:

- Shared care parenting arrangements
- Family violence
- Post-separation living arrangements

[Read the reports...](#)

ASK THE EXPERTS

Top Ten Tips for Having a Successful Collaborative Practice Outcome

By Sherri Goren Slovin, President, International Academy of Collaborative Professionals

There are things that you can do to maximize the chances of a successful outcome in a collaborative family case. Here are Sherri's top ten tips.

[Read more...](#)

FEATURED VIDEO

Hugh McIssac's Concern for the Field

Courtesy of Mediate.com

Hugh McIssac, former President of AFCC and former editor of *Family Court Review* (then known as *Family and Conciliation Courts Review*) shares his concern of mediation being perverted into a form of evaluation. A court-connected mediator sees clients in highly stressful situations and makes recommendations to the court based on those encounters.

[Click here to view...](#)

FEATURED BLOGS

Medical Marijuana and Custody

From: *Family Law Professor Blog*

The Associated Press reports on recent cases denying custody and/or visitation to a parent making use of medical marijuana: More than a decade after states began approving marijuana for medical use, its role in custody disputes remains a little-known side effect. While those laws can protect patients from criminal charges, they typically haven't prevented judges, court commissioners or guardians ad litem from considering a parent's marijuana use in custody matters—even in states such as

June 6–9, 2012
Hyatt Regency Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

AFCC 50th Annual Conference

May 29–June 1, 2013
J.W. Marriott Los Angeles at L.A. Live
Los Angeles, California

Ontario Chapter Annual Conference

October 14–15, 2010
The Future of Family Law
University of Toronto
Residences
Toronto, Canada
[More information...](#)

Texas Chapter Annual Conference

October 15–16, 2010
Children Caught in the Conflict: A Multidisciplinary Perspective
Houston, Texas
[More information...](#)

Arizona Chapter Annual Conference

January 28–30, 2011
Sedona, Arizona
[More information...](#)

California Chapter Annual Conference

February 11–13, 2011
Times They are a-Changing
The Mark Hopkins Hotel at Nob Hill
San Francisco, California
[More information...](#)

JOIN AFCC

Are you a member?

[Join or Renew...](#)

AFCC offers member benefits that promote excellence in practice.

Washington, where complying patients "shall not be penalized in any manner, or denied any right or privilege," according to the law.

[Read more...](#)

Social Networking Creeps Into the Courtroom

From: *Hey Annette*

Social networking (Facebook, Twitter, blogs, etc.) continues to impact family law, lawyers and judges. A couple of interesting examples are given here.

[Read more...](#)

New iPhone App Receives International Attention

From: *Minnesota Divorce and Family Law Blog*

Michelle O'Neil, a divorce attorney in Dallas, Texas, recently posted about an app she helped create for the iPhone: Divorce Cost & Preps. She writes: The app serves two purposes. First, a person contemplating divorce can assess the hidden and direct costs of divorce, such as the cost of providing two houses, two wardrobes for the children, or transportation costs for exchanging the children between houses. Second, the app gives divorce clients a list of information and documents to gather for their lawyer to assist preparation of their divorce.

[Read more...](#)

AFCC Member News

Dianna J. Gould-Saltman, AFCC member from Los Angeles, California, was appointed by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger to a judgeship in the Los Angeles County Superior Court. Gould-Saltman has been a partner at Gould-Saltman Law Offices since 1997 and was a sole practitioner at the firm from 1994 to 1997. Previously, she was an attorney for the Law Offices of Lorraine C. Gollub from 1986 until 1994. Gould-Saltman worked for Gollub & O'Connor as a law clerk, then associate attorney from 1984 until 1986. She earned a Juris Doctorate degree from Southwestern University School of Law and a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of California, Irvine. She is presently on the Board of Directors of AFCC.

AFCC Chapter Updates

AFCC Chapters are producing exciting programs and doing important work at the local level.

[Read more...](#)

Upcoming AFCC Training

Advanced Issues in Child Custody: The Child's Perspective

Mindy F. Mitnick, Ed.M., M.A.

September 30–October 1, 2010

Kansas City, Missouri

[More AFCC trainings...](#)

Other Conferences and Trainings of Interest

The American Bar Association Family Law Section, the National

[View member benefits...](#)

ABOUT AFCC eNEWS

AFCC eNEWS is a monthly e-newsletter published by the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC). *AFCC eNEWS* provides professionals with time sensitive and up-to-date topics including practice tips, research innovations and international news. Readers are welcome to forward this e-newsletter to interested colleagues.

[AFCC eNEWS archive...](#)

Website Version:

If you are having trouble viewing this email correctly, please view the website version by [clicking here](#).

Editor:

Leslye Hunter

editor@afccnet.org

AFCC welcomes your comments, questions or feedback. Please email the editor by [clicking here](#).

EMAIL UPDATE

[Subscribe](#), [Unsubscribe](#) or [Update Your Email Address](#)

AFCC will never share, distribute or publicize your email address.



Association of Counsel for Children and the International
Academy of Collaborative Professionals are offering fall
conferences and trainings.

[More information...](#)

6525 Grand Teton Plaza
Madison, WI 53719
Phone: (608) 664-3750
Fax: (608) 664-3751
www.afccnet.org

Professionals dedicated to improving the lives of children and families through the resolution of family conflict



CONFERENCES

- » [AFCC Conferences](#)
- » [Chapter Conferences](#)
- » [Conferences of Interest](#)
- » [Exhibits and Advertising](#)
- » [Presenter Information](#)
- » [AFCC HOME](#)



Conferences of Interest

The Boulder Interdisciplinary Committee on Child Custody
Beginning with the End in Mind: An Interdisciplinary Look at Families' Actual Needs During Divorce
February 3, 2012
Arvada Center
Arvada, CO
[Conference Brochure \(PDF\)](#)

Supervised Visitation Network Annual Conference
May 9-12, 2012
Renaissance Orlando at Sea World
Orlando, Florida
[More Information](#)

International Society of Family Law
June 14-16, 2012
Sustaining Families: Global and Local Perspectives
The University of Iowa College of Law
Iowa City, Iowa
[More Information](#)

Association for Conflict Resolution Annual Conference
September 12-15, 2012
Sheraton New Orleans
New Orleans, Louisiana
[More Information](#)

6th World Congress on Family Law and Children's Rights
March 17-20, 2013
Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre
Sydney, Australia
[Call for papers \(PDF\)](#)



MEMBER CENTER

AFCC is Going to Cambridge

- » [Family Court Review](#)
- » [AFCC Conference Audio](#)
- » [AFCC News](#)
- » [Member Directory](#)
- » [Member Resources](#)
- » [Chapter Resources](#)
- » [AFCC HOME](#)



AFCC is excited to bring the *Ninth Symposium on Child Custody Evaluations* to Cambridge, October 28-30, 2010. The program has an interdisciplinary faculty of more than 75 presenters with decades of experience in family law and child custody evaluations, looks at child custody evaluation from all sides and presents more workshops than ever before.

Four Pre-Symposium Institutes will address:

- *The Essentials of Child Custody Evaluations*, presented by David Martindale, Ph.D., ABPP;
- *Evidence and Testimony in Child Custody Evaluations*, presented by Timothy Tippins, J.D.;
- *Using the MMPI-2-RF (Restructured Form) in Child Custody Evaluations*, presented by Yossef S. Ben-Porath, Ph.D. and James R. Flens, Psy.D., ABPP; and
- *Mental Health-Attorney Consultation in Child Custody Cases: From Witness Support to Testimony*, presented by MA AFCC President David Medoff, Ph.D., Hon. William Fee, Robert A. Simon, Ph.D., Samuel J. Ferrara, J.D. and Hon. Dianna Gould-Saltman.

A stimulating plenary session will discuss the *Risks and Benefits of Child Custody Evaluations* with Massachusetts Probate and Family Court Chief Justice Paula Carey, Mary E. O'Connell, J.D., Maria P. Cagnetti, Esq. and Arnold T. Shienvold, Ph.D.

A Town Hall Meeting about Child Custody Consultation will present points of consensus and controversy and provide an opportunity for attendees to voice opinions and ask questions. This will be facilitated by the leadership of the AFCC Child Custody Consultant Task Force, Robin M. Deutsch, Ph.D., and Hon. William Fee, Co-Chairs of the Task Force, and Task Force Reporter Andrew Schepard, J.D.

An additional 30 workshops covering a wide range of topics including intimate partner violence, toxicology testing, divorce and suicide, relocation, stepfamily dynamics, ethical issues for both court-involved therapists and custody evaluators, evaluator bias, risk assessment, parenting plans, research and brief focused assessments will be presented.

The program will have something for any family law professional who works with families undergoing custody disputes: mental health professionals, lawyers and judicial officers. Please join us!

[Program brochure...](#)



MEMBER CENTER

- » [Family Court Review](#)
- » [AFCC Conference Audio](#)
- » [AFCC News](#)
- » [Member Directory](#)
- » [Member Resources](#)
- » [Chapter Resources](#)
- » [AFCC HOME](#)



President's Message

by Robert M. Smith, J.D., M.Div., Windsor, Colorado



Family law is a late-in-life career change for me, a field in which I actually wish I had begun years before, and I had the good fortune to go to a law school in San Diego that allowed me to create a final internship anywhere in the country. Since my wife and I had embarked on our midlife crises together—she simultaneously enrolled in an optometry doctorate program in Oregon—we decided that I would try to intern with a court services program near Portland. It was there that I had the great fortune to meet Nolan Jones, Stan Cohen and, a little later, Hugh McIsaac, all of whom were instrumental in the creation of AFCC. When I walked into the Clackamas County Family Court Services office in 1994, Stan immediately announced to me that I needed to clear my schedule to attend AFCC's upcoming regional conference at nearby Skamania Lodge on the Columbia River. That conference was such a tremendous learning experience for me that I've been clearing my schedule to eagerly come to AFCC events ever since.

I've learned a tremendous amount from the AFCC Presidents who have served before me, and they are all some of the most effective, caring and completely approachable professionals I've ever known. I have particularly learned from this past year's President, Canadian Justice Emile Kruzick, and from his infectious enthusiasm for AFCC. I especially recall watching him in Halifax last August at the Fifth World Congress on Family Law and Children's Rights. It was a crowded coffee area at a session break when Emile walked in with that warm, broad smile of his, and before the break had ended, he had engaged a large number of delegates in animated conversation, while at the same time convincing two delegates to fill out AFCC membership applications on the spot. Emile has been one of AFCC's most effective ambassadors, and he has personally been responsible for bringing in a substantial number of new members, so that AFCC now has almost 4,000 active members.

I have also thoroughly enjoyed serving on the AFCC Board for the past six years, with one of the most enjoyable parts being the chance to serve with Board members from all over the US, Canada, Australia, England and New Zealand. This is part of what AFCC is all about: an international, interdisciplinary association of professionals with the common goal to resolve family conflict, and to make life better for children when their families are in turmoil. My temptation to only see practices, problems and opportunities from a very parochial viewpoint has not been able to stand for long; since family law in my home state, Colorado, has so much to learn from the assumptions, practices and experiments in a variety of other jurisdictions. I have always felt somewhat inadequate to fully comprehend international viewpoints and assumptions, and have made it a personal commitment during this year to not only learn a foreign language myself, but also to strongly encourage my adult children and my grandchildren to do the same.

And after one more highly professional and smoothly-run annual conference in Colorado last month, I want to express my deep appreciation

for the wonderful AFCC staff, under the unflappable, organized and dedicated leadership of Peter Salem. I have been a member of a number of other professional organizations over the years; even though these other groups often employed far more staff members, I have never been more quickly, professionally and appropriately served than by the AFCC staff in Madison. They know what they're doing, they care about all of the AFCC members, and they get the job done in a thoroughly professional manner.

This year, the 47th Annual Conference built upon the theme of the January 2010 issue of *Family Court Review*, a special issue on Alienated Children of Divorce and Separation. One of the great benefits of AFCC membership, in addition to receiving the quarterly issues of the *Family Court Review*, is that members who were unable to attend the Denver conference are able to log into the Member Center of the AFCC website to listen to conference plenary sessions at no charge. But the real electricity is in meeting new colleagues from around the world, discussing vital issues in the multitude of workshops, and enjoying reconnecting with old friends at AFCC conferences. The Ninth Symposium on Child Custody Evaluations in Cambridge, Massachusetts, is just three months away, and I hope to have the chance to meet you there, and to talk with you about creative ways in which AFCC can help to resolve family conflict throughout the world.

—Bob Smith

6525 Grand Teton Plaza, Madison, WI 53719
Phone 608.664.3750 Fax 608.664.3751 afcc@afccnet.org www.afccnet.org

[Search - Site Map](#)



MEMBER CENTER

- » [Family Court Review](#)
- » [AFCC Conference Audio](#)
- » [AFCC News](#)
- » [Member Directory](#)
- » [Member Resources](#)
- » [Chapter Resources](#)
- » [AFCC HOME](#)



About AFCC's New President: Robert M. Smith, J.D., M.Div.

A Somewhat Brief Bio [or: Get a Grip and Settle Down Into One Field, Would Ya...]



My work life has probably been marked by serendipity, more than anything else; and my parents used to lament that I would never work long enough for one company to get their retirement gold watch. Nevertheless, here's how I made a living over the years:

Starting in college (Stanford), I worked as a student firefighter, living upstairs in the firehouse (which actually had a real brass pole to slide down to the engines in the bay), and drove an old ladder truck. There were some significant fires during my years there, including a part of the football stadium, and a large fraternity house that was set afire in an insurance scam; and I had the joy of running out of classes and exams whenever the fire horn went off. During college, I also worked as a hasher (a food server) for one of the dorms, and played drums in one of the two campus rock bands.

After college, I decided to go into the Presbyterian ministry, and started out in a seminary just north of San Francisco. After three months I concluded that maybe I wasn't right for the ministry at this point, which meant I also gave up my 4-D draft deferment. I figured that flying was pretty exciting, so I joined up with the Air Force's Officer Training School, coming out as a brand new, pretty clueless 2nd Lieutenant. In spite of having graduated as an English Lit major, the Air Force, in their infinite wisdom, figured that I would make a good fighter aircraft and missile controller, and sent me to Biloxi, Mississippi, to learn a brand new computer control system (and to pronounce the town as "Bull-luxi"). It turned out that I had an unknown aptitude for this area—called weapons control—and finally left the Air Force as a Captain to join a Santa Monica offshoot of the RAND Corporation—System Development Corporation (SDC) as a senior systems analyst designing aircraft and missile control computer systems. Though I didn't know him then, I found out years later that longtime AFCC leader and *Family Court Review* editor Hugh McIsaac also worked for SDC in the Human Factors Department.

Figuring that it was worth one more try, I left SDC after projects in Boston and New Mexico, and returned to the Presbyterian seminary, which, by that time, had moved to Berkeley, California, on what was affectionately called Holy Hill, since it had joined eight other seminaries and UC Berkeley in the Graduate Theological Union. While going through seminary, I drove a truck delivering turkeys to restaurants for a (short) while, learning amazing things about food (un)cleanliness; and then started working with both a church in Oakland and with the Planned Parenthood affiliate there as a teen birth control educator and counselor. After receiving my M.Div. degree, some of the more conservative ministers in California objected to my work with Planned Parenthood—though my church and the seminary had strongly supported it—and blocked my ordination, so I took a position in Denver as the Federal Training Manager for Region VIII, conducting

training events in six states for doctors, nurses and family planning workers. This led to positions as the Executive Director of Planned Parenthood affiliates in Montana and New Mexico, and finally as the Training Manager for the largest affiliate in the US, where I met my wife, Jude, who was the manager of one of the clinics in Northern Colorado.

We wanted to remain in Northern Colorado, so I returned to my system analyst roots by starting up my own computer programming firm, Quantum Leap, specializing in writing software for small businesses. This led to developing a management program for interior designers, which involved flying all over the US and the Caribbean, installing the software and training staff. One day, however, Jude and I sat on our deck in Colorado and came to the realization that we both wanted to pursue careers that we had always wistfully thought about, but had never acted upon. So we decided to have our midlife crises together—I started law school in San Diego, while Jude went back to get another degree in biology, and then started optometry school in Oregon. After a whole lot of commuting, we came back to Northern Colorado, where the now “Dr. Jude” opened her optometry clinic in Windsor, and I began developing mediation programs for the Judicial Office of Dispute Resolution. Jude’s practice is thriving, and I am now conducting brief, focused family law investigations for the courts all over the Denver Metro area and Northern Colorado, and we try to take some time off periodically to travel, whenever we can.

6525 Grand Teton Plaza, Madison, WI 53719
Phone 608.664.3750 Fax 608.664.3751 afcc@afccnet.org www.afccnet.org

[Search - Site Map](#)



MEMBER CENTER

AFCC Chapter News

- » [Family Court Review](#)
- » [AFCC Conference Audio](#)
- » [AFCC News](#)
- » [Member Directory](#)
- » [Member Resources](#)
- » [Chapter Resources](#)
- » [AFCC HOME](#)



Arizona

The AFCC Arizona Chapter will be presenting an Institute featuring Robert E. Emery, Ph.D., *Who Decides What's "Best" for Children*, September 16, 2010. Dr. Emery will critique the science of custody evaluations; debate if evaluations are de facto arbitration; discuss the Approximation Rule; and consider what promotes children's psychological well-being.

California

The AFCC California Chapter held its annual conference in Santa Monica with the theme of *Clear and Present Danger*. The state of California is in an extreme budget crisis resulting in all courts being closed one day a month, as well as severe staff and program cutbacks. In order to raise awareness, the California Chapter drafted a resolution declaring the dearth of resources a public health crisis.

Colorado

The AFCC Colorado Chapter enjoyed participating in the AFCC 47th Conference as representatives of the host city, Denver, and welcoming the new AFCC Board President, Bob Smith, from Windsor, Colorado. The chapter held its annual meeting and election during the conference with around 50 members in attendance. The chapter is offering a training conference on the Western Slope, in Montrose, October 8, 2010, titled *Professional Roles with High Conflict Families in Domestic Relations Cases: Boundaries and Ethical Considerations*.

Florida

The AFCC Florida Chapter partnered with the Office of State Court Administrators and held its annual conference in March 2010. The chapter is planning regional trainings for the upcoming year and will host the parent organization for AFCC's Annual Conference in Orlando in June 2011. The chapter's Parenting Coordination Task Force is applying for Phase II of a grant, and its PC Ethics Committee is planning a summit meeting. The chapter has formed a Social Investigation and Parenting Plan Committee with the goal of standardizing definitions for evaluations.

Louisiana

There is a House Concurrent Resolution (HCR #185) before the Louisiana legislature asking the Louisiana Supreme Court to create a body to certify and register Parenting Coordinators. In recognition of AFCC's seminal influence in creating the PC model in many states, Louisiana Chief Justice Kitty Kimball has asked the chapter for input on how to proceed.

Texas

The AFCC Texas Chapter will have its annual conference in collaboration with the University of Houston Law Center Clinical Program, October 15–16, 2010, in Houston. This year's theme is *Children Caught in the Conflict: A Multidisciplinary Perspective*. The keynote speaker, Dr. Isolina Ricci, author of *Mom's House, Dad's House* books, will be presenting *Co-Parenting Today: The Professional's Toolkit*. Speakers from around the state and the country will be sharing their insight and expertise about various topics in their respective fields, such as: updated statutes, collaborative approach to CPS cases, multi-generational mediation, children

with special needs, parenting coordination/facilitation, personality disorders
and substance abuse.

6525 Grand Teton Plaza, Madison, WI 53719
Phone 608.664.3750 Fax 608.664.3751 afcc@afccnet.org www.afccnet.org

[Search - Site Map](#)



MEMBER CENTER

- >> [Family Court Review](#)
- >> [AFCC Conference Audio](#)
- >> [AFCC News](#)
- >> [Member Directory](#)
- >> [Member Resources](#)
- >> [Chapter Resources](#)
- >> [AFCC HOME](#)



Things to do in the Cambridge/Boston Area

What better cities to be visiting than culturally savvy and energetic Cambridge and Boston, and during the crisp, cool days of fall? Here are a few ideas on how to spend your free time!

Tips for getting around:

Use public transportation: The "T" system connects Cambridge to Boston and beyond. It is safe, efficient and convenient. Access to a "T" stop is also not far from the Hyatt, and the hotel provides a complimentary shuttle service to the stop at Kendall Square T Stop (Red Line) or the Boston University T-Stop (Green Line). There is a MBTA Bus Stop located outside the hotel entrance on Amesbury Street.

Hotel Shuttle: The weekday and weekend six passenger shuttle van service will take guests from Harvard Square to the CambridgeSide Galleria Mall. The complimentary shuttle runs every 30 minutes based on guest request and availability.

Rent a bike: Cambridge is bike friendly—bike lanes, dedicated areas marked on the streets, bike racks.

Walk: There are many wonderful places to visit, all within a short walking distance of the conference hotel.

Cambridge

Harvard University

Founded in 1636, Harvard is America's oldest institute of higher learning and one of the country's most prestigious universities. Among the illustrious alumni are civil rights leader W.E.B. Du Bois, philosopher Henry David Thoreau, writer Gertrude Stein, composer Leonard Bernstein, cellist Yo Yo Ma and seven U.S. presidents. Student-led walking tours are available with an advance reservation or explore on your own with a self-guided walking tour. www.harvard.edu

Longfellow National Historical Site

For almost half a century (1837 - 1882) this was the home of one of the world's foremost poets, scholars and educators, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. It was also a favorite gathering place for historical figures such as George Washington, Ralph Waldo Emerson and Nathaniel Hawthorne. It is open for public touring Wednesday through Sunday. www.nps.gov

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)

One of the world's leading educational institutions, with an emphasis on math and sciences, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology is located on the banks of the Charles River. Twenty-six MIT alums have won the Nobel Prize and more than one-third of the nation's space flights have included MIT-educated astronauts. The MIT campus offers tours Monday through Friday. No reservation is necessary. web.mit.edu

Harvard Museum of Natural History

The public museum of Harvard's three research museums, it displays over 12,000 specimens, including the well-known collection of 3,000 "Glass Flowers," flame-worked glass models of flowering plants, which were used to teach botany in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Also on display are

some 5,000 minerals and gemstones, including a 1,642 lb. amethyst geode and extraordinary meteorites. Family favorites include the dinosaurs, prehistoric mammals such as glyptodont, giant sloth, a mastodon, as well as over 500 current day mammals—rhino, hippo, giraffe, and three whale skeletons. New exhibits give glimpses of some of the ongoing scientific research at the University. www.hmn.harvard.edu

Harvard Square

Harvard square is steeped in history. Adjacent to the university you can see the statue of John Harvard, stop in one of the many bookstores, grab a cup of coffee, enjoy a fine dinner or visit the eclectic shops. There are also venues for live music and theater. www.harvardsquare.com

Boston

Urban AdvenTours

Take a bike tour of Boston! With so much to see, a tour is a great way to see more. AdvenTours has a number of different tours tailored to your interests. Tours include bike and helmet rental, water and a guide to the city. www.urbanadventours.com

Old Town Trolley Tours

Old Town Trolley Tours shows you the best of Boston on their 100-minute, fully narrated tour. Guests enjoy 17 stops, including Fenway Park, where you may disembark for shopping, dining and attractions. Each ticket comes with free admission to the Old State House Museum, a full-color guidebook and coupon book. www.trolleytours.com

Freedom Trail

Free 90-minute walking tour led by National Park Service Rangers along the heart of Boston's Freedom Trail. Discover Boston's role in the American Revolution. The Freedom Trail is a 2.5 mile red-brick walking trail that leads you to 16 nationally significant historic sites, which include museums, churches, meeting houses, burying grounds, parks, a ship, and historic markers that tell the story of the American Revolution and beyond. Tours start at the Boston National Historical Park Visitor Center, 15 State Street, Boston, MA 02109. For information call (617) 242-5642. www.nps.gov

Boston Museum of Science

A long-standing tradition for families in Boston, but that doesn't mean adults won't enjoy themselves too! Exhibits range from dinosaurs to space travel to wildlife to physics to human biology to an in-depth look at Boston's "Big Dig" project. A newer section especially for younger kids involves water play and fun sensory experiences. Many of the exhibits feature hands-on sections, where you can lift a solid ton of marble, place your hand in a dinosaur footprint, or generate enough electricity to power a light bulb. And the biology and evolution section on the upper floor features live tamarin monkeys! www.mos.org

Fenway Park

The oldest Major League baseball park in the United States, its small, intimate atmosphere allows you to feel like you are "in the game." Unfortunately the season will be over during the conference dates, but it is still a historic landmark well worth a visit. boston.redsox.mlb.com

Nearby Attractions

Walden Pond State Reservation

Henry David Thoreau lived at Walden Pond from July 1845 to September 1847. His experience at Walden provided the material for the book *Walden*, which is credited with helping to inspire awareness and respect for the natural environment. Walden Pond has been designated a National Historic Landmark and is considered the birthplace of the conservation movement. Park Interpreters provide tours and ongoing educational programs. The Reservation includes the 102-foot deep glacial kettle-hole pond. Mostly undeveloped woods totaling 2680 acres, called "Walden Woods," surround the reservation. Located near Concord, Massachusetts; 16 miles from the Hyatt. www.mass.gov/dcr/parks/walden

Salem Witch Museum

The Salem Witch Museum takes you back to 1692 Salem where 180 people had been accused and imprisoned for witchcraft. Visitors are given a dramatic history lesson using stage sets with life-size figures, lighting and a narration of the Witch Trials of 1692. A new exhibit, *Witches: Evolving Perceptions*, examines the stereotypical witch, aspects of witchcraft in the 17th century, modern witchcraft and the phenomenon of witch hunts. Located in Salem, Massachusetts; 20 miles from the Hyatt. www.salemwitchmuseum.com

6525 Grand Teton Plaza, Madison, WI 53719
Phone 608.664.3750 Fax 608.664.3751 afcc@afccnet.org www.afccnet.org

[Search - Site Map](#)



MEMBER CENTER

- >> [Family Court Review](#)
- >> [AFCC Conference Audio](#)
- >> [AFCC News](#)
- >> [Member Directory](#)
- >> [Member Resources](#)
- >> [Chapter Resources](#)
- >> [AFCC HOME](#)



ASK THE EXPERTS

Top Ten Tips to Have a Successful Collaborative Practice Outcome in Family Cases

By Sherri Goren Slovin, J.D., President, International Academy of Collaborative Professionals

1. Share available dispute resolution process options with your client in a respectful, realistic way.
2. Help your client determine whether the Collaborative Process (CP) will effectively meet his or her goals and interests.
3. Before CP is chosen as a process option, inquire about how conflict with the spouse has been resolved in the past so that you have insight into both your client and his/her spouse.
4. Prepare your client for the challenges that come with resolving conflict so that expectations are realistic.
5. Be an active participant in your local Practice Group so that you can develop a solid trust relationship with the other Collaborative Professionals you work with.
6. Recognize the value of working with mental health and financial professionals. Families in transition are complicated and the value of a team can't be underestimated!
7. Prepare for meetings and debrief, both with your client, and the other professionals.
8. Stay the course. When things get tough, don't slip into the comfort of letters and positions.
9. Recognize the power of deeply understanding interests and creating interest-based option and the reality that negotiations have a distributive component.
10. If things feel stuck, take a breath and ask for help. You will find wisdom in the clients, the team, your practice group, and in the worldwide Collaborative community.

Sherri Goren Slovin, J.D. lives in Cincinnati, Ohio and is the President of the International Academy of Collaborative Professionals.