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Fall Virtual Conference

*Necessity is the Mother of Invention:
Creative Interventions for Supporting an
Overwhelmed Court System*
November 12-14 and 17-18, 2025



Earn up to 22 hours of continuing education credit from the comfort of your home or office by attending AFCC's [Fall 2025 Virtual Conference](#).

All sessions will be recorded and available to registrants both live and on demand. So, if you miss a session you or can't decide which to one attend, you can watch anytime!

Opening Session: From Forced to Invited: Trauma-Informed Accountability in Complex Parenting Plan Disputes

- Michael A. Saini, PhD
- Leslie M. Drozd, PhD
- Jennifer Harrison, PsyD, ABPP

Check out the [conference brochure](#) to see everything we have in store for this year's program and [register today!](#)

Ask the Experts: Five Tips for Developing Effective Cross-Examination

Anna Street, JD



One of the most disliked aspects of family law litigation is cross-examination. People have a universal aversion to it, from litigators to parents to experts. In family law cases, there are many types of individuals a lawyer will need to cross-examine. Often, the lawyer will cross-examine at least one of the parents, an evaluator or Guardian ad Litem, mental health professionals for either parent or the minor child, or other various experts, professionals, or friends and family. Effective cross-examination is a critical tool for litigators to help paint a picture for the factfinder (Judge) of what is in the best interest of the children, just as understanding

AFCC Members from Outside the US/Canada Register for Free!

In recognition of time zone limitations, all AFCC members who reside outside of the United States and Canada may register for the conference at no charge! No promo code necessary just [register online](#) you will be automatically given the discount.

[Register Now!](#)

effective cross-examination is also a critical tool for any professional in a family law case so they are prepared to answer questions in a way that is useful to the factfinder in making decisions for families. The author reflects on the purpose of cross-examination and offers some key guidelines for lawyers cross-examining witnesses and for those who face cross-examination during testimony.

[Continue Reading](#)

63rd Annual Conference

May 27-30, 2026 | Seattle, WA

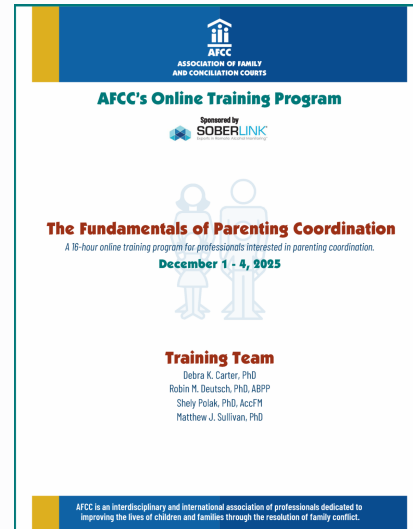


AFCC is seeking 90-minute workshop proposals for our upcoming 63rd Annual Conference in Seattle next May!

Family transitions are never just about logistics. Beneath the surface, underlying forces shape the experience: cultural expectations, psychological wounds, and unconscious motivations to name a few. As the world becomes more complex, family law professionals are called to deepen their understanding of these hidden layers to serve families more justly and compassionately. Join us in Seattle, as we uncover what lies beneath the surface of family transitions and explore emerging practices to respond with empathy, integrity, and skill.

Have an idea for a 90-minute workshop? Submit your proposal today. [See the call for proposals](#) for suggested topics and submission instructions.

[Call for Proposals](#)



The Fundamentals of Parenting Coordination

December 1-4, 2025

Online Training

Interested in parenting coordination? Join AFCC in December [The Fundamentals of Parenting Coordination!](#)

Learn about the parenting coordinator's scope of authority, strategies to help parents improve cooperation and communication, how to help clients utilize the process, and how to effectively write recommendations or decisions.

Training Team:

- Debra K. Carter, PhD
- Robin M. Deutsch, PhD, ABPP
- Shely Polak, PhD, AccFM
- Matthew J. Sullivan, PhD

[Register Now!](#)

Cross Examination for Parenting Plan Evaluations

Anna Street, JD
October 23, 2025



This webinar will explore strategies and techniques used when questioning an expert witness who conducts parenting plan evaluations. The presentation will also explore common lines

of questions for parenting plan evaluators and how to prepare for those questions throughout the course of your evaluation. The presentation aims to provide attorneys with examples of effective cross examination of a parenting plan evaluator and evaluators with a better understanding of how to support their findings, credibility, and methodology when being questioned.

Registration

Members: \$15
Non-Members: \$50

Certificate of Attendance

Members: \$15
Non-Members: \$20

[Register Now!](#)

More Upcoming Webinars!

Screening for Intimate Partner Violence in Mediation: Tools, Ethics, and Practice Tips

Kelly Browe Olson, JD, LLM & Joi Hollis, PhD
November 4, 2025

Year in Review: The 2025 Social Science Roundup for Family Law Professionals

Michael A. Saini, PhD, MSW, RSW
December 11, 2025

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Meet Our Members!



Ariana D. Flessas is a dedicated family law attorney in Boston, Massachusetts, with experience in divorce, custody, support, and alimony matters. She is newer member of AFCC, having joined us in New Orleans for her first annual conference. Known for her meticulous preparation and dynamic

Upcoming Chapter Events

**AFCC New Jersey
25th Anniversary Celebration**
September 27, 2025
Warren, NJ

**AFCC Florida
Annual Advanced Education Program**
October 8-10, 2025
Orlando, FL

**AFCC Ontario
Annual Conference**
October 23-24, 2025
Toronto & Virtual

**AFCC Indiana
Annual Conference**
October 24, 2025
Indianapolis, IN

AFCC Maryland

advocacy, she combines a client-centered approach with strong courtroom skills. Ariana has particular expertise in cases involving domestic violence and intimate partner abuse, drawing on years of advocacy and collaboration with experts in the field. Clients trust her for her thoughtful guidance, compassionate understanding, and steadfast commitment to achieving favorable outcomes with dignity and care.

Welcome to AFCC, Ariana!

Annual Conference
October 30, 2025
Annapolis, MD

AFCC Welcomes a new staff member!



AFCC welcomes Mitch Findley who brings over 15 years of experience in relationship management, customer success, and strategic partnerships. Prior to joining AFCC, Mitch worked closely with leading family law organizations, helping to build strong professional networks and drive engagement across the field. He has also helped improve systems that support member and partner engagement. Mitch is passionate about strengthening connections within the family law community and supporting its vital work. Welcome aboard, Mitch!

Thank You to our 2025 AFCC- AAML Conference Sponsors!



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Social Science Editor

Family Court Review (FCR), the quarterly academic and research journal of AFCC, is seeking a Social Science Editor: FCR is an interdisciplinary journal prepared for publication at Hofstra University Law School by a student editorial staff. The Social Science Editor will work with the Editor-In-Chief, Editorial Board, and student staff to promote the interdisciplinary missions of FCR and AFCC. Click [here](#) to review the position and submit your interest before October 1, 2025.



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The *AFCC eNEWS* is the monthly e-newsletter of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts. The *eNEWS* provides up-to-date information for professionals including practice tips, international news, and the latest initiatives in family law and conflict resolution. The *AFCC eNEWS* is provided at no charge to you; anyone can [subscribe](#).

AFCC members are free to share eNEWS content.

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