Family Law Annual Seminar: Plain Talk on Plain Language Issues

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REPORTING YOUR CREDIT
This recorded seminar was originally presented as the live seminar and webcast *Family Law Annual Seminar: Plain Talk on Plain Language Issues*, recorded on December 14, 2016, in Seattle, WA. If you attended the live seminar or webcast and reported CLE credits, you cannot also report credits from watching or listening to this recording.

DESCRIPTION
Attorneys using the new plain language forms are breaking new ground. Don’t miss this intermediate-level recorded seminar addressing the major concerns currently faced by family law attorneys. Our experienced faculty explain how the new plain language forms impact issues such as modifications, parenting plans and child support orders. This full-day recorded seminar also addresses some of the important ethical decisions faced in family practice.

AGENDA

1. **Parenting Plans**
   Nancy Hawkins is in private practice and represents men and women in family law cases with a variety of parenting plan needs. In this recorded session she discusses potential problems with the new plain language forms and provide drafting suggestions to overcome those problems. She also provides suggestions for handling a variety of parenting plan issues using the now mandatory plain language form.

   Nancy Hawkins – *Attorney At Law, Seattle*

2. **There’s a Form for That? Getting to Know the New Plain Language Forms**
   Laurie Garber staffed the ATJ Pro Se Project’s Forms Review Workgroup that revised all of the domestic relations forms into plain language. In this recorded session, Laurie gives tips for working with the new forms and discuss some of the lesser known forms, including those about accessing restricted court records, registering out-of-state orders, extending immediate restraining orders, the Service Members Civil Relief Act, and relocation motions and objections.

   Laurie Garber – *Northwest Justice Project, Vancouver, WA*
3 **Mediation Papers: When Less is More**
How much information does a mediator really need, or want? What papers do you really want, or need, to provide? Also: developments regarding mediation ethics rules or guidelines.

Linda Roubik – *Wechsler Becker LLP, Seattle*

4 **The New Plain Language Child Support Order**
Nancy Koptur of the DSHS Division of Child Support participated as a member of the ATJ Pro Se Project Forms Review Workgroup and thinks the new Plain Language Child Support Order is pretty cool. However, Nancy also points out some issues that have arisen when DCS receives child support orders entered by attorneys or unrepresented parties using the new form, some of which result in unenforceable orders. This recorded session has three goals:

- Pointing out problems with how the new form is filled out
- Identifying problems that practitioners see in the new form, and
- Developing suggestions for possible ways to fix those problems.

Nancy Koptur – *Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, Olympia*

5 **Modifications with a View towards the Modern Forms**
Amir John Showrai – *The Pacific Law Firm PLLC, Seattle*

6 **Ethics and Family Law - Not an Oxymoron**
In this session, explore ethical issues common in family law including defining boundaries and scope of representation, withdrawal and substitution of counsel, due diligence, and dealing with client decisions that you do not agree with under RPC 1.2, RPC 1.3, RPC 1.16, and RPC 2.1.

Lisa DuFour – *Integrative Family Law PLLC, Seattle*
Sharon Friedrich – *Integrative Family Law PLLC, Seattle*