

# 2019 Conference Agenda

## LITIGATION STRATEGIES AND CLIENT REALITIES

*Poverty's Implications and Leveling the Playing Field with Proactive Advocacy*

### Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>

**12:00 – 2:00pm - Registration & Check-in**

**2:00 – 3:30pm - Case Law Update: Annual Review of Important Cases and Trends in Dependency Law, Part I**

Richard Bartmon, Esq., RC4 Managing Attorney, Appeals Division

**3:30 – 4:30pm - From Barriers to Burdens: Shifting Responsibility to Parents to Identify Barriers to Case Plan Compliance and Other Recent Ch. 39 Changes**

Richard Kaplan, Esq., RC4 Managing Attorney, 17<sup>th</sup> Circuit

Carmela Lina Kell, Esq., RC4 Litigation Director, 17<sup>th</sup> Circuit

**4:45 – 6:00pm - Networking Reception**

### Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup>

**7:15 – 8:15am - Continental Breakfast**

**8:15 – 9:15am - The Yamas: Applying Yoga's Ethical Principles to Dependency Practice**

Meredith D. Jones, Esq., RC4 Dependency Trial Attorney, 19<sup>th</sup> Circuit

**9:15 – 10:15am - The ABCs of MBIs: Understanding the "Manifest Best Interests" Requirement in TPR Cases**

Paul O'Neil, Esq., RC4 Appellate Attorney

**10:15 – 10:30am - Break**

**10:30 – 12:00am - Family Poverty is Not Neglect**

Jey Rajamaran, Esq., Chief Counsel for the Legal Services of New Jersey Family Representation Project

Sylvia Thomas, Esq., Staff Attorney for Legal Services of New Jersey Family Representation Project

**12:00 – 1:00pm - Lunch**

**1:00 – 2:30pm - In Our Voices: Lived Experiences of Mothers with Substance Use**

Dr. Marianna Colvin, PhD, LGSW, Assistant Professor at FAU's School of Social Work, Director of FAU's Child Welfare Institute

Dr. Heather Howard, PhD, LICSW, Assistant Professor at FAU's School of Social Work  
Featured Speakers:

Niki Dietrich, Meagan Bailey, Miranda Duncan

**2:30 – 2:45pm - Break**

**2:45 – 4:00pm - Cross Circuit Break-Out Sessions**

**4:00 – 5:00pm - Conference Panel Discussion**

Moderated Discussion of Cross-Circuit Issues; Supplemental Q & A with Conference Presenters

