

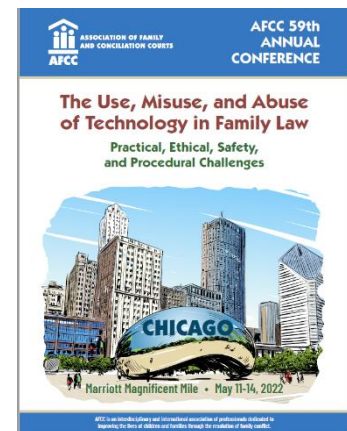


February 2022
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AFCC 59th Annual Conference
Chicago, Illinois
May 11-14, 2022



AFCC 59th Annual Conference

Register Now! Early-Bird Rates End on March 2nd!

The Use, Misuse, and Abuse of Technology in Family Law: Practical, Ethical, Safety, and Procedural Challenges

May 11-14, 2022

Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile

Register now for the AFCC 59th Annual Conference for the best rates! Choose the best method of registration for you:

- **Register online**
- **Email your registration form to afcc@afccnet.org**
- **Call the AFCC office** to complete your registration over the phone (608-664-3750)
- **Mail your registration form and payment** to 6525 Grand Teton Plaza, Madison, WI 53719
- **Fax your registration form** to 608-664-3751

Thank you to our annual conference sponsors!

Diamond Sponsors

AFCC is waiving all cancellation fees for the conference due to any health and safety-related issues.* We hope this makes your decision to register for the conference easier in these uncertain times.

[Register Now!](#)

*Simply provide notice in writing to AFCC at afcc@afccnet.org by Monday, May 9, 2022.

Add a Pre-Conference Institute to Make the Most of Your Conference Experience!

Join us on May 11th for a full-day institute focused on a single topic. Choose one of the following to add to your registration!

1. The Intersection of Family Law and Online Dispute Resolution (ODR Track)

Clare Fowler, EdD; Susan Guthrie, JD; and Colin Rule, MPP

2. Advanced Training in Child Custody Evaluations

Kim Bonuomo, JD; Robin M. Deutsch, PhD, ABPP; David A. Martindale, PhD, ABPP; Arnold T. Shienvold, PhD; and Sol Rappaport, PhD, ABPP

3. Judicial Officers Institute: Values, Beliefs, Cultural Norms, and Parenting Time

Daniel Bloom, JD; Hon. Dianna Gould-Saltman; and April Harris-Britt, PhD

Moderator: Hon. Grace G. Dickler

4. Children's Mental Health, Educational, and Social/Emotional Development

Jamie Pellar, LCSW; Hollie Sobel, PhD; and Marsha Kline Pruett, PhD, ABPP

5. Intimate Partner Violence: Screening, Process Choice, and Effective Parenting Plans

Magistrate Richard Altman; Kelly Browe Olson, JD, LLM; Corinne (Cookie) Levitz, JD; and Stephanie Senuta, MS

6. Pivoting Parenting Coordination to the Virtual World

Annette T. Burns, JD; Shely Polak, PhD; Matthew J. Sullivan, PhD; and Nancy Chausow-Shafer, JD

[Read the full conference program brochure](#) for full descriptions of the pre-conference institutes.

Reserve Your Hotel Room Now!

Make your hotel reservation today for the best availability. The Marriott Chicago Downtown Magnificent Mile is offering a special



SOBERLINK



Platinum Sponsors



ADR Notable

Mediation Management Made Easy.



**Online
Parenting
Programs**

**AFCC Online Training
Programs**

rate to AFCC attendees of \$229 per night for single/double occupancy. **We encourage you to make your reservation early because rooms frequently sell out before the room block is released.** Reserve online or call 1-877-303-0104 and request the AFCC special rate.

Donate to the Silent Auction

Conference attendees have long enjoyed the annual AFCC Silent Auction, and we are excited to mark its return in Chicago this year. Proceeds help fund AFCC projects and initiatives. The auction will take place on Friday, May 13, 2022, 5:30pm-7:30pm. *You do not need to attend the conference to donate.*

Popular auction items have included tropical getaways, unique artisan jewelry, sports memorabilia, electronics, and books. The best options are small, portable items that are easy for the donor to bring, and easy for the recipient to take home. **Complete the online form to donate an item.**

Exhibit with AFCC!

Sign up now to exhibit at the AFCC 59th Annual Conference! Now is the time to sign up because 1) the lowest prices are available through March 11th, 2) the best table placement is available on a first-come, first-served basis, and 3) space is filling up fast!

Don't miss out on your chance to promote your business to AFCC conference attendees. **Read the prospectus** and contact **Gina Wentling** to sign up.

AFCC's New Look!

The next time you visit **the AFCC website**, you will notice a new, updated look!

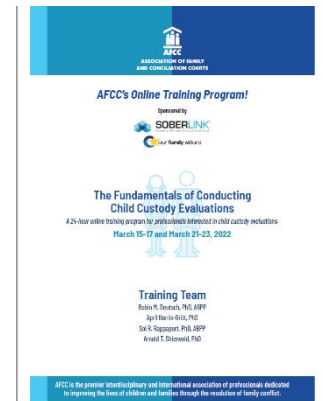
The website still contains all the information you need to engage with AFCC, including conference information, webinar details, chapter information, professional resources, and the member center, including the Webinar Archives and Family Court Review.

Take a moment to familiarize yourself with the new landscape. We have made just a few changes to the navigation, which should make it easier to find the information you need. **Webinars**, for instance, can now be found on their own tab.

We hope you enjoy the new look and streamlined navigation of the updated AFCC website! If you need help finding something, email afcc@afccnet.org or call 608-664-3750.

Conversation Corner: Amy Schmitz

A Column Throwback to the AFCC Newsletter of the 90's



The Fundamentals of Conducting Child Custody Evaluations

Mar. 15-17, 2022, and
Mar. 21-23, 2022

15th Symposium on Child Custody



Call for Proposals
Submissions are due April 25, 2022.

AFCC Chapter Conferences

Colorado Chapter
Annual Conference
Postponed to Fall 2022
Stay tuned for details!

California Chapter
Annual Conference

Amy J. Schmitz is a professor and Chair in Law at The Ohio State Moritz College of Law and Program on Dispute Resolution. She previously taught at the University of Missouri School of Law and Center for Dispute Resolution, and at the University of Colorado School of Law. Professor Schmitz is affiliated with The Ohio State Program on Data Governance and Divided Community Project. She hosts **The Arbitration Conversation**, a video series featuring short conversations with important voices in arbitration. She is the keynote speaker at the Opening Session of the AFCC 59th Annual Conference, May 11-14, 2022, in Chicago.



Feb. 25, 26, 27, 2022
Presented as live Zoom
Webinars

Alberta Chapter Annual Conference

March 4, 2022
Calgary, Alberta and
online

Missouri Chapter Spring Conference

March 4, 2022 and March
11, 2022
Being held virtually

Massachusetts Chapter Webinar Series

March 8, 2022
Being held virtually

Louisiana Chapter Annual Conference

March 18, 2022
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

AFCC: The use of technology and algorithms in family law practice has increased significantly in the last few years. What are some of the factors that have contributed to the recent surge in integration of technology with family law professional practice and family courts? [Read more.](#)

Correction: Conversation Corner: Tami Moscoe

Last month, we published a conversation with Tami Moscoe. Please review this revised version of the article. The previous version stated that *articling students* were involved in the project; in fact, *law students* volunteer in The Family Law Limited Scope Services Project. [Read the updated article.](#)

AFCC's Online Training Course on Child Custody Evaluations Begins March 15th!

The Fundamentals of Conducting Child Custody Evaluations

March 15-17, 2022, and March 21-23, 2022

This 24-hour online training program is designed for professionals interested in child custody evaluations (CCE). The program offers participants the opportunity to learn from a team of leading practitioners and trainers.

The program will take place in two segments per day, two hours each. Topics include the CCE process, psychological testing, parenting plans, research, and cultural and diversity considerations.

Join us and earn up to 24 hours of continuing education training! Recordings of all sessions and all handouts will be available to registrants.

Visit the [training portal](#) for more information! On the portal, you can:

- [View the full schedule](#) to plan your attendance.
- [Meet the training team.](#)
- [Read the learning objectives.](#)
- [Consult the brochure](#) for full details.
- [Learn about the training program sponsors.](#)

We hope you can join us for this practical, comprehensive training program!

[Register now!](#)

Ready to Learn Even More About Child Custody Evaluations?

An in-person, interactive program will be offered as a supplement as a pre-conference institute at the 59th Annual Conference in Chicago.

Look for **2. Advanced Training in Child Custody Evaluation** on page 4 of the [conference program brochure](#). This institute is designed for those who have attended the child custody evaluation online training program or similar training.

Parent Education in the Wake of the Pandemic: A Pilot Project

Joi Hollis, PhD

The Family Center of the Conciliation Court (FCCC) of the Arizona Superior Court was established in 1963 by Arizona Law and is under the jurisdiction of the Arizona Superior Court in Pima County (Tucson). The professional staff members of the FCCC have advanced degrees in the behavioral sciences and post-graduate experience in marriage and family therapy, mediation, and court-ordered evaluations. Conciliation services provided in Pima County, and to varying degree, other jurisdictions throughout Arizona include family (divorce) mediation, mandatory parent education, legal decision-making (custody) and/or parenting time evaluations, court ordered child interviews, parenting coordination, and conciliation counseling. [Read more.](#)

Submit Your Proposals for the AFCC 15th Symposium on Child Custody!

When a full house becomes parenting apart, changes in the family can become all consuming. While most families can successfully navigate these changes, some struggle due to a variety of issues. How can family justice professionals help when children are dealt a bad hand? Is a successful future in the cards for high-conflict families? Join AFCC in Las Vegas as we examine the challenges of parenting apart.

AFCC 15th Symposium on Child Custody

From a Full House to Parenting Apart

November 10-12, 2022

Planet Hollywood Resort and Casino

AFCC is accepting proposals for 90-minute workshops to be presented at the symposium. Please read the [Call for Proposals](#) for full details and submit your proposal using the [online form](#). The deadline to submit is **April 25, 2022**.

AFCC Will Present Awards on May 11, 2022. Nominate a Colleague Today!

AFCC awards acknowledge the many important contributions made by individuals and organizations to enhance the lives of children and families involved in family courts. Your nominations help recognize these accomplishments.



Nominations for the following awards, to be presented at the AFCC 59th Annual Conference in Chicago, will be accepted online through **March 21, 2022**.

John E. VanDuzer Distinguished Service Award recognizes outstanding contributions and/or achievements by AFCC members. [Submit a nomination!](#)

Stanley Cohen Distinguished Research Award, sponsored by the Oregon Family Institute, recognizes outstanding research and/or research achievements in the field of family and divorce. [Submit a nomination!](#)

Irwin Cantor Innovative Program Award recognizes innovation in court-connected or court-related programs created by AFCC members. [Submit a nomination!](#)

AFCC Webinar Corner

Moving Family Disputes Online

Bernie Mayer, PhD and Colin Rule

March 10, 2022 | 1:00-2:00pm Eastern Time US/Canada

Registration closes on March 9, 2022, at 9:00am Eastern Time US/Canada.

Online Dispute Resolution (ODR) is growing quickly in family dispute resolution and family courts, primarily as a result of the pandemic. But what are the ramifications of moving family disputes online?

Presenters in this webinar will discuss some of the opportunities and challenges in resolving family disputes online, including: How do online processes change the dynamics in a dispute? Can online resolutions truly address the psychological needs of the parties? And what are some of the ethical dilemmas that emerge from online practice?

Bernie Mayer, PhD, has provided conflict intervention for families, communities, NGO's, unions, corporations, and governmental agencies throughout North America and internationally for over 40 years. He is Professor Emeritus of Conflict Studies, Program on Negotiation and Conflict Resolution, Creighton University, and a founding partner of CDR Associates. Bernie's newest book (with Jacqueline Font-Guzmán), *The Neutrality Trap: from Constructive Engagement to Strategic Disruption in Social Conflict*, was published in early 2022. Previous books include *The Dynamics of Conflict*, *Beyond Neutrality*, *Staying with Conflict*, and *The Conflict Paradox*.



Colin Rule is CEO of Mediate.com. In 2011 Colin co-founded Modria.com, an Online Dispute Resolution (ODR) provider based in Silicon Valley, which was acquired by Tyler Technologies in

2017. From 2017 to 2020 Colin served as Vice President of ODR at Tyler. From 2003 to 2011 Colin was Director of ODR for eBay and PayPal. Colin is the author of *Online Dispute Resolution for Business* and co-author of *The New Handshake: ODR and the Future of Consumer Protection*. He co-founded Online Resolution, in 1999 and served as its CEO and President. Colin also worked with the National Institute for Dispute Resolution in Washington, DC and the Consensus Building Institute in Cambridge, MA.



Registration

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

Certificate of Attendance

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

Continuing education credit may be available for lawyers, judges, psychologists, social workers, counselors, and other professionals. [Learn more.](#)

[Register today!](#)

DE&I Clients and "-Isms": Recognizing and Addressing Discriminatory Behavior

Chioma Ajoku, JD, PhD, ABPP; Kelly Browe Olson, JD; Jacqueline Font-Guzmán, PhD; and Hon. Linda Fidnick

April 7, 2022 | 4:00-6:00pm Eastern Time US/Canada

Registration closes on April 6, 2022 at 9:00am Eastern Time US/Canada.

[Register now!](#)

*This program will include one hour of panel discussion, followed by one hour of discussion by all participants. The program is free to attend and includes a certificate of attendance, but **you must register.***

What Do Judges Want?

Hon. Dianna Gould-Saltman and Hon. Herman Walker, Jr.

April 12, 2022 | 1:00-2:00pm Eastern Time US/Canada

Registration closes on April 11, 2022, at 9:00am Eastern Time US/Canada.

[Register now!](#)

Chapter News

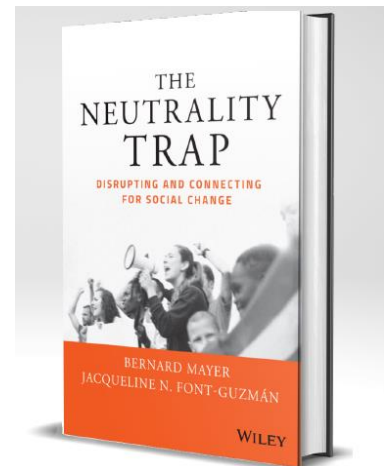
Kerry Smith, PhD, AFCC member from Chicago, Illinois, is the new president of the Illinois chapter of AFCC. She has a PhD in Clinical psychology, and she works in the areas of child and family therapy, as a divorce coach and child specialist in collaborative law, and in the court system providing evaluations for individuals and families.

AFCC-Illinois is focusing on education through its Lunch and Learn series and Annual Conference (October 13, 2022), increasing resources for members via its website, and by offering networking opportunities across disciplines. Congratulations, Kerry!



Member News

Bernard Mayer, PhD, AFCC member from Kingston, Ontario and co-presenter of AFCC's webinar on March 10th, is a co-author of a new book, *The Neutrality Trap: Disrupting and Connecting for Social Change*, with Jacqueline N. Font-Guzmán, who will be a co-presenter of the AFCC DE&I program on April 7th. *The Neutrality Trap* challenges all of us to embrace the potential we have to further social progress while cautioning us against reflexively calling for dialogue without also recognizing the necessity for disrupting regressive systems and building social movements. The authors invite us to reconsider our reliance on neutrality, objectivity, and professionalism and instead commit ourselves to justice, equality, and genuine connection. [Learn more.](#)



Do you have a notable achievement to share? Email [Gina Wentling](#) with your story and a professional head shot or book image (PNG preferred), if you have one, to be featured in next month's Member News!

AFCC eNEWS

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. [Subscribe here.](#)

AFCC members are free to share eNEWS content.

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