

AFCC-NY c/o TERESA OMBRES, ESQ.
3839 BELL BOULEVARD #330
BAYSIDE, NEW YORK 11361



New York's New Multi-Door Courthouse --
The Quiet Revolution
AFCC-NY 2008 Annual Conference
November 7, 2008 at the
Association of the Bar of the City of New York
42 West 44th Street, New York, NY
Cosponsored by Hofstra University Law School



Photo by Dana & Leroy

Photo by WallyG

November 7th - 8:30 - 9:00 Registration and Continental Breakfast
9:00 - 9:30 Welcome and Introductions
9:30 -10:00 Keynote opening by
Judge Judy Harris Kluger

Judge Judy Harris Kluger is the Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for Court Operations and Planning for New York State. She is responsible for court reform, restructuring projects and problem solving courts. Initiatives under her direction include Integrated Domestic Violence Courts, Drug Courts, Domestic Violence Courts, Mental Health Courts, Sex Offender Courts and Community Courts. Currently, Judge Kluger oversees nearly 300 problem solving courts statewide.



10:30 - 11:00 Questions and Answers with Judge Kluger and reaction panel
Judge Matthew D’Emic, Prof. Andrew Schepard, Elayne Greenberg
11:15 - 12:30 Morning Workshops

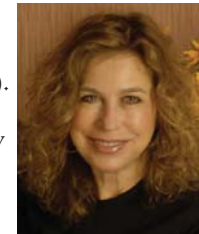
Parenting Coordination - Judge Robert Ross & Elayne Greenberg

You are invited to enter the door of Parenting Coordination and learn about how this new dispute resolution intervention may ameliorate the seemingly intractable parenting conflict for many pre and post judgment high conflict families. Courts, lawyers, mental health professionals and others working with high conflict families are welcome to participate in this vibrant discussion. It will deepen your understanding about what parenting coordination is; how it differs from mediation and therapy; which families you work with might benefit; how to distinguish good parenting coordination practice; and the required collaboration between Courts and professionals to maximize its effectiveness.

Judge Ross was selected by Administrative Judge Anthony Marano and (then) First Deputy Chief Administrative Judge Anne Pfau to develop, implement and preside over the Model Custody Part called “Children Come First.” This program provides early screening and services, such as parent education programs, comprehensive evaluations and development of parenting plans, as a more effective resolution of custody disputes. Judge Kaye, in her 2007 State of the Judiciary address, termed the program an “unqualified success,” and has been considered by other jurisdictions throughout New York State for implementation.



Ms. Greenberg offers a breath and depth of experience in Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR). She is a mediator, dispute resolution system consultant, parenting coordinator, collaborative attorney and parent educator who has developed programs, trained, written and lectured nationally on the subject of parenting coordination, mediation, advocacy in mediation, conflict management, negotiations, ethics, interdisciplinary practice and parent education.



Mediation - Daniel M. Weitz, Deputy Director, Division of Court Operations

Mr. Weitz will provide an update on the innovative ADR programs in place throughout the State. Topics will include and an emphasis on recent developments in mediation including new programs and the new Guidelines for the Qualifications and Training of Mediators and Neutral Evaluators. He will also address how mediators can get more involved in court-connected mediation programs.



Collaborative Law - Lisa Courtney, Special Projects Counsel, Office of ADR and Court Improvement Programs

In 2007, New York State’s Chief Judge Judith Kaye announced plans to open the first, court-based Center for Collaborative Family Law in the nation. Miss Courtney will describe the soon-to-be-opened center. It will be located in lower Manhattan and will serve New York City residents. The Center will provide space for participants to engage in Collaborative Law to reduce the adversarial nature of divorce, and lessen the financial and emotional cost of divorce for everyone involved. Center staff will connect families to lawyers and mental health professionals. They will also link families to financial planning professionals trained in Collaborative Law and to other needed services.



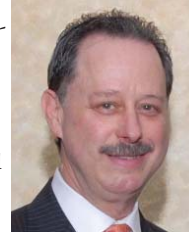
Problem Solving Courts - Lawrence M. Schaffer & Bruna DiBiase

The presentation will cover all Problem Solving Court types in New York State: Drug Court, Domestic Violence Court, Integrated Domestic Violence Court, Mental Health Court, Sex Offense Court and Community Court. It will describe how these courts operate, where they are located, what cases are eligible for each court type, the role played by groups and agencies outside the court, and the legal underpinnings of the various programs. New York State is in the forefront of the movement to create courts that look to the root causes that bring litigants into the court system. This new approach seeks to enhance case outcomes and better serve our communities. Under the leadership of Chief Judge Judith S. Kaye, these courts have spread throughout our state and become part of the fabric of our justice system.

Bruna DiBiase is the Chief of Staff to Judge Kluger, Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for Court Operations and Planning for New York State. She also serves as counsel addressing legal, legislative, operational and training issues involving court reform, restructuring projects and specialized courts that are spearheaded by the office. Initiatives of the office include Integrated Domestic Violence Courts, Domestic Violence Courts, Youthful Offender Domestic Violence Courts, Drug Courts, Mental Health Courts, Sex Offense Courts, Community Court initiatives and facilitating public access to court records and court reorganization projects.



Lawrence M. Schaffer, Esq., is a Special Referee currently assigned to hear and determine matters in the Nassau County Supreme Court. He has served as a referee on special assignment to the Suffolk County Supreme Court and referee and mediator in the Nassau County Family Court. Currently he also serves as the Project Director of the Nassau County Mental Health Court which opened in January 2008. He continues to act as the Project Director for both the Integrated Domestic Violence Part, which handles Supreme Court, Family Court and Criminal Court matters involving one family and the County Court Sex Offense Court, two other problem solving courts that he helped establish in Nassau County.



12:30 - 1:30 Lunch

1:30 - 3:00 Afternoon Workshops

Parent Coordination - Judge Robert Ross & Elayne Greenberg (Morning Repeat)
Mediation - Dan Weitz (Morning Repeat)
Collaborative Law - Lisa Courtney (Morning Repeat)
Problem Solving Courts - Larry Schaffer & Bruna DiBiase (Morning Repeat)

Family Law Careers for Law Students - Prof. J. Herbie DiFonzo

Family Law Education Reform Project - Making a difference for a new generation of lawyers

J. Herbie DiFonzo is Professor of Law at Hofstra University. He and Prof. Mary E. O'Connell served as Co-Reporters for the Family Law Education Reform Project, a national endeavor to improve teaching in family law. After practicing law for 17 years, DiFonzo now teaches in the areas of family law and civil procedure. He is the author of *Beneath the Fault Line: The Popular and Legal Culture of Divorce in Twentieth-Century America* and his most recent articles (co-authored with Ruth C. Stern) include "The Winding Road From Form to Function: A Brief History of Contemporary Marriage" and "Addicted to Fault: Why Divorce Reform Has Lagged in New York."



Continued on Back Panel

November 7, 2008

Family Law Careers for Law Students - panel members continued

Susan Moss is a Fellow of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers (AAML). AAML Fellows are recognized by judges and attorneys as preeminent family law practitioners with a high level of professionalism, knowledge, skill and integrity. Additionally, as a graduate of the Wharton School of Business, Ms. Moss possesses superior skills to examine and analyze the complex financial issues that many of her clients face.



Lisa R. Schoenfeld is an associate in the matrimonial practice of Schlissel Ostrow Karabatos, PLLC. She was admitted to the New York State Bar in January 2003 and has also been admitted to the United States District Court for the Eastern and Southern Districts of New York. Since her admission to the Bar, she has practiced exclusively in matrimonial and family law at Schlissel Ostrow Karabatos, PLLC, and assisted the firm in the matter of *Frankel v. Frankel*, 2 N.Y.3d 601, 814 N.E.2d 37, 781 N.Y.S.2d 59 (2004), a significant decision that solidified the rights of non-monied spouses to receive counsel fee awards.



Emily Ruben, Attorney-in-Charge of the Brooklyn Neighborhood Office of the Legal Aid Society, has supervised Legal Aid's citywide domestic violence and family law practice since 1996. She is a member of the Lawyers Committee Against Domestic Violence and co-chairs its Supreme Court and Family Court subcommittees. She is a member of Justice Silberman's Statewide Committee on Matrimonial Practice and a member of the board of AFCC-NY. She is the author of an article entitled Representing Victims of Domestic Violence in Supreme Court Matrimonial Actions.

3:00 -3:15 Coffee and Refreshments

**This Conference Promises Practical Information for All AFCC Members
On the Newest Programs in NY's Courts from the Hands-on Experts**

Conference Co-Chairs: Judge Andrea Phoenix, Rachel Fishman Green, Steve Abel

Please Print and Forward

REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

- ___ \$25 for law students (No fee for students only attending Family Law Careers for law students)
- ___ \$70 for Chapter Members in the public sector
- ___ \$95 for Chapter Members in private practice
- ___ \$120 for Non-Members

INCLUDES LUNCH AND MATERIALS
(IF YOU JOIN AFCC, NOW OR AT THE DOOR, YOU PAY THE MEMBER'S RATE. MEMBERSHIP IS \$195)

CLE CREDITS AVAILABLE.

PRINT and SEND REGISTRATION and FEE TO: TERESA OMBRES, ESQ., TREASURER, AFCC-NY
(Check is payable to AFCC-NY) 3839 BELL BOULEVARD #330, BAYSIDE, NEW YORK 11361

FOR PROGRAM QUESTIONS CONTACT: **Steve Abel, Chapter President, (845) 634-4700**

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ FAX _____ EMAIL _____