



The Office of the Child's Representative Presents

2017 Doubling Down on Your Legal Advocacy for Children

Excellence in Independent Investigation Required by CJD 04-06

Session Goals:

Provide a forum to discuss practical, law-based solutions to independent investigation requirements for GALs.

Promote a learning and practice culture in which all attorneys are recognized as experts and leaders in best practices.

Generate practice tools and tips that can be immediately implemented, tailored to individual advocacy styles and jurisdictional needs, and further developed over time.

Session Structure:

Topic experts will present their topic and issues associated with that topic using the CJD as his/her foundation. Participants will select a small group. (15 minutes)

“Discussion Groups” meet for 45 minutes. During this time:

- select a note taker and reporter;
- discuss issues; and
- identify strategies and resources.

Groups report back to large group and report out for discussion. (45 minutes)

Session Issues:

- 1) JD Requirements—Ranae Sharshel, Esq. & Chris Henderson, Esq.
- 2) Diligent Search and Relative Engagement—Kurt Metzger, Esq. & Beth Padilla, Esq.
- 3) Observations of Children and Parents—
- 4) Engaging Youth

Materials: