



Domestic Violence for Guardians ad Litem

Program dates start March 19. Register today!

4 CLE
GAL Minor / Family
GAL Family Violence

1 EPR

Domestic Violence for Guardians ad Litem

Endorsed by the Family Law Section of the State Bar of Wisconsin

Shelter from the storm

In cases with contested child custody and placement where domestic abuse is a factor, it's critical that Guardians ad Litem (GALs) are able to recognize and account for the abuse in recommendations to the court.

At *Domestic Violence for Guardians ad Litem*, you'll receive crucial guidance on effectively screening for signs of family abuse and learn how to evaluate the implications for children experiencing various forms of abuse. Come away knowing how to account for child safety in your final recommendations and with sound ethical advice on presenting the best interests of the child.

How you'll benefit:

- Identify signs of domestic abuse in disputed custody cases
- Understand the effects of different types of abuse on children
- Recognize the impacts of abuse on parenting and co-parenting
- Learn how to account for abuse in recommendations to the court
- Comply with statutory requirements to accept GAL appointments

Who should attend:

- Guardians ad litem for children
- Family law attorneys
- Juvenile court attorneys
- Probate attorneys
- Attorneys who want to start taking GAL appointments
- Judges and court commissioners making custody and placement decisions
- General practitioners

Register now!

Credits

This program will be submitted to the Wisconsin Board of Bar Examiners for **4 CLE / GAL Minor / GAL Family / GAL Family Violence credits, including 1 Ethics and Professional Responsibility credit.** The BBE is not currently tracking GALDV credits.

Registration

ONLINE: wisbar.org/seminars

PHONE: (800) 728-7788

FAX: (608) 257-5502

MAIL: State Bar PINNACLE Registrations

P.O. Box 7158

Madison, WI 53707-7158

State Bar CLE/PINNACLE Passbook registrations:

Passbook certificates must be received by the State Bar at least one business day prior to the event. For in-person seminars, walk-in registrations using Passbook Certificates are also welcome.

Registration cancellations:

Please visit wisbar.org/cancellations for information on PINNACLE registration cancellation policies.

Course materials for those attending the seminar:

Course materials are provided in PDF format and are downloadable from *myStateBar* on wisbar.org up to two days prior to and 90 days after your seminar.

COVID-19 safety information:

Complete and current safety guidelines can be found at wisbar.org/covidsafety.

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An **Ultimate Pass™** takes you beyond better with unlimited CLE for one annual fee. Three options available.

wisbar.org/ultimatepass



Schedule

8:00 AM Registration

8:30 AM DV 101: It Includes So Much More Than Physical Violence

- Definitions of domestic abuse
- Types of domestic abuse
- Importance of “checking” your beliefs, biases, and assumptions
- Potential consequences for victims disclosing abuse

Kelsey J. Mullins, Kari Niesen-LaScala, Gricel Santiago-Rivera

9:20 AM What’s Actually Going On? Defining the Nature and Context of Abuse

- Not all domestic abuse is the same
- Importance of asking the right questions to flush out abuse
- Documenting and reviewing red flags
- Examining ALL forms of abuse, per law
- Overview of coercive control
- Understanding potency, pattern, primary perpetrator, parenting problems, and perspectives of the child
- Impact of abuse on parenting

Meghan E. Healy, Gricel Santiago-Rivera

9:45 AM What Does It Mean? Evaluating the Implications of Abuse

- Determining how an abusive person parents
- How do the children experience and react to the abuse
- What is the impact of the abuse on the children
- Can co-parenting be achieved? How?

Kelsey J. Mullins, Christine R. H. Olsen

10:10 AM Break

10:25 AM Accounting for Abuse in Recommendations to the Court

- Distinction between “divvying things up” and “making things work”
- Priorities of recommendations in accounting for abuse
- Recommending safety for the children

Meghan E. Healy, Kari Niesen-LaScala

11:05 AM Case Scenario: 4-Part Analysis

Meghan E. Healy, Kelsey J. Mullins, Kari L. Niesen-LaScala, Christine R. H. Olsen, Gricel Santiago-Rivera

11:15 AM Ethical Issues for GAL’s in Cases with Documented Domestic Abuse

- Obligation and responsibility when the GAL does not believe parent(s)’ wishes and/or stipulation are in the best interest of the child due to domestic abuse being present
- Confidentiality concerns when a victim does not wish information such as health or medical records to be revealed to court

- Does the duty to protect the best interest of the child extend to a duty to protect a parent who is a victim?
 - Addressing nonspecific orders such as “reasonable notice” when there is known domestic abuse
 - GAL’s ethical obligations if recommendations are not accepted by the court or the court doesn’t apply the legal standard for domestic abuse cases
 - Is there an ethical obligation to interview the child? At what age? How might evidence of the impact of witnessing domestic abuse on children be obtained without an interview?
 - Issues with interim authority in cases where domestic abuse is present
- Meghan E. Healy, Kelsey J. Mullins, Kari L. Niesen-LaScala, Christine R. H. Olsen, Gricel Santiago-Rivera*

12:05 PM Question and Answer Session

12:15 PM Program Concludes

Following start time, schedule may vary slightly from above listed times.

Faculty

Program Presenters

Meghan E. Healy

DiRenzo & Bomier, LLC
Neenah

Kelsey J. Mullins

Office of Court Operations
Madison

Kari L. Niesen-LaScala

End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin
Madison

Christine R.H. Olsen

Olsen Law Office
Wausau

Gricel Santiago-Rivera

RISE Law Center
Madison

Dates

Location

In-Person Seminar – Madison

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

State Bar Center

5302 Eastpark Blvd., Madison, WI

Live Webcast

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Webcast Replays

Thursday, March 28, 2024

Wednesday, April 3, 2024

Monday, April 8, 2024

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Monday, April 22, 2024

Thursday, May 2, 2024

Wednesday, May 15, 2024

Saturday, May 25, 2024

Friday, September 20, 2024

Wednesday, October 9, 2024

Tuesday, November 12, 2024

Book Bonus!

Family Law in Wisconsin: A Forms and Procedures Handbook

SAVE 15% on *Family Law in Wisconsin: A Forms and Procedures Handbook*.^{*} Streamline your practice with the *Handbook's* systematic approach for handling divorce and family law cases. Eliminate unnecessary meetings and get the information you need! Use **discount code CA3612** when you order online or by calling (800) 728-7788



^{*}Discount applies to both print and digital Books UnBound® editions of this title and cannot be applied to previous purchases. Offer valid through 12/31/25. For Books UnBound users, discount may be applied to purchase of individual Books UnBound title only and may not be used on purchase of libraries. Discount cannot be combined with any other offers.

Additional Learning Opportunities

GAL Training 2024

Get a comprehensive review of the role you play as a GAL including considerations for interviewing children, how to formulate and give your recommendation to the court, and how to avoid conflicts. Get tips from family court commissioners from throughout the state, and examine the new ethics opinion regarding acting as a GAL. **6 CLE, 6 GALF, 6 GALM, 1 EPR**

In-Person Madison Seminar and Live Webcast: May 8, 2024

Webcast Replays: May 16, 2024 | May 21, 2024 | May 31, 2024 | June 10, 2024 | June 19, 2024
June 25, 2024 | July 11, 2024 | August 12, 2024 | September 19, 2024
October 11, 2024 | November 6, 2024 | December 10, 2024

The Guardian ad Litem Handbook

Whether you need guidance on the basics of serving as guardian ad litem, or you need help with the most complex issues, you'll find it in this handbook. You'll discover invaluable contributions from authors who share their extensive expertise in Wisconsin's most comprehensive guide to being a GAL. (Includes 2020-21 and 2022-23 supplements)

Print Book: #AK0057; 742+ pp.; 5th ed. 2018-19; **Member:** \$225 | **Nonmember:** \$281.25

Books UnBound Subscription: # AE0057_SUB; **Member:** \$221 | **Nonmember:** \$276

Family Law Forms Library

Access our Family Forms Library that puts top-quality State Bar-exclusive online forms at your fingertips 24/7, from affidavits to sample agreements and everything in between. The library is fully searchable by title and keyword, helping you save time and improve your accuracy.

Online subscription: #FSFB8000 | **Members only:** \$159/year
(Discounts available on multi-user subscriptions.)

Domestic Violence for Guardians ad Litem

Priority Code: **S 4 3 5 7 B**

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<input type="checkbox"/> State Bar Member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$209	<input type="checkbox"/> \$239
<input type="checkbox"/> Nonmember	<input type="checkbox"/> \$289	<input type="checkbox"/> \$319
<input type="checkbox"/> Ultimate Pass Gold/Silver	<input type="checkbox"/> \$0	<input type="checkbox"/> \$0
<input type="checkbox"/> Ultimate Pass Bronze	<input type="checkbox"/> \$209	<input type="checkbox"/> \$0
<input type="checkbox"/> Passbook Certificate	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Certificate	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Certificate

IN-PERSON SEMINAR:

Tuesday, March 19, 2024 –
Madison

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LIVE WEBCAST:

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Lawyer State Bar Member No. _____

Nonlawyer Profession _____

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Firm Name _____

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Mail to: State Bar PINNACLE Registrations
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Madison, WI 53707-7158