
KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Sujata Warriar, Ph.D. is the Director of the New York City Program of the New York State Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence. She trains and provides technical assistance to professionals in various systems such as health care, law enforcement, criminal and civil justice and human and social services on the issue of domestic violence. Additionally, she provides assistance on legislative and policy issues on battered immigrant women for the state of New York. Dr. Warriar has also trained extensively on the issue of cultural competency for various professionals and has delivered numerous keynotes on the issue of culture, competency, relativism, domestic violence and violence against women. She received her doctorate in Psychology from the Maxwell School of Syracuse University. She has written and published numerous articles on violence against women in the international context. Dr. Warriar has provided training on the issue of culture and cultural competency to health care providers, domestic violence advocates, prosecutors and judges throughout the nation. She is a founder and board member of *Manavi*, a pioneering South Asian women's organization in New Jersey.

FACULTY

The Honorable Jay Blitzman is an Associate Justice of the Middlesex County Juvenile Court in Lowell, MA. Before his appointment to the bench in 1996, he was a public defender for twenty years and founded the Youth Advocacy Project in 1992, which combined legal and social services to high risk youth. He has been a legal expert for several TV shows, including *Judging Amy*.

Gaye Gentes has been the manager of the Office of Court Interpreters since 2001. Previously she was the Director of Interpreter Services at Tufts New England Medical Center and before that worked as a Spanish medical and legal interpreter.

The Honorable James Menno is an Associate Justice of the Plymouth Probate and Family Court. He is a graduate of Boston College Law School and attended Harvard Divinity School. Before his appointment to the bench in 1995, he practiced family law, first as an associate at Esdaile, Barrett and Esdaile in Boston and then as a solo practitioner in Norwood and Walpole. Judge Menno has a special interest in child related matters and has been a frequent participant and lecturer in custody, visitation, and high conflict seminars sponsored by numerous family law organizations, including the AFCC. He also teaches two classes at Boston College, in the Father Woods College of Advancing Studies (Law and Morality and Law and Society). He and Judge Sahagian have run the MCLE Trial Advocacy week-long workshop the last five years.

The Honorable Angela M. Ordoñez is an Associate Justice of the Norfolk Probate and Family Court. From 2000-2005, she was First Justice of the Nantucket Probate and Family Court. Prior to that appointment, Judge Ordoñez was an Assistant Register of Probate at Suffolk Probate and Family Court and a staff attorney in the Family Law Unit at Greater Boston Legal Services. She is a member of the Green/Energy Committee and the Gender Equality Advisory Board to the Chief Justice of Administration and Management. Judge Ordoñez has co-authored

chapters and provided judicial commentary for MCLE publications and participated in numerous educational programs

Ernst Guerrier, Esq. is a 1997 graduate of Suffolk Law School. He is a partner in Guerrier Associates, P.C. in the Dorchester-Milton area of Metro-Boston. His firm specializes in estate planning, residential conveyance and complex domestic relations matters. He also gives frequent public lectures to first time homebuyers and teaches the art of client relations to other attorneys. He sits on the Board of Directors of the Haitian Public Health Initiative in Mattapan, an agency assisting people suffering from the HIV/AIDS disease.

William M. Levine, Esq. is a partner in the Boston law firm of Lee & Levine LLP, where he practices exclusively in family law. Mr. Levine has been a Fellow of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers (AAML) since 1987 and was former President of the Massachusetts AAML Chapter (2004-2005). Mr. Levine is a member of the American, Massachusetts, and Boston Bar Associations and is former (and first) chair of the Boston Bar Association Family Law Section. He has authored numerous articles on family law subjects and has been nationally recognized as one of the top divorce attorneys on both a national and state level, including by *Boston Magazine* and by *Super Lawyers*.

Douglas C. Reynolds, Esq. is a 1973 graduate of Boston University School of Law. He is a principal of The New Law Center, LLC – a dispute resolution and consulting practice in Cambridge, MA. He has 33 years of private law practice experience, helping clients solve problems in business (profit and non-profit), finance, real estate, employment, and personal law matters. He is Senior Diversity Management Consultant with Verna Myers Consulting Group, LLC, engaged by law firms, law schools, and public and private law departments. Before that, he was a partner at Peabody & Arnold, LLP in Boston, where he started the firm's Diversity Initiative and Alternative Dispute Resolution programs. He is also on the board of many community and professional organizations.

Christine Wichers, Esq. is a 1992 graduate of the University of North Carolina School of Law. Since 2008, she has been an Assistant Attorney in the Civil Division of the U.S. Attorney's office in Boston. Before that, she was a partner in Choate, Hall, & Stewart, practicing in employment law. Last year, she was president of the Women's Bar Foundation, through which she worked *pro bono* representing an abused Pakistani woman against her ex-husband and helping to re-unite the client with her children.

The Honorable Geoffrey Wilson is the First Justice of the Franklin County Probate and Family Court. A graduate of Boston University School of Law, he practiced law for twenty years in Greenfield, MA where he specialized in civil and criminal litigation, private school and municipal law, and domestic relations. He has served on the Probate and Family Court's *Pro Se* Committee and on the Family Law Section Council of the Massachusetts Bar Association. He is presently a member of the Court's Committees on Legislation and Rules.

LOGO

Our Melting Pot: Practical Implications of Cultural Differences in Juvenile and Family Court

Friday, April 3, 2009

Regis College
Wellesley Street
Weston, Massachusetts

Keynote Speaker:

Sujata Warriar, Ph.D.

**Director - New York City Program
New York State Office for the Prevention of
Domestic Violence**

Co-sponsored by:

**The Massachusetts Chapter of the Association of Family
and Conciliation Courts and
The University of Massachusetts Medical School
Department of Psychiatry, Child and Family Forensic
Center**

Massachusetts Chapter - AFCC
c/o K. Hennell
P.O. Box 269
Chesterfield, MA 01012

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Registration prior to March 23, 2009
 Mass. AFCC Member \$150
 Parent Org. AFCC Member \$160
 Non-Member \$175

Registration on or after March 23, 2009
 Mass. AFCC Member \$165
 Parent Org. AFCC Member \$175
 Non-Member \$190
 Student Rate \$75

TOTAL _____
 Refund Policy: Full refund prior to March 23. No refund thereafter.

Make checks payable to:
Mass AFCC: c/o K. Henell
P.O. Box 269
Chesterfield, MA 01012
 For further information, call Karen Henell
 @ 413-296-0389 or e-mail at khennel@verizon.net

CE CREDIT: The Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC) parent organization is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. AFCC maintains responsibility for this program and its content. The conference is eligible for up to 7 hours of continuing education for psychologists. The Massachusetts Probate and Family Court has approved this conference for six category E&F credits. Applications for continuing education for C.P.C.S., M.S.W., L.M.F.T., and L.M.H.C. have been made.

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____ Profession _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
 Area Code & Telephone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Our Melting Pot: Practical Implications of Cultural Differences in Juvenile and Family Court

April 3, 2009

Regis College, Weston, MA

FRIDAY, April 3, 2009

8:00 AM
 Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:20 AM
 Welcome, *Alexander D. Jones, M.S.W., J.D.*,
 President, Massachusetts Chapter of AFCC

8:30 AM
 Introductory remarks
Peggie Ward, Ph.D.
 Conference Chair

8:40 AM: Cultural Considerations in
 Family Court Cases
Sujata Warriar, Ph.D.

10:15 AM
 Break with refreshments

10:30 AM
Sujata Warriar, Ph.D., continued

12:00 noon:
Lost in Translation:
 Court Interpretation Services
Gaye Gentes

12:30 PM
 Lunch is provided
 Comments:
Beth A. Crawford, J.D., President-Elect
 Massachusetts Chapter of AFCC

1:30 PM
 Cases with Cultural Considerations
Ernst Guerrier, Esq.
Douglas Reynolds, Esq.
Christine Wichers, Esq.
Sujata Warriar, Ph.D., Commentator
William Levine, Esq., Moderator

2:45 PM
 Break with refreshments

3:00 PM
 Judicial Decisions:
 Integrating Culture and Law
Hon. Jay Blitzman
Hon. James Menno
Hon. Angela Ordoñez
Hon. Geoffrey Wilson, Moderator

4:30 PM
 Q&A

 5:00 PM
 Conference Ends

DIRECTIONS

Regis College
 235 Wellesley Street
 Weston, MA 02493
 781-768-7000

North on Rt. 95/128. Exit 24 to Rt. 30 west. Continue approx. 2 miles to right onto Wellesley Street. Regis is on the left.

South on Rt. 95/128. Exit 26 to Rt. 20 west. Continue approx. 2 miles to left onto Wellesley Street. At fork, bear right. Regis will be on the right.

Mass Pike West. Exit 15 to Rt. 30 west. Continue approx. 2 miles to right onto Wellesley Street. Regis is on the left.

Mass Pike East. Exit 14 to Rt. 30 west. Same as above.

Rt. 30 East from Framingham/Natick. Rt. 9 to Rt. 27 North to Rt. 30 east to Wellesley Street on left. Traffic is heavy on Rt. 30 in the morning.

FREE PARKING

The conference will be held in room 202 of College Hall, the building at the head of the drive at the main entrance.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Jennifer Seigney Durand, J.D.
 Jonathan E. Fields, J.D.
 Lesley E. Goldsmith, J.D.
 Alexander D. Jones, M.S.W., J.D.
 William M. Levine, J.D.
 Joseph McGill, L.I.C.S.W.
 Joanna Bunker Rohrbaugh, Ph.D.
 Peggie Ward, Ph.D., first chair
 Robert A. Zibbell, Ph.D., second chair