

The MENTAL HEALTH LEGAL ADVISORS COMMITTEE presents:

REFINING REPRESENTATION OF PERSONS WITH MOOD DISORDERS

Friday, March 12, 2010

Western New England College, Springfield

8:00 REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST

8:45 WELCOME

9:00 **MOOD DISORDERS IN ADULTS AND CHILDREN, PART ONE**

The first part of this intensive, all-morning session with local, expert clinicians will include a thorough presentation of the symptomatology and diagnosis of mood disorders in both adults and children. The panelists who are all psychiatrists, each with a different specialty (adults, children, and forensics), will discuss treatment options with a look at benefits and risk factors, off label uses, and issues of informed consent.

Brenda J. Butler, M.D., Board Certified General, Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist. Director of Child and Adolescent Education and Outreach, Berkshire Medical Center, Pittsfield
Zerrin Emel Kayatekin, M.D., Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, University of Massachusetts Medical School. Medical Director, Clinical Trials Program, Department of Psychiatry, Berkshire Medical Center, Pittsfield

Liliana Markovic, M.D., Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, University of Massachusetts Medical School. Medical Director of Jones 3 Unit (Intensive Psychiatric Care Unit), Berkshire Medical Center, Pittsfield

10:30 BREAK

10:45 **MOOD DISORDERS IN ADULTS AND CHILDREN, PART TWO**

Following the break, panelists from above will continue their presentation and provide insight into the evaluation and balancing of factors that goes into a clinician's decision to seek commitment. There will be time allotted for discussion amongst presenters and audience questions and participation.

12:30 LUNCH (AVAILABLE ON YOUR OWN AT THE CAMPUS CENTER)

1:30 **ADVANCED LITIGATION SKILLS AND STRATEGIES**

Experienced mental health and family law trial attorneys will teach practitioners the techniques necessary for zealous advocacy on behalf of persons with mood disorders and other mental health diagnoses. Sophisticated analysis regarding how to litigate a case will be an integral part of this panel discussion. Particular attention will be paid to the areas of pretrial motions, evidence, and cross examination in mental health and child welfare cases.

Lisa van Gordon d'Errico, J.D., Solo Practitioner, Northampton
Caroline Montan, J.D. Solo Practitioner, Shelburne Falls

3:15 **ARTICLE V OF THE NEW UPC: POST-IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE**

This session will cover matters that have arisen post-implementation of the new UPC Guardianship and Conservatorship laws including appointment of counsel, nursing home admissions process, limited guardianships, court registries' ability to manage stress created by the new law, guardianships of minors, and pending amendments.

Robert Fleischner, J.D. Assistant Director, Center for Public Representation, Northampton
Jodie Nolan, J.D., Judicial Case Manager, Franklin Probate and Family Court
Hon. Geoffrey A. Wilson, First Justice, Franklin Probate and Family Court

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Registration Form --- deadline Friday, February 26, 2010

Name _____ BBO # _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Cases you accept: CPCS Mental Health _____ CPCS CAFL _____ Private _____

Please mail this form together with your check for \$125 (payable to MHLAC). Thank you.

CREDIT: This course is approved for eight (8) credits towards both CPCS continuing MHL and CAFL certification.

FEE: \$125 (includes breakfast, afternoon snack and materials), if registered by February 26, 2010. An additional fee of \$20 will be charged to persons registering after February 26, 2010.

TO REGISTER: Mail the Registration Form by February 26, 2010 with a check for \$125 (**payable to MHLAC**) to: MENTAL HEALTH LEGAL ADVISORS COMMITTEE, Conference Registration, 399 Washington Street, 4th Floor, Boston, MA 02108. A registration confirmation card will be sent if registered by March 5, 2010. **SPACE IS LIMITED. THERE WILL BE NO REMINDER CARDS MAILED OUT FOR THIS CONFERENCE.**

DIRECTIONS: For directions to the Western New England College, please visit their website at www.wnec.edu. There is also a detailed campus map on the website to easily locate the Sleith Hall Auditorium where the conference will be held. Road signs pointing the way to the MHLAC conference will be displayed at WNEC on March 12.

REFUND POLICY: If you cancel your registration before the close of business on March 5, 2010, MHLAC will issue a refund of your registration fee minus \$25. All persons canceling registration after close of business on March 5, 2010 will receive a packet of materials from the March 12 conference.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact Kate Dulit, Director, Training and Communication, MENTAL HEALTH LEGAL ADVISORS COMMITTEE: (617) 338-2345 x30 or kdulit@mhlac.org. Please also visit our website www.mass.gov/mhlac.

REFINING REPRESENTATION OF PERSONS WITH MOOD DISORDERS

Friday, March 12, 2010

8:30 AM – 5:00 PM

Western New England College, Sleith Hall Auditorium, Springfield

The MENTAL HEALTH LEGAL ADVISORS COMMITTEE presents its fourth Western Massachusetts conference for attorneys and other professionals of all levels of experience who work with and represent persons with mental illness. This seminar, taught by psychiatrists, trial attorneys, and judges all with significant experience in mental health, will focus on areas of critical relevance to superior representation of persons with mood disorders. Topics covered in the program include **the clinical presentation, diagnosis, and treatment of mood disorders in adults and children, enhancing litigation skills and strategies and a post-implementation update on Article V of the new UPC: Guardianship and Conservatorship Laws**. The morning, a marathon session with clinicians from the Berkshire Medical Center, promises to illuminate and clarify the complexities involved in the diagnosis and treatment of mood disorders in all persons. The afternoon starts with a high-level discussion of essential legal and courtroom skills by experienced practitioners and ends with a cutting edge discourse on matters involved with the new UPC. There will be time for questions and audience participation throughout the day.