



# Kids Matter

Child Protection and Advocacy Law Section

Winter 2017

## From the Chair

By Nicki Noel Vaughan



**W**elcome to the Winter 2017 issue of *Kids Matter*. Thanks again to our Editor, Tonya Boga, for bringing the membership another interesting and informative newsletter. In this edition, we have a report on the 20th Annual National Juvenile Defender Center Leadership Summit,

held in Atlanta in October which culminated in the National *Gault at 50* Kick-Off Reception at the Center for Civil and Human Rights on Oct. 29. We also have two articles written recently by Hon. Willie J. Lovett, Judge, Fulton County Juvenile Court and member of our section Executive Committee: one on "Using CHINS As a Chance to Curtail Delinquency" and another on "Teen Dating Violence: Telling the Story to the Judge."

Additionally, we have information on our annual Continuing Legal Education program, "Child Protection and Advocacy Section CLE Program" which will be held on Jan. 26, 2017, at the Bar Center in Atlanta. As in the past, the section's Annual Meeting will be held during the lunch break of the CLE. Nominations for officers may be sent to Nicki Vaughan at [nvaughan@hallcounty.org](mailto:nvaughan@hallcounty.org).

As always, we welcome volunteers to serve on the Editorial Board or to submit an article for publication, as well as to join any of the Section committees. Please feel free to call or email any of the officers, if you have questions.

### *Membership:*

The section currently has 438 members. Thanks to all of you for your continued support. Your dues have gone to provide and support valuable training and activities this year.

### *Activities of the Quarter:*

The major highlight was our sponsorship and participation in the NJDC Leadership Summit Oct. 28-30, discussed later in this newsletter. The Section also was a sponsor of the Georgia Legal Services Program's Champions of Justice Event on Oct. 13.

The bill the Section proposed last session to the Georgia General Assembly, which died for lack of action, was modified based upon advice of the Council of Juvenile Court Judges and was again presented and approved by the State Bar Advisory Committee for Legislation. The bill will be presented by the ACL to the Board of Governors at the State Bar Mid-Year Meeting on Jan. 7, 2017. In anticipation of passage, the State Bar legislative representatives are finding sponsors for the bill.

The Section also co-sponsored, with the YLD Juvenile Law Committee and the Advocates for Students with Disabilities, a Holiday Party and Gift Drive on Dec. 6 at Sidebar. It was well attended as had been requested, a lot of Gift Cards were collected for DFACS teens.

As always, we want and need your support. Let us know what you need and what you would like to see the section provide. Thank you all for your continued interest and support.

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Do you know of someone who has made a positive impact in the area of Child Protection and Advocacy in Georgia?

*If so, please send an email to [Tonya.Boga@gmail.com](mailto:Tonya.Boga@gmail.com) with the story and ask for it to run in the "Kudos!" section of the Newsletter. Remember that Pictures are also welcomed and suggested.*

Scholarships for the CLE on January 26.

*A limited number of scholarships are available for Section members. To inquire about scholarships, contact Randee Waldman at [rwaldm2@emory.edu](mailto:rwaldm2@emory.edu).*

# Gault at 50

20th Annual Juvenile Defender Leadership Summit, Atlanta, Ga., Oct. 28-30, 2016

By Nicki Noel Vaughan

Atlanta was proud to host the 20th Annual Juvenile Defender Leadership Summit in October, marking the 50th Anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court decision that established the right to counsel for juvenile defendants, *In Re Gault*. Nearly 500 lawyers and others who work in the Juvenile Justice system throughout the country convened at the downtown Atlanta Hilton for two-and-a-half days of learning and sharing information to achieve the goal of the National Juvenile Defender Center: to promote justice for all children by ensuring excellence in Juvenile Defense.

With General Plenary Sessions and numerous Break-Out Sessions daily, the program offered something for everyone – actually lots of somethings for everyone. There were so many pertinent and challenging break-out sessions that it was difficult to decide which to attend. Skilled practitioners, teachers, and policy advocates offered one-and-a-half-hour sessions on a large array of topics, and they were long enough to allow in-depth coverage of the topic.

For instance, an advanced cross-examination session was long enough to focus on strategies to develop thorough cross examinations to meet goals that fit within the framework of the individual case. Strategies for the preparation and execution of cross-examination of specific types of witnesses often used in Juvenile Court proceedings such as psychologists, child alleged-victims, and law enforcement officers, were also discussed at length.

A separate session focused on teaching lawyers best practices for experts who perform competency evaluations (DBHDD psychologists) and remediation specialists. With this information, defense lawyers can evaluate and challenge findings and conclusions unfavorable to our clients.

Another session focused on strategies for assuring that establishment of probable cause in Detention Hearings is not diluted by the court into a “Due Process Lite” hearing and that true probable cause is established by the prosecution. This process is reportedly a large problem in parts of our state. Other practice-related workshops focused on Juvenile Court appeals, challenging eye witness evidence, suppressing statements made to both law enforcement and school officials, and evidence, including DNA.

In addition to practice-related workshops, policy discussions were the topic of numerous break-out as well as plenary sessions. Policy matters addressed included shackling, record expungement, solitary confinement and other detention issues, overcoming community reentry impediments, data collection and use, caseload limits, and recent OJJDP developments in juvenile justice grants to local communities.

One of the highlights of the program to me were sessions focusing on the impact of neurological/developmental science on the way we should treat children who offend the law. I first heard about this “new science” from Antoinette Kavanaugh, Ph.D., former Clinical Director of the Juvenile Justice Division of the Cook County Juvenile Court Clinic and clinical professor at Northwestern

University School of Law, now in private practice and a consultant with OJJCP on issues of adolescent development and a frequent consultant in many of the recent U.S. Supreme Court cases dealing with adolescent development and sentencing. I first met her at a Southern Juvenile Defender training years ago, and I still quote her regularly at disposition and transfer hearings: “When you’re talking with your teenager about some stupid, dangerous thing he or she has done, and you ask why they did it, and they answer, “I don’t know,” they’re telling you the truth! They have no clue about why they did it. Their brain hasn’t developed to the point where they recognize or consider the rashness and danger of many things they do—nor does it warn them not to just go along with the crowd.” The age-old adage that children are not just little adults is true.

The development of neurological science is the basis for the line US Supreme Court decisions from *Roper v. Simmons* to *Adams v. Alabama* regarding juvenile sentencing. As research continues, there are more and more arguments to use to convince courts to treat juveniles as juveniles. Although this line of cases is specifically pertaining to capital punishment and life-without-parole cases, as Stephen Bright, Executive Director of the Southern Center for Human Rights, eloquently commented in the closing general session of the first day, *Adams v. Alabama* sets a whole new standard for sentencing of juvenile offenders: the court must consider whether the offense committed by a juvenile is one based upon transient immaturity or whether the juvenile is among the very “rarest of juvenile offenders, those whose crimes reflect permanent incorrigibility.” Our law has come a long way on this issue.

On Saturday night of the Summit, a reception was held for attendees and other members of the Juvenile Justice community in Atlanta, including many Juvenile Court Judges. At this reception, our own Randee Waldman, Professor and Director of the Barton Juvenile Law Clinic and Treasurer of our Section, was presented with an award recognizing her many contributions both to the National Juvenile Defender Clinic and to the juvenile justice community.



L-R: Cindy Wang, Jan Hankins, Claudia Saari, Gayle Murray, Randee Waldman, Nicki Vaughan

# Use Child In Need of Services As Chance to Curtail Delinquency

By Hon. Willie J. Lovett Jr. | June 29, 2016

Willie LovettThe first contact with the juvenile justice system presents an enormous opportunity for the court, court personnel, attorneys and service providers to impact the lives of children and their families. In many states, first contact happens within the context of the Child in Need of Services (CHINS), Families in Need of Services (FINS) and Persons in Need of Services (PINS).

In all cases, the "need of services" is paramount. First contact with the Juvenile Court must be taken seriously, and the role of all court personnel, attorneys and parties should be made clear to everyone involved.

First contact is important to the child. The child must know that the court will be fair, and that the court will follow the law. The child must also know that the dispositions decided on by the court represent an effort to rehabilitate the child. First contact presents an opportunity for the court to gather information, get to know the child and family, get to evaluate appropriate services and get to evaluate the child and the family's receptiveness to services.

I recently had a child communicate to me through a representative that "this was the first time I've been in a courtroom and not been in trouble. Some judges really do care."

## *CHINS in Georgia*

CHINS is a relatively new legal construct in the state of Georgia. It came into being on Jan. 1, 2014, when Georgia's 2013 Child Protection and Public Safety Act went into effect. The Georgia Code defines CHINS as a child adjudicated to be in need of care, guidance, counseling, structure, supervision, treatment or rehabilitation who also is adjudicated to be truant, habitually disobedient of his or her parent or custodian and is ungovernable, a runaway, a status offender (an offense applicable only to a child), a child who wanders or loiters between the hours of midnight and 5 a.m., a child who violates court-ordered supervision or a child who patronizes any bar where alcoholic beverages are being sold, unaccompanied by his or her parent or possesses alcoholic beverages, etc.

The purpose of the CHINS law includes: "to acknowledge that certain behaviors or conditions occurring within a family or school environment indicate that a child is experiencing serious difficulties and is in need of services and corrective action in order to protect such child from the irreversibility of certain choices and to protect the integrity of such child's family; to make family members aware of their contributions to their family's problems and to encourage family members to accept the responsibility to participate in any program of care ordered by the court; and to provide a child with a program of treatment, care, guidance, counseling, structure, supervision, and rehabilitation that he or she needs to assist him or her in becoming a responsible and productive member of society." These CHINS are neither delinquent nor dependent. These are the children who can be rehabilitated.

## *CHINS Proceedings in Georgia*

The Georgia Code does not set forth the procedures for handling CHINS cases, and Georgia's Juvenile Courts' implementation of the Code Section varies. Fulton County created a CHINS Protocol that established a diversionary program called the CHINS Registry. It refers families to the appropriate providers before a formal petition is filed, the goal being to keep children and families out of court involvement.

The CHINS Protocol also established a diversionary program called the Educational Recovery Program (ERP), which seeks to refer children likely to be adjudicated as truant and their families to services; again the goal is to keep children and families out of court involvement.

A laudable benefit of these diversionary programs is that they create a record of the attempts at resolution made by the court, and often provide a baseline for evaluation when a child is adjudicated as a CHINS. The CHINS proceeding in Fulton County goes forward without the involvement of the district attorney. The parent(s)



“prosecute” the case, present evidence under oath, and the child, who is represented by a public defender, responds. The court makes the adjudication, based on clear and convincing evidence, whether the child is a CHINS.

### *CHINS Dispositions in Georgia*

The Georgia Code does provide the court broad discretion in fashioning a disposition for the CHINS. The CHINS disposition is a tremendous opportunity to divert children from delinquency adjudications and to divert families from dependency adjudications. From our work with dually involved youth (children involved in both dependency and delinquency proceedings), we know that the outcomes for these dually involved children are drastically worse than for other children involved in the juvenile court system. Utilizing the CHINS disposition to steer a child away from delinquency adjudication and/or dependency adjudication will decrease the likelihood that the child will end up in the adult prison system.

The hallmark of the delinquency process to adjudication is some amount of time in detention. Numerous longitudinal studies show that early interventions for children likely to be delinquent decrease the likelihood of young adult incarceration. The CHINS disposition is another opportunity to provide early intervention and to prevent a delinquency adjudication.

### *Incidence and Dispositions of CHINS Cases 2014-15*

In 2014, a total of 646 CHINS and CHINS Registry cases were managed by the Fulton County Juvenile Court. The dispositions of these cases show that 265 (41 percent) were dismissed (usually the families indicate that they have had a breakthrough with their providers, and request closure of the case), 168 (26 percent) were closed successfully (the child and family completed the requirements of the disposition), 52 (8 percent) were adjusted prior to adjudication (after holding the adjudication in abeyance, the child and family successfully participate in court-ordered services and supervision) and 32 (5 percent) of the cases ended up with probation or supervision. Overall, 517 (80 percent) of the CHINS cases reviewed by the Court ended up in positive outcomes, effectively preventing or delaying the child’s entry into the juvenile justice system.

The distribution of the 2014 CHINS cases totaling 646 showed that 258 (40 percent) were categorized as ungovernable/unruly, 196 (30 percent) were categorized as runaways, 69 (11 percent) were categorized as violations of probation/supervision, 64 (10 percent) were categorized as curfew violations, 41 (6 percent) were categorized as truancy and 18 (3 percent) were categorized as Minor in Possession of Alcohol or in a Bar.

In 2015, a total of 941 CHINS and CHINS Registry cases were managed by the Fulton County Juvenile Court. The dispositions of these cases show that 292 (31 percent) were dismissed, 235 (25 percent) were closed successfully, 38 (4 percent) were adjusted prior to adjudication and 75 (8 percent) of the cases ended up with probation or supervision. Although not as high a percentage as 2014, in 2015 640 (68 percent) of the CHINS cases reviewed by the court ended up in positive outcomes.

The distribution of the 2015 CHINS cases totaling 941 showed that 360 (38 percent) were categorized as ungovernable/unruly, 233 (25 percent) were categorized as runaways, 231 (25 percent) were categorized as truancy, 65 (7 percent) were categorized as

curfew violations, 40 (4 percent) were categorized as violations of probation/supervision and 12 (1 percent) were categorized as Minor in Possession of Alcohol or in a Bar.

### *Demographics of CHINS Cases 2014-2015*

According to the 2015 Census population estimate, Fulton County has more than 1 million residents, and Georgia.gov currently lists Fulton County’s population at 1,014,932. The population of Fulton County is diverse, as shown in the following figures: African-American residents (44.3 percent), white residents (40.5 percent), Hispanic (7.2 percent) and Asian (6.7 percent). This population mix is not reflective of the CHINS demographics, which reflect an overwhelming representation of African-Americans and raises the need for a statistical analysis of disproportionate minority contact in this system.

The demographics of the 2014 CHINS and CHINS Registry population were 52 percent female and 48 percent male. The racial breakdown reflected 82 percent African-American, 7 percent Caucasian and 4 percent Hispanic, with 7 percent categorized as Other/Unknown. The demographics of the 2015 CHINS and CHINS Registry population were 51 percent female and 49 percent male. The racial breakdown reflected 85 percent African-American, 5 percent Caucasian and 5 percent Hispanic, with 5 percent were categorized as Other/Unknown.

### *The importance of first contact*

Early intervention is an important component of services to prevent further penetration into the juvenile justice system. CHINS-type systems provide the court an opportunity to get the child and their families the services they need before the child is facing the specter of a delinquency adjudication. Our data shows that our CHINS children are disproportionately African-American compared to the population of African-Americans in Fulton County. Our data also shows that the majority of our CHINS cases are categorized as ungovernable/unruly, runaways and truants.

The data is permitting the court to focus our service providers to provide services geared toward these populations — ungovernable/unruly, runaways and truants. First contact, which utilizes data-driven responses to our population and issues, is allowing the court to work smarter and more efficiently. I encourage my colleagues to utilize first contact situations in their jurisdictions to design data-driven responses also.

Presiding Judge Willie J. Lovett Jr. is a Juvenile Court judge for the Atlanta Judicial Circuit. Judge Lovett also serves as an adjunct professor of law at Atlanta’s John Marshall Law School, where he teaches Juvenile Law, Local Government Law and Georgia Practice and Procedure.

Article provided from <http://jjje.org/2016/06/29/use-child-in-need-of-services-as-chance-to-curtail-delinquency/263244/>

# Teen Dating Violence – Telling the Story to the Judge

By Hon. Willie J. Lovett Jr.

The Honorable Marshall Murray, Presiding Judge, Milwaukee County Family Court, recently wrote an article entitled “8 Things Judges Need to Know About Teen Dating Violence” which focused on victimized youth/teen survivors. Judge Murray informs the judiciary as follows: “(1) Don’t treat teen survivors like adult survivors; (2) Remember that teens think differently than adults; (3) Recognize the link between delinquency, substance abuse and teen victimization; (4) Think about culture; (5) Talk to your school system and keep the survivor protected; (6) Social media can be a medium for control and abuse in teen victims; (7) You can’t do it alone: Talk to community partners; and (8) Ensure the door to your court is open (and they know how to get there).”[1] I have reviewed this outstanding guidance and will attempt to expound on Judge Murray’s wisdom with recommendations to attorneys on telling the story of teen dating violence to the juvenile and family court judges.

I agree with Judge Murray’s assessment that cases involving teen dating violence are among the toughest cases coming before juvenile and family court judges. Understanding the perpetrator and the victim, understanding their respective families, and understanding the context within which the dating violence occurred are difficult assignments. Judges need assistance from attorneys and other professionals to gain a clear view into each case, to make the right calls regarding diversion and disposition, and to carefully and thoughtfully consider strategies for addressing the violence exhibited in these teenagers’ lives.

Cases involving teen dating violence appear in court most frequently through the delinquency system, where the perpetrator of the violence is charged with an action that would be a crime if he or she were an adult. Teen dating violence may arise in a myriad of contexts, and attorneys must be aware that the perpetrator/victim relationship may be heterosexual, LGBTQ, inter-familial (incestuous), human trafficking, cyber-bullying and other complex and complicated relationships that result in charges brought against the perpetrator as well as the victim. Attorneys in the juvenile and family court systems must familiarize themselves with the issue of teen dating violence, programs addressing teen dating violence, and the diversionary and dispositional options available in their respective jurisdictions that address teen dating violence.[2]

Attorneys for these teenagers must dig deep into the factual context of the relationships and the violence by gaining their trust and understanding their stories. This will take high-level work counseling and advising the teenaged client, and will be challenging due to the reality of the teenaged brain. Attorneys for these teenagers have to identify evidence-based interventions for the perpetrators and for the victims so that these destructive violent behaviors do not progress beyond the first encounter with juvenile court, thereby redirecting the youths’ trajectory away from the adult criminal system.[3] Mental health and behavioral health experts should be utilized to evaluate the respective teenagers and their respective families. Evidence-based, family-focused therapies

should be explored in the attorneys’ respective communities and presented as diversionary or dispositional options. For attorneys representing the teenagers involved in teen dating violence as well as the prosecutors in these cases, a high investment in rehabilitation will result in a lower recidivism rate.

In addition to obtaining assistance for the victim, attorneys for the alleged perpetrators need to evaluate why these teenagers are committing delinquent acts that fall into the definition of teen dating violence.[4] Once the attorneys have mastered the facts of the case, they must come up with a presentation strategy, including the alleged incident that brought the case to the court’s attention, the options for rehabilitation and family therapy within the community, and the evidentiary presentation of the facts, i.e., direct- and cross-examination of the perpetrator, therapists and family members.[5]

No one strategy is correct in presenting the alleged delinquent child’s position, the victim’s concerns, their respective families’ concerns, and everything else involved in the case to the court; however, the court needs to have as much information about this complicated confluence of facts and behaviors as possible. Often when jurists hear these cases, we watch as the appropriate information is presented and the layers of the complex onion are peeled away. This permits the court to make dispositions that are tailored to each situation.

Attorneys can incorporate Judge Murray’s advice to judges into their theory of the case. Teen perpetrators and teen victims simply are not adults. Even if they are modeling behaviors they have witnessed growing up, they are not adults. Teen perpetrators and teen victims are likely to commit delinquent acts, abuse controlled substances and drugs, and sometimes the teen victims become teen perpetrators of violence. Knowing this background and presenting it to the court will be helpful in coming up with the properly tailored judicial interventions for your specific case. Ultimately, the court must consider the best interests of the child; therefore culture and context are important facts to convey to the court. In multi-cultural jurisdictions, teen dating violence may be addressed with different evidence-based resources depending on the available community resources. Further, if the source of violence originates from online sources, it is paramount that the attorneys understand the context of the violence.

Leveraging community partnerships, social media campaigns, and school resources – and presenting this information to the court – will assist in addressing the cases involving teen perpetrators and teen victims. For the attorneys representing teen perpetrators and the prosecutors who are working with the teen victims, informing the court of your efforts to change the perpetrator’s behaviors and the victim’s behaviors through the use of existing resources exhibits a sophisticated strategic approach to the case that gives the court comfort in making the appropriate case-by-case disposition.

Finally, attorneys representing the perpetrators and the prosecutors working with the victims should make sure that their

clients and constituents understand that the court is a place where they can come and get help when help is needed. In taking evidence-based steps to heal the victims of teen domestic violence and evidence-based steps to address the underlying causes of the perpetrator's behaviors, juvenile and family courts can effectively perform a much-needed healing function in our communities.

- [1] Hon. Marshall Murray, 8 Things Judges Need to Know About Teen Dating Violence. See <http://www.ncjfcj.org/8-things-judges-should-know-about-teen-dating-violence>.
- [2] The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention provides reference materials on teen dating violence that should be utilized as a starting point for attorneys representing perpetrators of teen dating violence as well as the prosecutors who are in contact with the victims. See [http://www.cdc.gov/ViolencePrevention/intimatepartnerviolence/teen\\_dating\\_violence.html](http://www.cdc.gov/ViolencePrevention/intimatepartnerviolence/teen_dating_violence.html).
- [3] For example, in addressing the issue of Adolescent Domestic Battery, Cook County, Illinois utilized an evidence-based intervention Brief Strategic Family Therapy for teenagers entering the delinquency system because of domestic battery charges. See Illinois Models for Change Initiative, Adolescent Domestic Battery: Responding Effectively to Families in Crisis, December 2012. See <http://www.modelsforchange.net/publications/627>.
- [4] The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has published general definitions of intimate partner violence, which cover the types of teen dating violence that appear in our court system. See <http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/intimatepartnerviolence/definitions.html>.
- [5] Obviously, you must strategically decide whether your client will testify, whether the victim should testify, whether a parent's testimony helps or hurts your client's case, and whether or not a therapist may best present the story. The ultimate goal is to get the full, complicated, multi-layered story to the judge so that the best results may be achieved for all involved.

## Upcoming Events

### *Child Protection and Advocacy Section CLE Program*

Be on the lookout for your notice about the section's annual full-day Continuing Legal Education Program to be presented on Thursday, Jan. 26, 2017. The program will offer presentations on the Child Abuse Registry by Diana Rugh Johnson, Ethics, by Randee Waldman, and New Foster Care Benefits by Vicky Kimbrell and David Bolt from Amerigroup (a very popular duo from our last seminar). Hon. Willie Lovett, Fulton County Juvenile Judge, will provide a professionalism hour, Addie Alexander will present a program on Challenging Unauthorized Detention based on the Assessment Instrument, and Anne Kirkhope, Beth Morris, and Stacey Suber-Drake will present legal updates.

During the lunch break, the Child Protection and Advocacy Section Annual Meeting will be held and officers will be elected to serve for the 2017-18 State Bar year. Nominations may be sent to Nicki Vaughan at [nvaughan@hallcounty.org](mailto:nvaughan@hallcounty.org).

Scholarships will be awarded based upon need and are available by request from Randee Waldman, Treasurer, at [rwaldm2@emory.edu](mailto:rwaldm2@emory.edu), after the formal CLE notice is received. Scholarships for the CLE are in addition to the Programs Scholarship.

Mark your calendars now!

# Section Executive Committee

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The opinions expressed within *Kids Matter* are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the State Bar, the Child Protection and Advocacy Section, the Section's executive committee or the editor.

# NJDC Summit Recap

It was with great honor and pride that I, the Board Chair of the National Juvenile Defender Center (NJDC) welcomed over 400 juvenile defenders from across the nation to the place I call home, Atlanta. The 2016 NJDC Summit, heralded by many as the “greatest Summit in NJDC history,” created networking opportunities for colleagues to share ideas regarding strategies, leading change, effective processes, what’s working and sometimes – more importantly – what is not. It was an amazing event. What an honor to be inspired once again by Stephen Bright and all of the speakers and the young people who served. Because of them we are better lawyers. The wonderful reception at the Center for Civil and Human Rights gave us the opportunity to share our work with the greater community. For so many do not know the plight of juvenile defenders and the young clients they serve.

It was a delight to be here in my home state training hundreds of juvenile defenders, arming them with knowledge, tools and an overwhelming sense of community. Many of us walked away with a renewed energy to continue fighting for well-funded and well-organized juvenile defense systems that ensure that all children are treated with respect, dignity, and fairness when they enter the juvenile justice system.

As NJDC and its partners gear up to celebrate the 50th Anniversary *In re Gault*, the Supreme Court decision that held all children accused of delinquent acts are entitled to an attorney, we are very much aware that many children still appear in court without the benefit of well-trained legal counsel and all too many with no counsel at all. We still have much work to do.

Thanks again to all who came out to make this the best summit ever. Be sure to log onto <https://gaultat50.org/> and sign onto the NJDC Statement of Principles.

Bridgett E. Ortega  
NJDC Board Chair

## Kudos!



Congratulations to Randee Waldman! In the spirit of the 50th anniversary of *Gault*, the National Juvenile Defender Center is thrilled to present a special honor to Randee J. Waldman (pictured middle) for promoting excellence in juvenile defense for the children of Georgia.

## LAWYER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Stress, life challenges  
or substance abuse?

We can  
help.

*The Lawyer Assistance Program is a free program providing confidential assistance to Bar members whose personal problems may be interfering with their ability to practice law.*



Confidential Hotline  
800-327-9631

**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA  
CHILD PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY SECTION  
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

The Child Protection and Advocacy Section of the State Bar of Georgia will offer three (3) scholarships in the amount of up to \$500 per scholarship each year. These funds may be used for either registration fees or travel expenses for an out-of-town conference or seminar.

The scholarships will be awarded to members of the Section who demonstrate both a need for financial assistance and a demonstration of the relevance of the content area of the conference or seminar to the work conducted by the attorney.

**Commitment to Share Information:**

Scholarship recipients agree that they will write an article for the Section newsletter, *Kids Matter*, regarding a topic covered at the conference or seminar.

**Application Process:**

**Application Periods:** There will be three application periods each year, with one scholarship awarded during each application period. The application periods are as follows:

January 1 – April 30 (scholarship awarded by May 31)

May 1 – August 31 (scholarship awarded by September 30)

September 1 – December 31 (scholarship awarded by January 31)

**Application:** The attached application form, including a statement of need and copy of the agenda, must be completed and returned to the scholarship committee by the appropriate application period close date. Applications should be returned to [derricks@gabar.org](mailto:derricks@gabar.org).

**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA  
CHILD PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY SECTION  
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**AFFILIATION:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **FAX:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E MAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM YOU WISH TO ATTEND** : (Please attach a copy of the program agenda, if available.)

**Program Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Program Location:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Program Dates:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Program Costs:** \_\_\_\_\_

**STATEMENT OF NEED** (Include any financial contributions provided by your organization, relevance of the seminar to your work, etc) (You may attach a separate letter, on your organization's letterhead, with your statement of need)

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Send completed applications to [derricks@gabar.org](mailto:derricks@gabar.org)