



BEYOND THE BENCH 2025

Coming Together Again to Support Children, Families & Communities

NOVEMBER 17-19, 2025 || DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES

Beyond the Bench is a multidisciplinary statewide conference devoted to children, youth, and families in the California court system. The first conference was held in 1988 and traditionally was a biennial event convening over 1,200 professionals. This year's conference will be the first one since 2019. Sessions will address core legal issues in juvenile dependency and delinquency cases and crossover legal issues between juvenile and other legal areas, including domestic violence, tribal court-state court jurisdiction, mental health, and trauma-informed practice.

REGISTER NOW

<https://cvent.me/Avrw50>

Dependency Attorneys

This year, the following workshops may be of interest to Dependency Attorneys:

Pre-conference Workshops Include:

- Best Practice for Dependency Attorneys: Role Understanding, Meaningful Client Communication, and System Collaboration*
- Building Relational Wealth: Shifting Attorney Work from Placement Focus to People Focus
- Wrangling Writs and Appeals: What Dependency Attorneys Need to Know*
- Centering Historical and Cultural Trauma: Leveraging Adverse Childhood Experiences and Expert Testimony in Child Welfare Cases*

Core Conference Workshops Include:

- 2025 Legislative and Policy Updates in Dependency*
- Beyond Borders: Supporting Foreign-Born Children and Families in California's Child Welfare System and Broader Community
- Emerging Issues Impacting Youth: Navigating the New AI Landscape
- The Role of Harm Reduction in the Courtroom and Beyond*
- Strengthening Child and Family Outcomes: Collaboration Between State, County, and Court Systems*
- Connecting with Young Minds: Understanding Emerging Adults and Young Adult Courts*
- Education On Current Issues For LGBTQ+ Youth as Required by Statute and Rule of Court*
- Finding "Family" Requirements and Relative Placement Advocacy Promoting a Kin-First System*
- Juvenile Court Custody Orders: Achieving Your Client's Long-Term Custody Objectives*
- Building Partnerships Between Civil Legal Aid Attorneys and Juvenile Court Attorneys to Support Youth and Families *
- Juvenile Dependency Case Law Update*
- Doing the Right Thing at the Right Time: Ethics, Neuroscience, and Epigenetics in Foster Care Advocacy*
- Dual Status Youth Simulation*
- From the Life to Legalese and Back Again: Communication Strategies for Working with and Empowering CSEC Youth*
- Welfare and Institutions Code Section 827 Unsealed: Seeking Juvenile Records in Life and Death*

Sessions marked with an asterisk (*) meet the California Rules of Court education requirement for dependency attorneys.

The Judicial Council of California, Center for Families, Children & the Courts, provider #4781, is an approved Minimum Continuing Legal Education provider. The Judicial Council of California, Center for Families, Children & the Courts, provider #58804, is approved by the California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists to sponsor continuing education for Board of Behavioral Sciences licensees. The Judicial Council of California is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. The Judicial Council of California maintains responsibility for this program and its content. This conference has been submitted for STC credits for probation officers for appropriate courses. Approval is pending.