



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>

This year, the following workshops may be of interest to tribal communities and individuals or agencies working with tribal children and families:

Pre-conference Offerings Include:

- Solving the Puzzle of Effective ICWA Inquiry
- Representing Tribal Governments in State Court ICWA Cases: What Everyone Needs to Know
- Harm Reduction and Judicial Ethics Considerations (**Judges Only**)

Core Conference Workshops Include:

- 2025 Legislative and Policy Updates in Dependency
- Early Intervention and Special Education: Practical Tools for Advocacy
- Emerging Issues Impacting Youth: Navigating the New AI Landscape
- The Role of Harm Reduction in the Courtroom and Beyond
- Meaningfully Engaging Tribes as Parties in State Court Cases
- Celebrating Permanency: A Conversation about Fostering, Adoption, and Returning Home.
- Education on current issues for LGBTQ+ youth as required by statute and Rule of Court
- Family First Prevention Services; Supports for Keeping Families Together
- Juvenile Dependency Case Law Update
- The Intersection of the CARE Act and Juvenile Law
- Fostering Sibling Connections: What Lawyers, Judges, and All of Us can do to Protect Sibling Bonds in Dependency Cases
- Juvenile Justice Legal Update
- ICWA Notice and Inquiry: Understand & Implement the State and Federal Requirements
- Healing Justice: Humanizing Adolescent Development in the Courtroom
- Mitigating Housing Instability