

Minutes  
Training Subcommittee of the Standing Committee  
on Guardians Ad Litem and Attorneys for the Minor Child  
in Family Matters  
January 10, 2018

The Training Subcommittee of the Standing Committee on Guardians Ad Litem and Attorneys for the Minor Child in Family Matters met in the second floor conference room located at 100 Washington Street, Hartford, CT, on January 10, 2018.

Those in attendance: Judge Elizabeth Bozzuto (Chair); Ms. Liza Andrews, Policy Director, CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Attorney Christine Perra Rapillo; Attorney Justine Rakich-Kelly

Also in attendance were Attorney Susan Hamilton and Ms. Frances Wickstrom from the Child Protection Unit of the Division of Public Defender Services and Attorney Damon Goldstein from the Judicial Branch's Court Operations Unit.

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 AM by Judge Bozzuto.

I. Review and Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on October 30, 2017 were approved unanimously.

II. Discussion of Pre-Service Training for Guardians Ad Litem and Attorneys for the Minor Child in Family Matters

The members of the Subcommittee reviewed the curriculum for the pre-service training. Some adjustments were made to account for the availability of faculty and the length of each training module. The schedule is now proposed to be as follows:

**DAY 1**

Communicating With Children (1.5 hrs)

Family Dynamics (2 hrs)

Trauma, Mental Health & Addiction (2.5 hrs)

**DAY 2**

Child Development (2 hrs)

Domestic Violence (2.5 hrs)

Cultural Competence (1.5 hrs)

### **DAY 3**

Courtroom Practice (2 hrs)

Role of AMC/GAL (2 hrs)

Ethics (2 hrs)

Once faculty have been chosen for each piece of the training, they will be asked to submit an outline of their presentation by end of February.

The members of the Subcommittee also agreed that attendees of the training must be present for all 3 days of the pre-service training in their entirety. The ability to watch a recording of any portion of the training that was missed will not be offered.

### III. Schedule of Future Meetings

This Subcommittee will meet again on March 7, 2018 at 9:30 am. The location of the meeting is to be determined. The topics of the curriculum, registration for training by attendees, and the posting of notice of the training will be included as items on the agenda.

Judge Bozzuto adjourned the meeting at 10:36 AM.