

# **Protecting Domestic Violence Survivors and Children in California: Pro Bono Representation in Low-Income Domestic Violence Restraining Order Cases**

**June 7, 2013**

**9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

## **Why You Should Attend**

Attend this program so that you can receive the basic Domestic Violence Law training you need to represent low-income Californian survivors seeking domestic violence restraining orders and safe effective child custody and visitation orders. Learn the basic substantive law regarding California Domestic Violence Prevention Act and child custody and visitation and how to prepare and handle a hearing to obtain these critical orders. These cases can often be handled in one or two hearings and make the essential difference in creating a safe and stable environment for the domestic violence survivor and family.

## **What You Will Learn**

- Domestic Violence 101 - definitions, cycle of violence, working with survivors
- California Domestic Violence Prevention Act restraining orders - procedures, forms and relief
- California Custody and Visitation Law - creating safe and enforceable child custody and visitation orders
- Role of Family Court Services and Preparing Clients for Mediation
- How to prepare and handle a domestic violence restraining order hearing

## **Who Should Attend**

Any attorney interested in providing pro bono assistance to low-income domestic violence survivors. This is an updated training which has proved helpful to law firm pro bono coordinators, associates and partners, corporate counsel, judges, law students, and public interest and non-profit law firm attorneys and staff.

## **Program Schedule**

9:00

### **Program Overview and Introductions**

*Genevieve Richardson*

9:15

### **Domestic Violence 101**

- Basic introduction to domestic violence, definition, cycles of violence, myths and barriers
- Working with domestic violence and sexual assault survivors and low-income clients
- Conducting client interview in preparation of domestic violence restraining order representation
  - Mock client interview with a domestic violence survivor client

*Tülin D. Açikalin, Christina A. Varner*

10:30

**Domestic Violence Prevention Act Restraining Orders**

- Summary of Domestic Violence Prevention Act (DVPA)
  - Remedies
  - Procedure
  - Forms

***Tülin D. Açikalin, Mallika Kaur***

11:30

*Networking Break*

11:45

**Domestic Violence Prevention Act Restraining Order Hearing Practice**

- Preparing and handling a hearing
- Possible hearing results

***Tülin D. Açikalin, Mallika Kaur***

12:45

*Lunch*

1:45

**Basic Overview of California Child Custody and Visitation Law in Domestic Violence Cases, Part I**

- Basic introduction to child custody and visitation law and domestic violence
- Role of Family Court Services and preparing clients for mediation

***Jennifer E. Horne, Staci Lambright***

2:45

**Basic Overview of California Child Custody and Visitation Law in Domestic Violence Cases, Part II**

- Establishing safe and effective child custody and visitation orders
  - Types of custody/visitation orders available
  - Common issues that arise in custody/visitation orders

***Jennifer E. Horne, Staci Lambright***

3:45

*Networking Break*

4:00

**Domestic Violence Restraining Order and Child Custody Hearings**

- How to handle a domestic violence restraining order and child custody hearing

***Mallika Kaur, Staci Lambright***

5:00

*Adjourn*

## **Faculty**

### **Chairperson**

#### **Genevieve L. Richardson**

Director of Pro Bono Activities  
Bay Area Legal Aid  
Oakland, California

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#### **Tülin D. Açikalin**

Managing Attorney  
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#### **Jennifer E. Horne**

Staff Attorney  
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#### **Mallika Kaur**

Staff Attorney  
Communities Overcoming Relationship Abuse  
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#### **Staci Lambright**

Staff Attorney  
Certified Specialist in Family Law  
Bay Area Legal Aid  
San Francisco, California

#### **Christina A. Varner**

Legal Advice Line Advocate  
Bay Area Legal Aid  
Oakland, California

**Program Attorney:** Christina Thompson