

August 2022

The Ready Resource

Providing Up-To-Date Information and Resources to Improve Judicial Responses to Intimate Partner Violence

Announcing Our New Name JEDI-DV

Judicial Education Development Initiative on Domestic Violence: From Concepts to Improved Court Responses

Same Innovative Educational Programming, Leadership Forums, and Peer-to-Peer Learning Opportunities for Judges and Judicial Officers, New Name

NCJFCJ is pleased to announce the Judicial Education Development Initiative on Domestic Violence (JEDI-DV): From Concepts to Improved Court Responses.

After almost 25 years of being known as Comprehensive Training and Technical Assistance to Judges on Domestic Violence, the project name change to JEDI-DV represents the educational and peer-to-peer learning journey that judges and judicial officers embark on when they access and receive training, technical assistance, and resources from JEDI-DV.

JEDI-DV's educational journey provides judges and judicial officers with an evolving menu of options to customize their educational journey to complement their demanding schedules and dockets and includes virtual and in-person training and technical assistance programming, forums, and opportunities, which are highlighted in this newsletter.

National Judicial Institute on Domestic Violence (NJIDV)

NJIDV is the hallmark of JEDI-DV's judicial educational journey, which is a partnership with Futures Without Violence and which has trained more than 20,000 judges and judicial officers, and celebrates its 25th anniversary in 2024! NJIDV consists of the Enhancing Judicial Skills in Domestic Violence Cases (EJS) and the Continuing Judicial Skills in Domestic Violence Cases (CJS) workshops. EJS includes six major segments, covered over a 4-day period, that encompasses principles of adult education: (1) Practical Courtroom Exercises; (2) Victim and Perpetrator Behavior; (3) Fact-Finding; (4) Access to Justice; (5) Fairness and Cultural Issues; and (6) Decision-Making. The CJS workshops are specifically designed for judges and judicial officers who have completed EJS, encompasses principles of adult education, and offers an opportunity for in-depth discussion and education on specific topics, over the course of 1-2 days: immigration, domestic relations and child custody, criminal matters, civil protection orders, effective accountability, cyberviolence, and improving responses for cases involving persons with disabilities. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the last EJS was held in February 2020. We hope to hold one EJS in Spring 2023. Please visit njidv.org for more information about NJIDV and upcoming EJS and CJS workshops.

NJIDV: Cultivating Core Competencies for Team Teaching and Facilitation

This online faculty development course is a new initiative of NJIDV, just recently launched, and a partnership with Futures Without Violence. It represents NJIDV's commitment to offering diverse expert faculty teams for judicial education programs, which are uniquely designed to offer an interactive experience integrating specific content created for a judicial audience. For more information, please contact Jennifer Arsenian at jarsenian@ncjfcj.org.

Judicial Engagement Network (JEN)

NCJFCJ's Judicial Engagement Network, a partnership with the Center for Court Innovation, and a network for judges, by judges, launched in 2016. The JEN identifies and brings together judges and judicial officers to promote cutting-edge practices that result in better outcomes for families and provides opportunities for judges and judicial officers to craft and hone their leadership skills, promotes social values, and supports passing knowledge and expertise to the next generation of judges and judicial officers. The JEN:

- boasts a dedicated website, judicialengagementnetwork.org, with a designated membership forum that allows JEN judges and judicial officers to access on-demand information and peer exchanges;
- offers the [JEN Fellowship Program](#), launched in 2018, for judges and judicial officers who propose and lead projects that focus on creating systems change in communities and courts to address the intersections of domestic violence and the impact of racial injustice and bias within systems, institutional barriers to access to justice, or the COVID-19 pandemic and has graduated three cohorts of Fellows;
- hosts the JEN Summit, which highlights promising practices and the work of the JEN Fellows, infuses new energy into JEN, and reinvigorates judges and judicial officers through idea-sharing, connecting with peers, and facilitated conversations to explore new strategies for their court systems; the last JEN Summit was held in 2019, but we hope to host one in Winter 2023; and
- is exploring the creation and implementation of state JEN chapters.

The Ready Resource: Providing Up-to-Date Trainings and Resources for Judges and Judicial Officers (Ready Resource)

The [Ready Resource newsletter](#) provides relevant information about the JEDI-DV's current events, new and helpful resources, upcoming trainings for judges and judicial officers, and customized technical assistance and training resources related to improving responses to intimate partner violence.

Courts During Community Crisis Toolkit - Reflections on Systems Resilience: A Focus on Cases Involving Abuse

This [new virtual toolkit](#) launched, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and in September 2021, by the NCJFCJ through its JEDI-DV project reflects a collaboration with leading judges and judicial officers across the nation to develop a court toolkit that examines systems' resilience and reforms with a focus on cases involving abuse and that sets forth 10 Guiding Principles to assist judges and judicial officers amid a crisis. The Guiding Principles (Safety, Wellness, Context, Equity and Access, Voice and Choice, Leadership, Collaboration, System Assessments, Effective Responses, and Meaningful Accountability) are the foundation of the Court Transitions Toolkit, addressing shortfalls uncovered by the pandemic, while protecting the integrity of proceedings, promoting access to justice, ensuring due process, and providing well-informed decision-making. It is updated quarterly with the newest innovative practices, procedures, policies, and data related to navigating the COVID-19 pandemic and includes:

- interactive exercises and activities to help judges and judicial officers determine when and how to hold domestic violence, child abuse and neglect, or juvenile cases virtually/remotely, at the courthouse, or in a hybrid format;
- practice tips, pointers, and examples of crisis-specific resources and materials developed by judges and judicial officers, courts, and leading experts in their fields, including court standards, rules and guidance, sample instructions for virtual court proceedings, evidentiary issues and remedies, and feedback and survey tools to improve court system responses; and
- new and emerging models and opportunities for judicial engagement, leadership, and decision-making in civil protection order and dependency, family, and juvenile cases.

Break from the Bench

[Break from the Bench](#) is a monthly, recorded lunch and learn series that focuses on what judges and judicial officers need to know about domestic violence, provides digestible amounts of information within 45-minutes, and is uploaded to the JEDI-DV website. Featured topics include what a judge needs to know about ... DV AWARE (courtroom/courthouse security), firearms, cyberviolence, considerations for self-represented litigants experiencing domestic violence, responding to immigrant victims of domestic and sexual assault, creating equal justice for people with cognitive and intellectual disabilities in domestic and sexual violence cases, considerations when ordering supervised visitation in domestic violence cases, and recognizing context and coercive controlling abuse in intimate partner violence.



NCJFCJ'S LUNCH & LEARN SERIES

Next Up: Language Access and Best Practices for Courts in Domestic Violence Cases: presented by the Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence

September 13 | 12 p.m. PST / 1 p.m. MST / 2 p.m. CST / 3p.m. EST

[2022 Series Registration Here](#)

Watch the [2021 Break from the Bench Series](#)

National Judicial Conversations on Domestic Violence

These virtual conversations for judges, by judges, allow judges and judicial officers to engage in peer-to-peer discussions around emerging and perennial issues of concern to judges and judicial officers. As such, these conversations are not recorded. Past conversations included a question and answer session with the expert's from NJIDV's Podcast Series: Centering Children and the roles and experiences of judges and judicial officers in addressing obstacles they face in enhancing safety for families and a discussion about risk identification in domestic violence cases. Visit the [NJIDV website](#) for future national conversation opportunities.

Podcasts

[The Centering Children](#), three-part podcast series features Dr. Peter Jaffe and Dr. Linda Baker from the [Center for Research Education on Violence Against Women and Children](#) at the University of Western Ontario to discuss the impact of domestic violence on children. Moderated by Aaron Polkey, Staff Attorney for Futures Without Violence and hosted by NJIDV, these 20-minute discussions include understanding exposure to domestic violence for children in the justice system, recognizing domestic violence when determining custody, and fostering resilience.

State-, Judge-, and Judicial Officer-Specific Technical Assistance and Training on Domestic Violence

JEDI-DV offers customized in-person and virtual technical assistance and training to judges, judicial officers, and court-related professionals seeking presentation assistance, workshop design, research and resources, consultation, and peer-to-peer connections on domestic violence issues. JEDI-DV partners with the judge, judicial officer, court-related professional, and/or the state, local, or tribal jurisdiction to select the appropriate delivery method and to tailor the national NJIDV topics and materials to the appropriate audience, which provides a unique opportunity to increase access to quality programming and materials and to support improved practices at an individual and local level.

The JEDI-DV will also conduct research for judges, judicial officers, and court-related professionals on case law, statutes, social science, and model practices related to domestic violence; provide individualized consultation and on-site technical assistance to judges, judicial officers, and court-related professionals seeking to change domestic violence practice in their courts and communities; and facilitate peer-to-peer conversations and opportunities to share emerging court and community practices, troubleshoot challenging court and community practices and policies in domestic violence cases, and deal with emergency situations, such as the COVID-19 pandemic. Please contact info@njidv.org to request customized in-person and/or virtual technical assistance and training.

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