

CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF SAN FRANCISCO



presents

Custody Cases with Care: A Trauma–Informed Approach

Advocate with empathy and learn strategies to use with traumatized custody clients
(Rebroadcast)

Speakers

Leighko Toyoshima Yap

Cindy May

Moderator

Jonathan Lichtenstein

AFCC Member and Custody Evaluator in Private Practice

This training teaches family law attorneys how to integrate trauma-informed approaches into their work with custody clients. Participants will learn to identify the manifestations of complex trauma and understand how these may affect client behavior. A role-play vignette of a legal interview with a traumatized client will demonstrate practical strategies for de-escalation, grounding, validation, and empowerment. Upon completion, attorneys will both learn how to recognize distinct manifestations of trauma and apply effective strategies to support traumatized clients with greater empathy and understanding.

Topics

- Learn how complex trauma differs from the diagnostic description of PTSD
- Learn about the physical, emotional, mental, and behavioral manifestations of trauma
- Learn about trauma as nervous system dysregulation: fight, flight, or freeze
- Learn strategies to use when working with traumatized clients

Monday

December 21, 2026

MCLE Registration: 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Virtual Program: 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

MCLE: 1 Hour

To receive MCLE credit, you must sign in during the designated MCLE registration period. This activity is approved for Minimum Continuing Legal Education credit by the State Bar of California.

BASF is a certified provider. Provider #103

Pre–registration is required.

Virtual Program

Zoom link will be provided prior to the program

Cost

Free for BASF Members

\$50 for Non-Members

Viewing Options



Live Webcast available, register at www.sfbbar.org



Webcast Recording will be available. Register separately on our online platform.

Special Requests:

People with disabilities should contact BASF regarding reasonable accommodations at events@sfbbar.org.

All are welcome, varying rates apply based on membership status.

Register online: www.sfbbar.org/calendar

Event Code: G267022L