

#StatewideTraining2025

# STATEWIDE TRAINING CONFERENCE

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2025

Pennsylvania  
**Legal Aid** | Network



# MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

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## Day-at-a-Glance

### TRIAL ADVOCACY TRAINING

08:00 AM – 09:00 AM | ALLEGHENY & JUNIATA

#### **Registration & Breakfast**

09:00 AM – 10:15 AM | DELAWARE & JUNIATA

#### **Introduction & Effective Advocacy and Ethical Concerns**

*Presenters: Schawanne Kilgus, Nick Matash & Mariel Quiñones Mundo*

10:15 AM – 11:15 AM | DELAWARE & JUNIATA

#### **Direct Examination, Refreshing Recollection, and Introduction of Exhibits**

*Presenters: Schawanne Kilgus & Nick Matash*

11:15 AM – 12:15 PM | DELAWARE & JUNIATA

#### **Cross Examination & Objections**

*Presenters: Schawanne Kilgus & Nick Matash*

12:15 PM – 1:00 PM | ALLEGHENY

#### **Lunch Break**

01:00 PM – 05:15 PM | LOCHIEL, WILLIAM PENN & METRO A&B

#### **Interactive Workshops with Critiques (includes afternoon break)**

*Presenters: Schawanne Kilgus, Michele L. Kluk & Nick Matash*

05:15 PM – 05:30 PM | DELAWARE & JUNIATA

#### **Program Conclusion**

*Presenter: Mariel Quiñones Mundo*

### PRE-CONFERENCE

01:00 PM – 04:30 PM | LELAND

#### **Statewide Compliance Training (includes afternoon break)**

*Presenters: Brianna Bosak, Elizabeth Griffith & Erik Hansen*

04:30 PM – 07:30 PM | ALLEGHENY

#### **Client Counsel of Pennsylvania Meeting & Dinner**

*Note: Client Members Only*

Our client track highlights sessions designed to address issues most relevant to client members. For full details, turn to page 7.

# TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

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## Day-at-a-Glance

### GENERAL

08:00 AM – 09:00 AM | HARRISBURG BALLROOM

#### **Registration & Breakfast**

Registration will remain open until 5:00 PM on Tuesday.

09:00 AM – 10:30 AM

#### **Concurrent Sessions 1**

10:30 AM – 10:45 AM

#### **Morning Break**

10:45 AM – 11:45 AM

#### **Concurrent Sessions 2**

11:45 AM – 12:45 PM | HARRISBURG BALLROOM

#### **Lunch Buffet**

12:45 PM – 01:45 PM | HARRISBURG BALLROOM

#### **The Rule of Law: Its Importance and Relevance**

Plenary Speaker: April Frazier Camara, President and CEO, NLADA

1:45 PM – 2:00 PM

#### **Afternoon Break**

02:00 PM – 03:30 PM

#### **Concurrent Sessions 3**

3:30 PM – 3:45 PM

#### **Late Afternoon Break**

03:45 PM – 04:45 PM

#### **Concurrent Sessions 4**

05:30 PM – 07:30 PM | HARRISBURG BALLROOM

#### **Dinner**

07:00 PM – 09:00 PM | HARRISBURG BALLROOM

#### **Team Trivia**

Note: Limit of 6 people per team.



# WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

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## Day-at-a-Glance

### GENERAL

07:30 AM – 08:30 AM | HARRISBURG BALLROOM

#### **Registration & Breakfast**

Registration will remain open until 1:30 PM on Wednesday.

08:30 AM – 10:00 AM

#### **Concurrent Sessions 1**

10:00 AM – 10:15 AM

#### **Morning Break**

10:15 AM – 11:15 AM

#### **Concurrent Sessions 2**

11:15 AM – 11:30 AM

#### **Late Morning Break**

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

#### **Concurrent Sessions 3**

12:30 PM – 01:15 PM

#### **Conference Adjourns – Grab Box Lunch & Depart**

12:30 PM – 03:00 PM

#### **Law Group Meetings**

\*Law groups should pick up their boxed lunch prior to meeting.

### LAW GROUP MEETINGS

#### **Disability Law**

ROOM: WILLIAM PENN

#### **Elder Law**

ROOM: PENN HARRIS

#### **Family Law**

ROOM: JUNIATA

#### **Health Law**

ROOM: DELAWARE

#### **Homeownership & Consumer Law**

ROOM: METRO C

#### **Housing Law**

ROOM: METRO A&B

#### **Public Benefits Law**

ROOM: SUSQUEHANNA

#### **Utility Law**

ROOM: ALLEGHENY

*see pages 4-7  
for session  
schedules*



# TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

## Concurrent Sessions 1 & 2

09:00 AM – 10:30 AM

COMMUNICATIONS & DEVELOPMENT | PENN HARRIS

### **Policy Communications & Legislative Campaigns**

*Presenters: Andy Hoover & Morgan Plant*

EMPLOYMENT LAW | METRO C

### **Seal a Conviction! Change a Life!**

*Presenters: Rep. Sheryl Delozier, Sharon Dietrich, Brian Gorman, Joshua Ostan & Noella Sudbury*

HOME OWNERSHIP & CONSUMER RIGHTS | JUNIATA

### **Responding to the Growth of Non-Judicial Foreclosures**

*Presenters: Mary Jacob, Rachel Labush & Tiffany Thornton*

LANGUAGE ACCESS | METRO A&B

### **Preserving Language Access in Changing Times: Law, Policy, and Practice**

*Presenters: DeJonna Bates, Bridget Hylak, Chi-Ser Tran & Peter Zurflieh*

SOCIAL SECURITY/SSI | ALLEGHENY

### **SSI/Social Security Non-Disability Topics**

*Presenters: John Whitelaw*

UTILITY LAW | SUSQUEHANNA

### **Utilities 101: Keeping the Lights On**

*Presenters: Lauren N. Berman & Maggie Lind*

10:45 AM – 11:45 AM

COMMUNICATIONS & DEVELOPMENT | PENN HARRIS

### **Media Training for Legal Advocates**

*Presenters: Brittany Murphy & Dominic Slowey*

ELDER LAW | JUNIATA

### **Nursing Home Discharge Cases: Resident Advocacy**

*Presenters: Nick Matash & Judy Weimer*

FAMILY LAW | ALLEGHENY

### **The Myth of Parental Alienation and the False Promise of Reunification Therapy**

*Presenters: Addison Cropper & Katherine Guzzi*

GENERAL | METRO C

### **Strategies for Effective & Client-Centered Outreach: Lessons from Farmworker Programs**

*Presenters: Jillian Aguilar-Garfias, Maryanne Ortiz-Herrera & Lerae Kroon*

HOUSING LAW | SUSQUEHANNA

### **Manufactured Homes 101: The Basics on Mobile Home Ownership in Pennsylvania**

*Presenters: Daniel Vitek*

PUBLIC BENEFITS | METRO A&B

### **Threats to Medicaid and SNAP: Federal Update, Timeline, and Potential Impact on PA**

*Presenters: Lydia Gottesfeld, Louise Hayes, Amy Lowenstein & Maripat Pileggi*

# TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

## Concurrent Sessions 3 & 4

02:00 PM – 03:30 PM

COMMUNICATIONS & DEVELOPMENT | PENN HARRIS

### **Storytelling Through Data: From LegalServer to Impact Materials**

*Presenters: Ron Ayler, Travis Southard & Emma Wennberg*

GENERAL | METRO A&B

### **AI and the Future of Legal Work: Rethinking Justice in a Machine Age**

*Presenters: Sateesh Nori*

GENERAL | METRO C

### **Yes You CAN Do That! Advocacy Within LSC Restrictions**

*Presenters: Chris Buerger & Julia Simon-Mishel*

HEALTH LAW | ALLEGHENY

### **Medicaid Waivers 101: Understanding Eligibility, Access, and Impact**

*Presenters: Pamela Silver & Miguel Strunk*

HOUSING LAW | SUSQUEHANNA

### **Residents' Rights under MCHRA: Challenges Residents in Manufactured Home Communities Face and Legal Solutions**

*Presenters: Daniel Nawrocki, Cici Stafiuc & Daniel Vitek*

03:45 PM – 04:45 PM

COMMUNICATIONS & DEVELOPMENT | PENN HARRIS

### **Creating Accessible and Impactful Client Materials with Canva**

*Presenters: Marion Fraley, Julia Marasco & Giselle Martinez*

HEALTH LAW | ALLEGHENY

### **Hot Topics in Medicare & Medicaid**

*Presenters: Kyle Fisher & Jessica Lippert*

HOME OWNERSHIP & CONSUMER RIGHTS | METRO C

### **Student Loan Updates: What Legal Aid Staff Need to Know for Themselves & Clients**

*Presenters: Tamar Hoffman & Kerry Smith*

HOUSING LAW | SUSQUEHANNA

### **The Changed Landscape for "Rent to Own" Agreements Post Zanicky v. Skopow**

*Presenters: Brandon Copeland & Alfonso Madrid*

SOCIAL SECURITY/SSI | JUNIATA

### **SSI/SSDI Applications, Forms, and How to Complete Them**

*Presenters: Alicia Merrill*

UTILITY LAW | METRO A&B

### **From Policy to Practice: Emerging Issues in Energy, Water, and the Environment**

*Presenters: Elizabeth Marx & Joline Price*

# WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

## Concurrent Sessions 1 & 2

08:30 AM – 10:00 AM

COMMUNICATIONS & DEVELOPMENT | DELAWARE

### **Communications Strategy for Small Teams**

*Presenters: Brianna Bosak & Nora Davenport*

DISABILITY | ALLEGHENY

### **Disability Rights Behind Bars**

*Presenters: Sarah Bellos, Alexandra Morgan-Kurtz, Terrell Mosley & Stina Stannik*

HEALTH LAW | SUSQUEHANNA

### **From Denial to Approval: Legal Strategies for Securing Personal Assistance Services**

*Presenters: Meggie McCarthy-White & Rieko Shepard*

HOME OWNERSHIP & CONSUMER RIGHTS | METRO C

### **Mortgage Caselaw Update 2025**

*Presenters: Ian Charlton, Michael Froehlich & Rachel Labush*

PUBLIC BENEFITS | METRO A&B

### **Digital Identity Authentication: How Our Clients are Navigating New De Facto Eligibility Requirements in Government Programs**

*Presenters: Jennifer Burdick, Lina Klose, Julia Simon-Mishel, Elizabeth Bynum Sorrell*

10:15 AM – 11:15 AM

ELDER LAW | METRO C

### **Navigating Romance Scams: Challenges, Best Practices, and Collaborative Approaches**

*Presenters: Roseanne Milanes*

EMPLOYMENT LAW | METRO A&B

### **A Conversation with the Department of Labor and Industry Deputy Secretaries**

*Presenters: Sharon Dietrich, Christopher S. Hallock, Maria Macus & Julia Simon-Mishel*

FAMILY LAW | SUSQUEHANNA

### **Collateral Consequences of Family Law Orders**

*Presenters: Jamie Gullen, Arly Smith-Pearson & Alexandra Yates*

HOUSING LAW | JUNIATA

### **Tenants' Rights in Privatized Public Housing**

*Presenters: Korey Lundin & Kevin Quisenberry*

SOCIAL SECURITY/SSI | ALLEGHENY

### **SSI/SSDI for the Non Practitioner - A 101 Review**

*Presenters: Mark Maher*

# WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

## Concurrent Session 3

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

GENERAL | ALLEGHENY

### **PA Lobbying Disclosure: What a Legal Services Program Needs to Know**

*Presenters: Sharon Dietrich*

PRO BONO | METRO C

### **Clinics and Outreach: Closing the Rural Justice Gap**

*Presenters: Judy Hale, Megan Lovett, Meghann Mikluscak-Hewitt & Melissa L. Evans*

PUBLIC BENEFITS LAW | SUSQUEHANNA

### **Protecting Your Clients from the SNAP Three-Month Time Limit**

*Presenters: Louise Hayes & Mackenzie Libbey*

## CLIENT MEMBER TRACK

*THESE SESSIONS CENTER CLIENT EXPERIENCES WHILE ALSO PROVIDING  
PERSPECTIVES THAT RESONATE ACROSS THE LEGAL AID COMMUNITY*

TUESDAY

09:00 AM – 10:30 AM | SUSQUEHANNA

### **Utilities 101: Keeping the Lights On**

*Presenters: Lauren N. Berman & Maggie Lind*

10:45 AM – 11:45 AM | METRO A&B

### **Threats to Medicaid and SNAP: Federal Update, Timeline, and Potential Impact on PA**

*Presenters: Lydia Gottesfeld, Louise Hayes, Amy Lowenstein & Maripat Pileggi*

02:00 PM - 03:30 PM | SUSQUEHANNA

### **Residents' Rights under MCHRA: Challenges Residents in Manufactured Home Communities Face and Legal Solutions**

*Presenters: Daniel Nawrocki, Cici Stafiuc & Daniel Vitek*

WEDNESDAY

10:15 AM - 11:15 AM | DELAWARE

### **CAUSE-PA Meeting**

*Note: Members of CAUSE-PA*

The Coalition for Affordable Utility Services and Energy Efficiency (CAUSE-PA) is an unincorporated association of low- and moderate-income individuals that advocates on behalf of its members to enable consumers of limited economic means to connect to and maintain affordable water, electric, heating, and telecommunication services.

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