



2025 SFLAC Oregon Family Law Conference

Collaborating for Successful Families

The Oregon Judicial Department, Juvenile & Family Court Programs Division and State Family Law Advisory Committee are pleased to announce the 10th Family Law Conference.

Agenda

March 6 & 7, 2025

Seaside, OR

For more information, materials and registration visit:

<https://www.courts.oregon.gov/SFLACFLC>



Collaborating for Successful Families

Agenda

Thursday March 6, 2025

Seaside Convention Center

8:00 AM - 8:45 AM	Registration and Continental Breakfast		
Pacific Room Plenary 8:45 AM - 9:00 AM	Opening and Welcome with Hon. Karrie McIntyre		
Pacific Room Plenary 9:00 AM - 10:15 AM	<p>Keynote Conversations in Justice: A Family Affair in Access and Advocacy Former Chief Justice Martha Walters and John VanLandingham</p>		
10:15 AM - 10:30 AM	Break		
Workshop Rooms	Necanicum West	Necanicum East	Riverside Rooms
Workshops 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM	<p>Working with Victims of Sex Trafficking Amanda Swanson</p>	<p>Intersection of Tax Law and Family Law Shannon Garcia</p>	<p>Facilitator Workshop Christie Combs Facilitator Workgroup</p>
Pacific Room Plenary 12:00 PM - 1:15 PM	Lunch and Presentation of Wallace P. Carson Award		
Workshop Rooms	Necanicum West	Necanicum East	Riverside Rooms
Workshops 1:15 PM - 2:45 PM	<p>Protection Order Ratatouille: Updates on Oregon's Protection Orders and Their Impact on Families Hon. Pam Haan Debra Dority Teala Sunderman</p>	<p>Integrating Constructive Adversarial Systems in Family Therapy: Enhancing Child Welfare Through Structured Court-Involved Interventions Lonny Webb</p>	<p>Helping Families Navigate the Immediate Danger Process: A Multi-Disciplinary Perspective on Temporary Emergency Custody Orders Hon. Karrie McIntyre Hon. Sara Collins Maleea Briggs, Mirsa Villegas, Laurie Melendy</p>
2:45 PM - 3:00 PM	Break		
Pacific Room Plenary 3:00 PM - 4:15 PM	<p>"The Long and Winding Road" - an Oregon Child Support Journey Kate Cooper Richardson, Shannon Richard, Michael Ritchey, and Chris Hill</p>		
4:15 PM - 4:30 PM	Break		

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Agenda

Thursday March 6, 2025 continued

Seaside Convention Center

Workshop Rooms	Necanicum West	Necanicum East	Riverside Rooms
Workshops 4:30 PM – 5:15 PM	<p>SFLAC PIOS (Parental Involvement and Outreach Subcommittee) Resources for Oregon's Families, Courts, and Practitioners Hon. Amy Holmes Hehn Dr. Wendy Bourg, Ph.D Kathleen Zumpano</p>	<p>What Everyone Should Know about Oregon's Licensed Paralegals in Family Law Sr. Judge Maureen McKnight Sue Gerhardt</p>	<p>Mediation & Domestic Violence: Effective strategies for ensuring safety, self-determination, and trauma-informed care in mediation involving domestic violence Jennifer Price Katherine Moakley</p>
Lobby 5:15 PM - 6:45 PM	<p>Networking Reception No Host Bar Open 5:15- 6:15 PM</p>		

Friday March 7, 2025

7:30 AM - 8:15 AM	Registration and Continental Breakfast		
Pacific Room Plenary 8:15 AM - 8:30 AM	<p>Welcome & SFLAC Update Hon. Karrie McIntyre</p>		
Pacific Room Plenary 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM	<p>What Makes an "Expert" an Expert? Identifying Real Experts in Custody Cases with Resist Refuse and Child Abuse Allegations Dr. Madelyn Simring Milchman, Ph.D</p>		
10:00 AM - 10:15 AM	Break		
Workshop Rooms	Necanicum West	Necanicum East	Riverside Rooms
Workshops 10:15 AM - 11:45 AM	<p>What Makes an "Expert" an Expert? - Workshop Dr. Madelyn Simring Milchman, Ph.D</p>	<p>The Intersection of Family Law and Immigration: Important Considerations and Practice Tips and Updates Emily Brown-Sitnick Courtney Crowe</p>	<p>Incarceration Re-entry Simulation Dawn Marquardt Department of Justice Child Support Program Staff</p>
Networking 11:45 AM - 12:00 PM	<i>lunch on own</i>		

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Session Descriptions

Plenary
Pacific Room – First Floor

3/6/2025 8:45 AM - 9:00 AM
Session Duration: 15 minutes

Opening and Welcome

- Hon. Karrie McIntyre

Plenary
Pacific Room - First Floor

3/6/2025 9:00 AM - 10:15 AM
Session Duration: 1 hour 15 minutes

Keynote: Conversations in Justice: A Family Affair in Access and Advocacy

- Hon. Martha Walters: A Visionary for Access to Justice
- John VanLandingham: Advocating for Housing Rights for all Oregonians

This years' keynote features two monumental figures in the realm of justice and community advocacy: former Chief Justice Martha Walters and her husband, John VanLandingham, attorney and legislative advocate at Lane County Legal Aid/Oregon Law Center. This dynamic duo brings a wealth of experience and insight that is vital for fostering collaboration and innovation in improving family law practices and policies. Their shared journey will hold profound relevance for attorneys, social workers, judges, and all stakeholders invested in the well-being of families. As we gather to share knowledge, experiences, and best practices, the insights offered by Justice Walters and Mr. VanLandingham will inspire new frameworks for collaboration.

Workshop
Necanicum West - First Floor

3/6/2025 10:30 AM -12:00 PM
Session Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes

Working with Victims of Sex Trafficking

- Amanda Swanson, Human Trafficking Intervention Coordinator, Oregon Department of Justice

This session will cover how to identify that you are working with a victim of sex trafficking and how to respond to the complex trauma of these victims.

Workshop
Necanicum East - First Floor

3/6/2025 10:30 AM -12:00 PM
Session Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes

Intersection of Tax Law and Family Law

- Shannon Garcia, Director Statewide Tax Program, Legal Aid Services of Oregon

This session will start with a discussion of tax benefits and why they matter, we will then discuss the requirements of each benefit for custody orders, and will finish with common tax issues for families.

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Workshop
Riverside Rooms - Second Floor

3/6/2025 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Session Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes

Facilitator Workshop

- Christie Combs, Business Process Analyst, Enterprise Technology Services Division, Oregon Judicial Department
- Facilitator Workgroup: Colleen Carter-Cox, Chris Hill, Hannah Marchese, Bryan Marsh, Natalie Otero, Keith Raines, Teala Sunderman, Carrie Vigue, and Mirsa Villegas.

This fun and interactive session will provide an informal demonstration on how facilitators and court staff can assist parties with electronic filings. Then, test your knowledge in a fun game of Facilitator Jeopardy. This team driven exercise is guaranteed to inspire collaboration! At the end of the session, join us in applauding the next recipient of the Facilitator Spotlight!

Plenary
Pacific Room - First Floor

3/6/2025 12:00 PM - 1:15 PM
Session Duration: 1 hour 15 minutes

Lunch and Presentation of SFLAC Award

- Former Chief Justice Hon. Martha Walters

The State Family Law Advisory Committee created the Wallace P. Carson Jr. Outstanding Achievement Award to honor a person, agency, or organization for outstanding achievement in family law. The award is presented at each SFLAC Family Law Conference.

Workshop
Necanicum West - First Floor

3/6/2025 1:15 PM - 2:45 PM
Session Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes

Protection Order Ratatouille: Updates on Oregon's Protection Orders and Their Impact on Families

- Hon. Pamela Haan, Multnomah County Circuit Court Judge
- Debra Dority, State Support Unit (SSU) Attorney, Oregon Law Center (OLC)
- Teala Sunderman, Family Law Program Manager, Union County Circuit Court, Oregon Judicial Department

Join us for an overview of Oregon's protection orders, and their real-world implications for families. This session will provide clarity on common misunderstandings surrounding protection orders and discuss key changes to the laws that govern them. Attendees will learn about the challenges involved with service; issues relating to enforcement, modification, and renewal; the interaction of protection orders with housing, employment, and other family law matters; and more! Whether you are a legal professional, court staff, or family advocate, this session will equip you with the knowledge necessary to navigate the complexities of Oregon's protection order system and its broader implications for family safety.

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Workshop
Necanicum East - First Floor

3/6/2025 1:15 PM - 2:45 PM
Session Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes

**Integrating Constructive Adversarial Systems in Family Therapy:
Enhancing Child Welfare Through Structured Court-Involved
Interventions**

- Lonny Webb, MSW, LCSW

This session introduces the Constructive Adversarial System (CAS), an evolving evidence-informed model designed to enhance outcomes for high-conflict families engaged in court-ordered or court-involved therapy. This model emphasizes understanding and addressing family dynamics rather than focusing solely on diagnostic labels. Attendees will explore practical strategies for improving parent-child relationships, fostering co-parenting collaboration, and reducing conflict through structured, multidisciplinary approaches. The CAS model prioritizes child welfare and the best interests of the children involved, offering a framework to guide families toward healthier interactions and more positive outcomes within the legal and therapeutic processes.

Workshop
Riverside Rooms - Second Floor

3/6/2025 1:15 PM - 2:45 PM
Session Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes

**Helping Families Navigate the Immediate Danger Process: A Multi-
Disciplinary Perspective on Temporary Emergency Custody Orders**

Panel Moderator:

- Hon. Karrie McIntyre, Lane County Circuit Court Judge

Panelists:

- Hon. Sara Collins, Jackson County Circuit Court Judge
- Maleea Briggs, Child Protective Services (CPS) Midtown Branch, Oregon Department of Human Services
- Mirsa Villegas, Family Law Facilitator, Multnomah County Circuit Court
- Laurie Melendy, Principal, Mohawk Middle and High School, Marcola School District.

This workshop will provide a comprehensive understanding of the immediate danger and temporary custody process in Oregon, bringing together key professionals involved in the process. The panel includes perspectives from a judge, a child welfare caseworker, school administrator, and a court facilitator. Attendees will gain a clearer understanding of the expectations and limitations of each agency or organization. Join us to explore how improved agency communication can lead to better outcomes for children and families.

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Plenary
Pacific Room - First Floor

3/6/2025 3:00 PM - 4:15 PM
Session Duration: 1 hour 15 minutes

"The Long and Winding Road" - an Oregon Child Support Journey

- Kate Cooper Richardson, Director, Oregon Department of Justice Division of Child Support and the Oregon Child Support Program
- Shannon Richard, Assistant Attorney-in-Charge of the Civil Recovery Section at the Oregon Department of Justice
- Michael Ritchey, Senior Assistant Attorney General, Oregon Department of Justice
- Chris Hill, Child Support Analyst, Juvenile and Family Law Court Programs Division, Oregon Judicial Department

This session will cover Oregon child support matters, including a reminder that it's not the child support program of "Yesterday", what happens when "She's Leaving Home" as an adult Child Attending School, learning that "Baby, It's You" with paternity establishment, and how things are "Getting Better" through right-sized orders as well as OJD's current and expanding Title IV-D (child support) offerings, including the Remote Child Support Court and the Statewide Child Support Facilitator. This session is here to "Help!"

Workshop
Necanicum West - First Floor

3/6/2025 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM
Session Duration: 45 minutes

SFLAC Parental Involvement and Outreach Subcommittee PIOS Resources for Oregon's Families, Courts and Practitioners

- Hon. Amy Holmes Hehn, Multnomah County Circuit Court Judge
- Dr. Wendy Bourg, Ph.D, Clinical Psychologist
- Kathleen Zumpano, Parenting Plan Mediator, Child Development Specialist and Parent Educator

We will review the current, past, and future PIOS projects and the resources provided by the subcommittee for judges, attorneys, and families in Oregon's family courts. This will include resources for the resist-refuse dynamic, supervised parenting time, safety focused parenting plans, and more.

Workshop
Necanicum East - First Floor

3/6/2025 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM
Session Duration: 45 minutes

What Everyone Should Know about Oregon's Licensed Paralegals in Family Law

- Hon. Maureen McKnight, Senior Judge
- Sue Gerhardt, Licensed Paralegal, Lufkin Pechkahn, LLP

Join a practicing Licensed Paralegal (LP) and the chair of the OSB Committee of Paralegal Assessors for an overview of Oregon's newly-authorized Licensed Paralegal Initiative. We'll cover how LPs qualify for licensure and what they are allowed to do, a behind-the-scenes look at the first year in the life of an LP, and a few thoughts on hopes for this access to justice effort.

For more information visit: <https://www.courts.oregon.gov/SFLACFLC>

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Workshop
Riverside Rooms - Second Floor

3/6/2025 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM
Session Duration: 45 minutes

Mediation & Domestic Violence: Effective strategies for ensuring safety, self-determination, and trauma-informed care in mediation involving domestic violence

- Jennifer Price, Mediator
- Katherine Moakley, Managing Attorney for the Lane County Office of the Oregon Law Center

This presentation will provide an overview of topics related to domestic violence and custody & parenting time mediation. Panelists will address effective screening for DV when a case is initiated, the decision of whether mediation should proceed, and how to safely and responsibly provide mediation to parties when DV or power & control imbalances are at issue.

Friday Sessions

Plenary
Pacific Room - First Floor

3/7/2025 8:15 AM - 8:30 AM
Session Duration: 15 minutes

Welcome and SFLAC Update

- Hon. Karrie McIntyre, Lane County Circuit Court Judge, Chair of State Family Law Advisory Committee

The State Family Law Advisory Committee (SFLAC) is currently a 16-member panel of judges, trial court administrators, mediators and evaluators, attorneys, family court service providers, and representatives from various state agencies. The Chief Justice of the Oregon Supreme Court appoints SFLAC members to advise the State Court Administrator on family law issues in the courts (ORS 3.436). The SFLAC also plans and implements an annual statewide conference on family law issues in Oregon to the extent that funds are available. It meets quarterly and has several subcommittees that research and provide technical assistance on specific issues of concern in family law or pertaining to family courts.

Plenary
Pacific Room - First Floor

3/7/2025 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM
Session Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes

What Makes an "Expert" an Expert? Identifying Real Experts in Custody Cases with Resist Refuse and Child Abuse Allegations

- Dr. Madelyn Simring Milchman Ph.D, Psychologist, New Jersey

The Plenary analyzes expert testimony in custody cases with contact resistance/refusal where parents allege alienation rebutting child abuse (CA) or sexual abuse (CSA) allegations against them. It presents questions to help judges qualify expert witnesses as alienation or CA/CSA experts. It scientifically refutes claims that false CA/CSA allegations are common in custody cases. It identifies case-specific evidence needed to support or refute either allegation. It presents cross-examination questions that help attorneys undermine expert opinions and recommendations not supported by case-specific evidence.

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Workshop
Necanicum West - First Floor

3/7/2025 10:15 AM - 11:45 AM
Session Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes

What makes an "Expert" and Expert? Workshop

- Dr. Madelyn Simring Milchman Ph.D, Psychologist, New Jersey

The follow-up workshop to preceding plenary applies the information from the plenary to a juror's opinion in a controversial case.

Workshop
Necanicum East - First Floor

3/7/2025 10:15 AM - 11:45 AM
Session Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes

The Intersection of Family Law and Immigration: Important Considerations and Practice Tips and Updates

- Emily Brown-Sitnick, Regional Director of the Portland Regional Office of Legal Aid Services of Oregon.
- Courtney Crowe, Interim Family Law Supervisor at the Portland Regional Office of Legal Aid Services of Oregon.

In this training we will discuss the points of intersectionality between immigration and family law. This includes how to navigate family law proceedings with mixed status households, considering the power of decisions and actions by attorneys and the court. The presentation will offer practice tips and cover topics related to custody and parenting time, support, enforcement, emergency 3rd party custodial powers of attorney, and how to humanely approach and problem solve for the benefit of our community.

Workshop
Riverside Rooms - Second Floor

3/7/2025 10:15 AM - 11:45 AM
Session Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes

Incarceration Re-entry Simulation

- Dawn Marquardt, Deputy Director of the Oregon Child Support Program
- Department of Justice Child Support Program Staff

Step into the shoes of returning citizens in this immersive, hands-on simulation designed to shed light on the exhaustive journey to self-sufficiency faced by those re-entering society after incarceration. This session will take you through the first month of release, highlighting the barriers and challenges that contribute to feelings of helplessness and defeat. By experiencing the challenges firsthand, participants will develop deeper empathy for returning citizens and be better equipped to assist. This simulation aims to inspire more effective and compassionate support within service delivery, ultimately contributing to the long-term success and well-being of individuals who need court services.

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Dr. Wendy Bourg began her work on helping children and parents manage high conflict divorce in graduate school when she helped run a clinic for children of divorce. She conducted her master's thesis and dissertation research on children's behavioral and physiological responses to adult anger and domestic violence. In her current practice she conducts custody and parenting studies and maintains a clinical schedule focused on parent coordination and family therapy in Resist Refuse dynamics. Dr. Bourg's practice emphasizes the complex underpinnings of family conflict and seeks multiple points of intervention that can move the family system to a more peaceful place. Her focus is on problem-solving in the context of a strong respect for the importance of healthy attachment relationships to both child and adult functioning. While the work is very challenging, both intellectually and emotionally, Dr. Bourg embraces the challenge of helping these families travel through this period of crisis to a better place.

Maleea Briggs is a Child Protective Services (CPS) Supervisor at the Midtown branch in Portland, Oregon, with 15 years of experience in the social work field, spanning various areas of practice. For the past eight years, she has specialized in CPS, where she worked closely with families navigating family law issues and challenging circumstances, ensuring children's safety while supporting parents in accessing resources and services. Her role has involved working with families in crisis, providing them with the necessary support while their children were in care, and helping them work toward reunification. She holds a bachelor's degree in social work and a master's degree in Nonprofit Leadership, as well as two certificates in Child and Family Development, which have equipped her with a strong foundation in both direct social work practice and leadership in nonprofit settings. Her expertise is centered on advocating for the well-being of children and supporting families as they navigate the complex services and systems within the Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS). She believes in a collaborative and empathetic approach to social work, particularly during the CPS stage, where her philosophy is to listen first and judge later. This approach helps her build trust with families, allowing her to understand their unique circumstances and collaborate effectively in finding solutions. She views the process as fitting the right puzzle pieces together, ensuring families receive the necessary support while maintaining the safety and best interests of the children. Additionally, she works closely with legal partners to ensure that decisions made throughout the CPS process reflect what is truly best for the child, balancing legal requirements with compassionate, family-centered care.

Emily Brown-Sitnick (she/her/ella) is the Regional Director of the Portland Regional Office of Legal Aid Services of Oregon. Emily attended Knox College in Galesburg, IL, and the University of St. Thomas School of Law in Minneapolis, MN. Emily is bilingual in English and Spanish. She started her legal career as a paraprofessional within Legal Aid before heading to law school. She has a background in administrative law, civil rights, immigration and family law while specializing in services for survivors of domestic and sexual violence, stalking and trafficking. Emily sits on the DV subcommittee of the SFLAC as well as the 2025 Multnomah County Fatality Review. She is the immediate past co-chair of the Oregon Hispanic Bar Association and is on the board of Oregon Women Lawyers.

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Hon. Sara Collins attended University of Oregon to obtain her bachelor's degree in political science. After college, Sara spent a year in Costa Rica teaching English to elementary-aged children. Upon her return to the United States, Sara attended the University of Oregon School of Law graduating in 2001.

Sara moved on to complete a judicial clerkship in Alaska where she discovered her true passion for trial work. In 2004, Sara returned home to Oregon, where she dedicated 11 years as a public defender, and worked as an Assistant Attorney General for the Oregon Department of Justice Child Advocacy Section.

In 2016, She transitioned to private practice, and in 2018 became a founding partner of Collins Rowan, LLP where she represented clients in juvenile, family law, and criminal cases. She worked at Collins Rowan, LLP until her appointment to the Jackson County Circuit Court in June of 2023. Continuing her commitment to serving her community, Sara has served on the board of directors of La Clinica for the past eight years. Sara also serves on the board of directors for Lane County based nonprofit, Oregon Mind Body Institute (OMBI). Most recently, Sara joined the board of directors for the Rogue Valley Family YMCA. Outside of the courtroom, Sara enjoys reading, running, skiing, and spending time traveling with her husband and children.

Christie Combs is a Business Process Analyst with the Enterprise Technology Services Division. She is currently responsible for creating new or updated statewide business processes for the Oregon Judicial Department, working on legislatively driven projects, and assisting court staff with research and development.

Prior to Christie's work at ETSD, she was a supervisor with the Deschutes County Circuit Court for 18 years. In this role she enjoyed working in the areas of civil law, probate law, criminal law, juvenile dependency and delinquency, mental health, and of course family law. Christie enjoyed being part of a dynamic team and the opportunity to continue learning new things in an environment of ever-changing laws and policies.

Kate Cooper Richardson is the Director of the Oregon Department of Justice Division of Child Support and the Oregon Child Support Program, Oregon's federal Title IV-D program. Kate joined the DOJ in 2010 and was appointed by Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum in January 2013 as director. A graduate of Willamette University School of Law, her 28-year public service career spans work in all three branches of state government, including eight years as Chief of Staff to the Oregon State Treasurer. Kate was a two-term board member of NCSEA, the national child support professional's organization, and co-chaired its Policy & Government Relations Committee. Kate is a former president of the National Council of Child Support Directors (NCCSD) and chairs two NCCSD committees, an advisory board member of the national Safe Access for Victims' Economic Security (SAVES) Center, a member of Oregon Women Lawyers, and a long-time board member of a local affordable housing nonprofit, Polk Community Development Corporation. She is a frequent speaker at state and national conferences. Kate has served on the Chief Justice's State Family Law Advisory Committee (SFLAC) since 2013 and co-chairs the Child Support Subcommittee.

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Courtney Crowe (she/her/ella) is an Interim Family Law Supervisor at the Portland Regional Office of Legal Aid Services of Oregon. She joined the organization in 2004 as a law clerk with the Farmworker Program where she was inspired to pursue a career as a legal aid attorney, and she never left. She is a generalist who has practiced in a variety of areas while serving low-income communities in Oregon, including housing, administrative, employment, and family law. Her current focus is on representation of survivors of domestic and sexual violence in family law and immigration matters.

Debra Dority (she/her) is a State Support Unit (SSU) Attorney at the Oregon Law Center (OLC) and provides mentoring and technical assistance on family law and domestic violence to attorneys at the OLC and Legal Aid Services of Oregon (LASO). Before joining the SSU, Debra worked at the Pendleton LASO office and the Hillsboro OLC office. A graduate of the University of Cincinnati College of Law, she has been a legal aid lawyer since 2005. Throughout her legal career, Debra's practice focused on providing legal services to rural victims/survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking in protective order and family law cases. She has also represented clients in a Title IX sexual discrimination case and an international child abduction case.

Debra's move to the SSU has allowed her work on statewide policy issues related to domestic and sexual abuse and stalking. Debra is the Vice Chair of the State Family Law Advisory Committee, co-chairing its Domestic Violence Subcommittee, and is a member of the Oregon Judicial Department's Law and Policy Work Group. Debra is also a member of the Oregon Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force.

Shannon Garcia is the Director of the Statewide Tax Program at Legal Aid Services of Oregon. She has been part of free legal services organizations since 2016. She has practiced in a wide variety of practice areas, including Employment, Housing, and Family Law, and has dabbled in public benefits practice and filing affirmative immigration petitions. In her current role, she works to uncover and identify the myriad intersections of tax law with other civil legal practice areas. Her goal is to use tax advocacy to eliminate poverty and to dismantle the systemic barriers disproportionately faced by Black, Indigenous, and other families of color in accessing the anti-poverty measures provided by our country's purportedly race-neutral tax code.

Sue Gerhardt entered the legal field 34 years ago as a contract paralegal, supplemented by five years with what is now called Multnomah County Family Resolution Services. In 2000 she established the Washington County Circuit Court facilitation program and continued to manage it as the Family Court Coordinator for more than 17 years. Sue served on many statewide committees, mentored law school students and new attorneys, and for eight years co-presented a monthly divorce class at Coffee Creek Correctional Facility. Since leaving the Court in 2018, Sue has worked as a paralegal for private law firms and a non-profit legal clinic. She served on the implementation committee and is a member of the first cohort of Oregon State Bar Licensed Paralegals (LP). Sue is currently employed by Lufkin Peckham LLP in Beaverton.

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Hon. Pamela Haan (she/her) is a Multnomah County Circuit Court Judge and serves as a member of the Family Law Bench. Prior to her appointment, Judge Haan spent more than two decades working as a legal aid attorney, most recently serving as a supervising attorney in the Portland Regional Office of Legal Aid Services of Oregon. During her time at Legal Aid, Judge Haan's legal practice focused on family law and domestic violence issues. Starting in 2018, and continuing until her appointment to the bench, Judge Haan also served as a Pro Tem Judge in the Multnomah County Family Court Judicial Settlement Conference Program. Judge Haan earned her bachelor's degree in political science from Washington University in St. Louis and her law degree from Lewis & Clark College Law School. In addition to her work on the bench, she serves on the Executive Committee of the Multnomah County Family Violence Coordinating Council (FVCC) as well as the FVCC Civil Court Subcommittee. She previously served on the Multnomah County Circuit Court Family Court Enhancement Project (FCEP) Management Team from 2014 to 2018 and was part of the Procedural Justice and Self-Represented Litigant subcommittees for that project. FCEP was a project funded by the federal Office of Violence Against Women to improve court responses in custody cases involving domestic violence. Judge Haan has also been a part of the Multnomah County Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team, the Multnomah County Domestic Violence Enhanced Response Team Steering Committee, the Clackamas County Vicarious Trauma Response Initiative, and the planning and implementation teams for two grant-funded supervised visitation programs in Multnomah County.

Chris Hill is the subject matter expert for OJD in all things child support related. She is currently heading up the innovative statewide IV-D child support program. Prior to moving to the state level, Chris was the lead facilitator at the newly formed Legal Resource Center in Multnomah County and also served as judicial assistant to the Chief Family Law Judge. Before her move to Oregon in 2015, she was a staff attorney for both criminal and civil law judges in the Ohio court system. Her work both in Ohio and Oregon courts has focused on systemic issues affecting meaningful access to justice for all people.

Hon. Amy Holmes Hehn is a Multnomah County Circuit Court Judge in Oregon handling domestic relations cases, domestic violence protection orders, probate, and juvenile matters. A native Oregonian, Judge Holmes Hehn was appointed to the bench in January of 2013. Before her appointment she served for 25 years as a Deputy District Attorney in the Multnomah County DA's Office, including as Senior Deputy of the Juvenile and Domestic Violence Units. She has a long history of involvement in system improvement efforts, education and training in domestic violence, juvenile justice, and child welfare on the local, state, and national level.

Dawn M. Marquardt is the Deputy Director of the Oregon Child Support Program at the Oregon Department of Justice Division of Child Support. Dawn serves as the Statewide Tribal Liaison for the Child Support Program. She is licensed to practice law in Wisconsin, Oregon, and Colorado. Prior to her move to Oregon in 2014, she was a child support attorney in two Wisconsin counties (Dane and Columbia). Before joining the public sector, Dawn was in private practice in Columbia County, Wisconsin, focusing on family law-related issues after graduating from the University of Wisconsin Law School.

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Judge Karrie McIntyre was appointed to the bench in May 2015. Prior to her appointment, she practiced for 15 years in both criminal and domestic relations law. She currently chairs the State Family Law Advisory Committee and is active in its subcommittees' work. Judge McIntyre chairs the National Counsel for Juvenile and Family Court Judges' Family Violence and Domestic Relations Advisory Committee. Judge McIntyre speaks at trainings both statewide and nationally on issues related to family law, domestic violence, and elder abuse. She is dedicated to the work of OJD and works in the community collaboratively to meet the needs of litigants.

Maureen McKnight is a Senior Judge, having retired in 2019 after stepping down as Chief Family Court Judge in Multnomah County, Oregon. Her legal career, both before appointment to the bench and afterwards, has focused on systemic family law issues affecting low-income Oregonians, including access to justice issues such as self-representation, operation of the state's child support program, and the response of Oregon's communities to domestic violence. Judge McKnight remains a member of the Oregon Judicial Department's (OJD's) Standardized Forms Workgroup and its State Family Law Advisory subcommittees on Child Support and Data. She is the author of numerous CLE articles and presentations, and the recipient of awards from the Oregon State Bar, Oregon Women Lawyers, the Multnomah County Domestic Violence Coordinating Council, the Oregon Chief Justice, and the Oregon Child Support Program.

Laurie Melendy is currently the principal at Mohawk Middle and High School located in Marcola School District, just 15 miles outside of Eugene. This year will mark her 32nd year in public education—a journey that has included 22 years in the classroom and 10 years in school administration. Throughout her career, she has had the privilege of working with students and families across elementary, middle, and high school levels. She is deeply passionate about helping students and families in their learning and growth and supporting education in meaningful ways. Growing up in a small Oregon town instilled in her a strong sense of community, and she strives to bring that same spirit to her work in schools. Outside of her professional life, she enjoys sports, outdoor activities, and spending quality time with her family. Laurie is honored to have the opportunity to connect and share at the conference and she is excited to learn from and collaborate with all of the conference attendees as part of this vibrant educational community.

Kathryn M. Moakley is a graduate of the University of Oregon School of Law. She discovered a passion for helping families involved with the legal system while clerking for the Hon. Merri Southern Wyatt at the Multnomah County Circuit Court. In 2008, she joined Kliever & Associates, where she provided representation to parents and children in juvenile dependency, termination of parental rights, and juvenile delinquency matters. She then returned to Eugene as part of the Domestic Violence Clinic at her alma mater, eventually serving as the Director. There she taught law students how to provide trauma-informed legal services to survivors of abuse in protection order and family law matters. She is currently the Managing Attorney for the Lane County Office of the Oregon Law Center, where she oversees an office that provides a variety of civil legal services to low-income Oregonians.

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Presenter Bios

Dr. Madelyn Simring Milchman has practiced clinical and forensic psychology and conducted research since 1986. Her expertise is in treating, evaluating, and testifying in cases with childhood trauma, specifically sexual and psychological abuse, traumatic memory, and divorce/custody. She won the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC) 2019 Outstanding Frontline Professional Award for her research on the relationship between child abuse allegations and parental alienation allegations. She has presented and published articles nationally and internationally in these and related areas. She currently serves as a scientific expert, a consulting expert, and a rebuttal expert.

Jennifer Price, LPC works as a court-connected domestic relations mediator, mediation trainer, and co-parent communication coach for Multnomah County Family Resolution Services. Additionally, she coordinates and leads the department's mediation intern program and regularly mentors intern mediators. She formerly conducted custody and parenting time evaluations. Jennifer serves on the SFLAC mediation subcommittee and has worked for Family Resolution Services since 2015.

Mike Ritchey is a Senior Assistant Attorney General with the Oregon Department of Justice. During law school, Mike worked as a legislative aide to state Representative Kip Lombard. Following graduation from Willamette University College of Law, Mike spent two years working as a judicial clerk for the Oregon Court of Appeals. He spent 20 years in private practice as an attorney and partner with Bricker Zakovics and Querin in Portland from 1985 to 2005, representing injured railroad workers in state and federal court throughout the western United States. From 2005 to 2009, Mike remodeled houses, served as a mediator for the Oregon Court of Appeals, and had a private mediation practice. He has served as general counsel for the Oregon Child Support Program since 2009 and is a frequent speaker on child support in Oregon.

Teala Sunderman has worked with families and children in the legal system for over 20 years. She worked as a family law paralegal for many years before becoming the Family Law Coordinator for Union County Circuit Court in 2013.

Ms. Sunderman has a B.S. Degree in Sociology and Public Health from Oregon State University. She is a trained mediator and has previously served as a court-connected mediator for both small claims and domestic relations matters. Ms. Sunderman has volunteered as a Court-Appointed Special Advocate (“CASA”) and on the board of the Eastern Oregon Mediation Center. She currently serves on the Union County Family Law Advisory Committee, the Statewide Family Law Advisory Committee (Education Subcommittee) and is the chairperson for the JFCPD Facilitation Workgroup.

Amanda Swanson is the Human Trafficking Intervention Coordinator at the Oregon Department of Justice. With a master's in public policy and over 16 years of experience working with and for victims of human trafficking, she is committed to developing a multidisciplinary response for victims and survivors of commercial sexual exploitation, sex trafficking, and labor trafficking throughout Oregon. As chair of the Oregon Attorney Generals Trafficking Intervention Advisory Committee, and part of the State's Labor Trafficking Task Force, she works with stakeholders providing guidance on the state's response for victims of human trafficking. Amanda is dedicated to lowering barriers for those effected by this crime and ensuring that survivors have a voice and a seat at the table as she works in partnership with them developing a sustainable, coordinated, no wrong door response across Oregon.

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Shannon Richard is the Assistant Attorney-in-Charge of the Civil Recovery Section at the Oregon Department of Justice (DOJ), supervising the 9 attorneys who represent the Oregon Division of Child Support. She started her career with the Oregon Department of Justice as a law clerk in 1997, while attending the University of Oregon School of Law. Shannon clerked with Judge Darryl L. Larson at the Lane County Circuit Court for a year after graduating from law school, then rejoined DOJ as an Attorney General in the Family Law Section in 2000. After her third daughter was born, Shannon left the DOJ and opened her own law office focusing mainly on domestic relations matters with clients of modest means. She rejoined the DOJ as a Senior Assistant Attorney General in 2013 and has served in the role of Assistant Attorney-in-Charge since 2021. She is a member and former chair of the DOJ Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB) Committee and as a long-time member of Oregon Women Lawyers, Shannon has co-chaired her local OWLS' Chapter, Lane County Women Lawyers Steering Committee, since 2021. She currently serves on the Lane County Family Law Advisory Committee and co-chairs the Child Support Subcommittee of the State Family Law Advisory Committee.

Mirsa Villegas joined the Multnomah Circuit Court in 2020 and is one of two Lead Workers in the Legal Resource Center. In that capacity, Mirsa facilitates family law, minor guardianships, landlord/tenant, small claims, and civil matters. Mirsa enjoys being involved in her professional community. She currently serves as a member of the JFCPD Facilitator's Workgroup and as a member of Multnomah's Presence of Color Employee Resource Group. Mirsa's interest in fairness, access to justice and working with self-represented community members remains a focus and inspires her commitment to public service.

Lonny R. Webb, MSW, LCSW, is a seasoned forensic and clinical social worker with over 30 years of experience in diverse settings, including prisons, hospitals, mental health clinics, and community agencies. His extensive clinical background, including working with individuals with severe mental illness and complex developmental needs, informs his expertise in forensic social work. Specializing in court-involved therapy, Lonny developed the Constructive Adversarial System (CAS) model, integrating evidence-based practices to improve family dynamics within legal contexts. Known for his engaging presentations, he combines clinical depth, humor, and relatable anecdotes to make complex topics accessible to multidisciplinary audiences.

Kathleen Zumpano is a Portland-based parenting plan mediator, child development specialist, and parent educator providing services in-person and remotely. She has a passion for helping families at any stage in life but has focused her practice on separating and divorcing families since 2008. Her areas of expertise include children under 5, child development, and complex family dynamics. Additionally, she provides trainings locally and nationally on a variety of topics, including developmentally-appropriate and research-based interviewing tools and techniques for interviewing children. She has previous experience as a child and family therapist, residential treatment counselor, and parenting coordinator.