

# Two-Day Introductory Training for Category E & Category F GALs

*Mandatory training for anyone who would like to be considered for appointment to the Category E (Evaluator) and/or Category F (Investigator) GAL lists in the Probate and Family Court*

Are you interested in learning more about being a Category E and/or Category F GAL or considering applying to be a Category E/F GAL? If so, this training is for you.

If you are considering applying to be a Category E/F GAL, you can take this training now and then submit your application package to [pandf.feegenerating@jud.state.ma.us](mailto:pandf.feegenerating@jud.state.ma.us). Attendance at this training does not guarantee approval of your application but provides you with the tools you need to prepare for the application and interview process.

Category E and F guardian ad litem evaluators/investigators provide critical information and insights to the Probate and Family Court in the areas of domestic relations, child custody, and parenting time. In this training, you are introduced to the Category E and Category F Standards and learn how to apply those standards to your evaluations/investigations, including how to prepare for the evaluation/investigation, conduct it, and then write the report. You also learn how to conduct an effective interview, including the nuances involved with interviewing children, confidentiality, privilege, and bias.

If you wish to join the Probate and Family Court's Category E or Category F Fee-Generating Appointment List, you are required to take the training set forth by the Administrative Office of the Probate and Family Court. Attendance at the ***live webcast, recorded webcast, or on demand webcast*** of this program ***and*** completion of the required prompts, fulfills part of the requirements to be considered for the Category E/F list. Submission of the required application and documentation is also necessary.

**Note:** To obtain credits to be considered for the Category E/F application, you ***must*** click ***all*** prompts as they appear during the program.

## Agenda

- Category E and Category F Standards
- Applying the Standards to Your Evaluations/Investigations
- Interviewing Children
- Confidentiality and Privilege
- Bias
- Writing Tips
- Tips from the Bench

## Faculty

Diane J. Beswick, Esq., *Probate and Family Court Administrative Office, Commonwealth of Massachusetts*, Cochair  
Denise M. Fitzgerald, Esq., *Probate and Family Court Administrative Office, Commonwealth of Massachusetts*, Cochair  
Dr. Mira Z. Levitt, Ph.D., *Co-Parenting Assessment Center, Natick; Linda Medeiros, Esq., Law Office of Linda Medeiros, Danvers*  
Kathleen A. Rice, L.M.H.C., *Woburn*  
Thomas D. Ritter, Esq., *Atwood & Cherny, PC, Boston*  
Kelly Flynn Zawistowski, Esq., *Hampden Probate and Family Court, Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

## Dates & Location

Register at [www.mcle.org](http://www.mcle.org)

### LIVE WEBCAST

Wednesday, October 30, 2024  
9:00 am–4:15 pm &  
Thursday, October 31, 2024  
8:45 am–2:00 pm  
Program # 2250129WBC

### REBROADCAST

Thursday, November 14, 2024  
9:00 am–4:15 pm &  
Friday, November 15, 2024  
8:45 am–2:00 pm  
Program # 2250129RB1

### REBROADCAST

Monday, November 25, 2024  
9:00 am–4:15 pm &  
Tuesday, November 26, 2024  
8:45 am–2:00 pm  
Program # 2250129RB2

### ON DEMAND WEBCAST

View after Tuesday, November 26, 2024  
Program # 2250129WBA

## Tuition *(includes written materials)*

- \$195
- \$175.50 MCLE Members
- \$97.50 New Lawyers admitted to law practice within 5 years, Pending Admittees, Law Students, and Paralegals
- **FREE** for MCLE OnlinePass Subscribers

To apply for a need-based scholarship, email [scholarships@mcle.org](mailto:scholarships@mcle.org).

## Materials

- E-materials link emailed upon registration
- Transcript & videorecording emailed 2 weeks post-program

## CLE Credits

Earn up to 10.5 CLE credits  
Including up to 1 ethics credit