

Understanding Probate Court Practice and Procedures and Reviewing of Patients' Rights under Connecticut Statutes

presented by

Judge Joseph D. Marino

Judge Joseph D. Marino has served as a Judge of Probate for the District of Middletown since January, 1087. He presides over one of the largest and busiest Courts in the state serving the residents of Cromwell, Durham, Middlefield and Middletown. The court is unique for its exceptional workload of mental health matters due to the presence of Connecticut Valley Hospital, Whiting Forensic Hospital, Middlesex Hospital and Solnit Children's Center. Decision-making includes commitments, forced medication, shock therapy and conservatorships. Judge Marino is also the Administrative Judge of the Central Connecticut Regional Children's Probate Court where he presides over cases involving custody, guardianships, termination of parental rights and adoptions. He is a graduate of Xavier High School and received his Bachelor of Arts Degree from John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio and his Law Degree from Catholic University in Washington, D.C. He is a past president of the Connecticut Probate Assembly and a member and past President of both the Middletown Rotary Club and the Middlesex County Bar Association. Judge Marino has served as Probate Court liaison to the following: Committee to Study DCF Policy Manual; Committee to Study Sexually Violent Persons; Committee to Accept Probate Court Jurisdiction of Drug and Alcohol Commitment; State Task Force, Involuntary Outpatient Commitment; and Committee to Revise Criminal Competency Restoration Statute. He is the recipient of The Community Service Award from the NAACP, The Paul Harris Community Service Fellowship Award from the Middletown Rotary Club, and The Governor William A. O'Neill Public Service Awards from the Middlesex Chamber of Commerce.

&

Christine L. Shapter, MD

Dr. Christine Shapter's foray into the world of medicine began while studying cello performance at the New England Conservatory of Music in the late 1980s. She worked as a PCA at Hartford Hospital, later graduated from the University of Saint Joseph with a degree in Nursing, and ultimately achieved her Medical Doctorate from the University of Connecticut School of Medicine. She subsequently completed psychiatry residency from the Institute of Living in 2018. Since that time, she has been traversing the State of Connecticut on a daily basis working for the Probate Court System, navigating the intersection between the psychiatric needs and the legal rights of our state's most seriously mentally ill and vulnerable patients. Dr. Shapter is board-certified in Psychiatry, and is a diplomate of the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology. She is an adjunct professor in the graduate nursing department at University of Saint Joseph in West Hartford, CT. She has co-authored articles published in Psychiatric Times, Aging and Disease, and Diabetes, Metabolic Syndrome, and Obesity, and has given numerous presentations at national conferences. She was the winner of the Daniel F. Caruso Public Service Award in 2023, which was presented at the Connecticut Probate Assembly Annual Meeting in April. She is a member of the American Medical Association, the American Psychiatric Association, and the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law.

2/1/24 12-1:15 PM

<https://hartfordhealthcare.zoom.us/j/97189347496>

Learning Objectives: *As a result of participating in this Live Internet Activity, participants should be able to:*

- Describe the statutes which govern Probate Court practice and procedure.
- Summarize the due process rights afforded to patients.
- Understand the scope and type of testimony to be presented at a probate court hearing.

Accreditation & Credit Designation Statements: In support of improving patient care, Hartford HealthCare is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

- **Physicians:** Hartford Healthcare designates this Live Activity for **1.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)**[™]. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with their participation.
- **Psychologists:** Continuing Education (CE) credits for psychologists are provided through the co-sponsorship of the American Psychological Association (APA) Office of Continuing Education in Psychology (CEP). The APA CEP Office maintains responsibility for the content of the programs.
- **Nurses:** This activity is approved for **1.25 ANCC contact hour(s)**.
- **Social Workers:** As a Jointly Accredited Organization, Hartford HealthCare is approved to offer social work continuing education by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) Approved Continuing Education (ACE) program. Organizations, not individual courses, are approved under this program. State and provincial regulatory boards have the final authority to determine whether an individual course may be accepted for continuing education credit. Hartford HealthCare maintains responsibility for this course. Social workers completing this course receive **1.25** other continuing education credits.
- **Other Learners:** All other learners will receive a Certificate of Participation for **1.25** hours of education. Consult your professional licensing board regarding the applicability and acceptance of certificates of participation for educational activities certified for AMA PRA Category 1 Credit[™] from organizations accredited by Joint Accreditation for Interprofessional Continuing Education.

Financial Disclosures:

- Planning Committee: None
- Speakers: None



JOINTLY ACCREDITED PROVIDER[™]
INTERPROFESSIONAL CONTINUING EDUCATION