



# AMERICAN JUDGES ASSOCIATION 2024 MIDYEAR CONFERENCE

**Building Better Courts for Children and Families**

New York, NY  
Intercontinental New York Times Square  
April 5-7, 2024

## AMERICAN JUDGES ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

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## Friday, April 5, 2024

1:00 PM – 5:00 PM	Registration
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Executive Committee Meeting
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM	Executive Committee Outing
6:00 PM – 7:00 PM	Welcome Reception
7:15 PM	<i>The Notebook</i> : Those with tickets to the Broadway production of <i>The Notebook</i> can meet in the hotel lobby to walk over to the theater together. If people are interested in purchasing tickets, they can do so directly online.

## Saturday, April 6, 2024

7:00 AM – 4:15 PM	Registration
7:30 AM – 8:30 AM	Committee Meetings
7:30 AM – 8:30 AM	American Judges Foundation Meeting



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## Saturday, April 6, 2024 (continued)

8:45 AM - 9:00 AM	<p><b>Welcoming Remarks</b></p> <p><b>Judge Catherine Carlson</b>, <i>President, American Judges Association</i></p> <p><b>Chief Judge Rowan Wilson</b>, <i>Chief Judge New York Court of Appeals</i></p>
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM	<p><b>Stop Blaming Mothers and Ignoring Fathers: How to transform the way we keep children safe from domestic violence</b></p> <p><b>David Mandel</b>, <i>Executive Director, Safe &amp; Together Institute</i></p> <p><b>Moderator: Judge Elizabeth Hines (Ret.)</b>, <i>15th District Court, Michigan</i></p> <p>While both men and women can perpetrate domestic violence, differing expectations of men and women as parents has a profound impact on how the risk to children is understood. Mr. Mandel will talk about the “myths” that shape professional practice, and their impact on evaluations and other evidence.</p>
10:00 AM – 10:15 AM	<p><b>Break</b></p>



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## Saturday, April 6, 2024 (continued)

10:15 AM – 11:30 AM

### **The Adolescent Brain: Arrested or Adaptive Development?**

**Dr. BJ Casey**, *The Christina L. Williams Professor of Neuroscience; Barnard College - Columbia University*

**Moderator: Judge Michael Pietruszka (Ret.)**, *Erie County Court, New York*

In this program, participants will learn about normal brain development in adolescents and how this development can be affected by trauma or other experiences, the significance of this stage of development for reforming the juvenile justice systems and technologies currently available and in development to address youth brain trauma treatment. Participants will also learn about steps some states have taken to incorporate this science into criteria for diversion programs.

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

### **Court Outreach Programs for Kids (Lunch will be provided during this session)**

**Judge Natalie Tyrrell**, *North Las Vegas Justice Court – Kids in the Court Program*

**Judge Edwina G. Richardson**, *Deputy Chief Administrative Judge, New York, Unified Court System's Office for Justice Initiatives*



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## Saturday, April 6, 2024 (continued)

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

### **Court Outreach Programs for Kids (cont'd.)**

Judge Tyrrell and Judge Richardson have been instrumental in building and running unique programs in their respective courts. Over lunch, they will describe the programs so that conference attendees can bring ideas for outreach back to their own courts.

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

### **Kids and Teens in Court Presentation on Kids' Court School**

**Dr. Rebecca Nathanson**, *William S. Boyd School of Law,  
University of Nevada, Las Vegas*

**Moderator: Chief Justice Robert Torres**, *Supreme Court of  
Guam*

Dr. Nathanson will describe her research on how the trauma experienced by children impacts them as witnesses and once they leave the courtroom. The Kids' Court School was developed to ensure youth and children have the ability to provide accurate testimony.

2:00 PM – 2:15 PM

**Break**



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## Saturday, April 6, 2024 (continued)

2:15 PM – 4:15 PM

### Competency Remediation of Children

**Judge Emeritus Guido A. DeAngelis**, *Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas in Pennsylvania*

**Dr. Rebecca Nathanson**, *William S. Boyd School of Law, University of Nevada, Las Vegas*

**Dr. Ronald Neepor, MLS, MPH, MD, PhD**, *Medical Director for The Academy Schools*

**Moderator: Emily Campbell, Esq.**, *The Campbell Firm PLLC, New York*

This presentation addresses the situation of children who are not competent to assist in their defense and stand trial. Their lack of competency can be remedied through education and therapeutic counselling. Dr. Nathanson will discuss the practical application of her research. Judge DeAngelis will describe the Competency Remediation Program.

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

### Social Dinner

*Join your colleagues for dinner and socializing at one of New York City's fabulous eateries! Reservations will be made at various restaurants. Each dinner will be hosted by one or more of the AJA Executive Committee members. Participants will be assigned to a restaurant and provided details prior to the conference. Dinners will be pay on your own at the restaurant.*



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## Sunday, April 7, 2024

8:00 AM – 11:00 AM	<b>Information Desk</b>
8:00 AM – 8:45 AM	<b>Committee Meetings</b>
9:00 AM – 10:15 AM	<b>Specialty Courts for Kids and Teens</b>  <i>Judge Matthew J. D’Emic, Co-chair of the New York State Judicial Task Force on Mental Illness</i> <i>Judge Sheila Calloway, Juvenile Court, Nashville (Safe Babies Court), Nashville, Tennessee</i> <i>Judge Mary Kate Harvie, Provincial Court of Manitoba (Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Court)</i>  A diverse group of judges will give a snapshot of their unique specialty courts geared for children and teens.
10:15 AM – 10:30 AM	<b>Break</b>



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## Sunday, April 7, 2024 (continued)

10:30 AM – 11:30 AM

**Drive Like Your Kid is Here: Teens, Truckers and Trafficking**

**Judge Gayle Williams Byers, (ret.),** *South Euclid Municipal Court, Ohio*

**Moderator: Judge Yvette Mansfield Alexander,** *Baton Rouge City Court, Louisiana*

Judge Byers will explore the unique set of issues related to the intersection between juvenile human trafficking and federal penalties for commercial drivers who engage in human trafficking.

11:30 AM

**Education Conference concludes**

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

**Lunch on your own**

1:15 PM – 3:15 PM

**Board of Governors Meeting**