



# The Resource Page

## COVID-19 RESOURCES

As the world continues to navigate ever-changing restrictions and advice due to the COVID-19, courts also must address issues related to the pandemic. The Judicial Division of the American Bar Association has several resources that may be of interest on their webpage: <https://www.americanbar.org/groups/judicial/resources/covid-19/>.

Some of these resources include information about:

- State-specific orders related to issues such as jury summons, court operations, and notary requirements.
- Conducting jury trials and hearings online
- Reopening courthouses
- Efficient operations
- Wellness

The National Center for State Courts (NCSC) also provides resources related to vaccine mandates for court staff, public face mask requirements, virtual hearings, and individual state court COVID-19 websites. These NCSC resources can be found here: <https://www.ncsc.org/newsroom/public-health-emergency>

Finally, Justia is providing individual state resources related to court operations on their website (<https://www.justia.com/covid-19/50-state-covid-19-resources/court-operations-during-covid-19-50-state-resources/>). Justia's page also includes resources related to COVID-19 and employees, employers, eviction bans, business assistance, taxes, immigration, criminal cases, bankruptcy, divorce, personal injury cases, and other topics.

## ANTI-RACISM RESOURCES

*How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love Discussing Race*; Jay Smooth TEDx Hampshire College (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MbdxeFcQtaU>)

Jay Smooth is a commentator on politics and culture and host of the New York radio show, the Underground Railroad. In his talk, Smooth uses humor to provide thoughtful suggestions on how to approach the difficult topic of racism. He suggests reconceptualizing how we define being a good person as it relates to racism.

*Conversations on Racial Justice* is a resource provided by the National Judicial

College (<https://www.judges.org/racial-justice/>). The website provides the downloadable document, "Twenty Actions Judges Can Take to Combat Racial Injustice." The page also includes several prerecorded conversations about race, including a conversation with the Washington Supreme Court, the American Bar Association President, and law college deans.

## CHILD WELFARE RESOURCES

The National Court-Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)/ Guardians ad Litem (GAL) Association for Children has a webpage devoted to judicial resources (<https://nationalcasagal.org/advocate-for-children/resources-for-judges/>). As their history page describes, the original CASA program was a judge's idea to provide a voice for children in court. The resources available on their website include guidelines for enhancing practice, a video about improving outcomes for children in child protection cases, and the judge's role in creating and supporting CASA/GAL programs.

## CONFERENCE AND OTHER LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) has their 85th Annual National Conference on Juvenile Justice upcoming this summer. The conference will be held in Reno, Nevada from July 17-20, 2022. The conference will be in person and will adhere to health and safety protocols related to COVID-19 (e.g., vaccinations, masks, negative COVID-19 test). Please see their conference website for specific details: <https://ncjfcj.users.membersuite.com/events/e63e4564-0078-cdb5-d948-2d881f903f5c/details>

NCJFCJ also provides a variety of webinars, including their "Monday Morning Moments," that are a component of their judicial wellness initiative (<https://www.ncjfcj.org/judicial-wellness-initiative/>). Through this initiative they seek to promote judicial well-being.

The 2022 National Child Abuse and Neglect Institute (CANI) will be held at the end of March and is being offered in a virtual format. NCJFCJ recommends this institute for any judges who have recently

or will soon start hearing dependency cases. Participants must agree to participate for the four full days of the institute. Registration is linked here: <https://ncjfcj.users.membersuite.com/events/e63e4564-0078-c435-82f6-0b437c983ec5/details>.

## ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND COURTS

The growing presence of artificial intelligence (AI) is making its impact in the courts on both sides of the bench. The American Association for the Advancement of Science is launching *(AI)2: Artificial Intelligence—Applications/Implications*, its project "to advocate for the responsible development and application of AI." It includes considerations of how AI will affect evidence derived from these new processes, and resources for judges to learn about AI and its anticipated effects in cases (<https://www.aaas.org/ai2/projects/law/judicialpapers>). In addition, some think AI may affect how courts work internally. In 2016, a British research study designed an algorithm for a computer "AI judge" that made rulings on previously decided real cases. It was identical about 80% of the time (<https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2016/oct/24/artificial-intelligence-judge-university-college-london-computer-scientists>). A good clearinghouse of AI authors is also found in the *Judges' Journal* of February 2020 simply titled "Artificial Intelligence" ([https://www.americanbar.org/groups/judicial/publications/judges\\_journal/2020/winter/](https://www.americanbar.org/groups/judicial/publications/judges_journal/2020/winter/)).

## LET'S KEEP TALKING

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