



NIWAP



National Judicial Network
The Development of the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) Courts
February 7, 2023, 3-4pm Eastern
Faculty Presenters

Hon. Hiram E. Puig-Lugo

Hiram E. Puig-Lugo is Immediate Past President of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ). He joined the Superior Court of the District of Columbia in 1999. He has handled criminal felony, juvenile delinquency, criminal misdemeanor, child abuse and neglect, domestic relations, status offender, and domestic violence calendars. He is currently assigned to the Civil Division.

Judge Puig-Lugo is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin Law School, where he was the first Latino member of the Wisconsin Law Review. After graduation, he served as staff attorney with the Public Defender Service of the District of Columbia for eight years, and as trial attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, Criminal Section, for three years.

Judge Puig-Lugo was Presiding Judge of the Family Court from 2014 to 2016. There, he started a Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) Working Group to coordinate interagency support for court-involved victims of commercial sexual exploitation. Previously, he chaired the Court's Neglect Subcommittee and convened a stakeholder working group to address services for LGBTQ youth in the neglect and juvenile delinquency systems.

He chairs the Superior Court Judicial Education Committee and sits on the D.C. Courts Standing Committee on Fairness and Access to the Courts. He has served on the D.C. Access to Justice Commission and the D.C. Courts Strategic Planning Leadership Council.

Judge Puig-Lugo is one of three U.S. representatives to The Hague Judicial Network. He has trained judges in the U.S. and abroad on how to implement The Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction. He has taken part in bilateral meetings between the U.S. and several countries to facilitate implementation of the Convention between the U.S. and those nations.

He has taught in legal education projects in Central America, South America, México, Puerto Rico, Spain, and the Federated States of Micronesia. He has presented on topics including rule of law, law of evidence, trial advocacy skills, human trafficking, judicial independence, child welfare, and alternative dispute resolution.

Judge Puig-Lugo is adjunct faculty at the Georgetown University Law Center in the American Law for Foreign-Trained Lawyers LLM Program, teaching courses on the history of the U.S. Constitution and U.S. Criminal Procedure. He has taught at the American University Washington College of Law, the University of the District of Columbia School of Law, the George Washington University Law School, the National Judicial College Pacific Islands Law Institute, and the University of Puerto Rico Law School.

Judge Puig-Lugo received the NCJFCJ President's Award for Extraordinary Leadership and the National Consortium on Racial and Ethnic Fairness in the Courts Equity Award in 2021, a special recognition award for his service to the District of Columbia from the D.C. Bar Family Law Section in 2016, the Hispanic National Bar Foundation Judicial Leadership Award in 2014, and the Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia Honorable Ricardo M. Urbina Lifetime Achievement Award in 2011.

Judge Puig-Lugo is from San Germán, Puerto Rico. He is equally fluent in English and Spanish and conversant in Brazilian Portuguese.

Judge (Ret.) Susan Fowler Maven – New Jersey Superior Court – Family Division, Atlantic City, New Jersey; appointed 2001.

The Hon. Susan F. Maven was appointed to the New Jersey Superior Court on December 18, 2001. She presided over cases in the Family and Criminal Division, served on the Appellate Court, and now presides over juvenile delinquency and other family court matters. Judge Maven directed the development and implementation of New Jersey's first Juvenile Human Trafficking Diversion Program. She is a member of the New Jersey Council on Juvenile Justice System Improvement, President of the National Consortium on Racial and Ethnic Fairness in the Courts, and a member of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, International and Diversity Committees. She graduated from the University of Pennsylvania and Temple University School of Law.

Magistrate Judge Rook, JD, MSW

Mary Grace Rook has been on the Bench and assigned exclusively to Family Court since 2006. She was initially assigned to a neglect/abuse calendar until 2013, when she transitioned to the Juvenile Behavior Diversion (JBDP) Program calendar, a juvenile mental health treatment court. Starting in 2016, Judge Rook helped to develop HOPE Court, DC Superior Court's response to the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC). In 2018, HOPE Court was officially launched as a treatment court designed to address the needs of youth who have been, or are at risk of being, victims of CSEC. Youth involved in both the child welfare and delinquency systems can be referred to HOPE. The ultimate goal of HOPE Court is to provide appropriate and necessary services and supports for youth in order to allow them to permanently exit the Court system and achieve success in their lives.

Joanne M. Dietrich, Esquire, Asst. Director, Family Practice Division, AOC

Joanne M. Dietrich graduated law school in 1990 from the University of Dayton. She has 32 years of legal experience. Eleven years were spent in the private sector, representing litigants in all areas of family law including dissolution, non-dissolution, juvenile, annulments, custody, and support. She also has several years of experience in the public sector. One year as a law clerk, two- and one-half years as Deputy Counsel for the New Jersey Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection, nine years as the Chief of Juvenile and Children in Court for the Family Practice

Division of the Administrative Office of the Courts and nine years as the Assistant Director for the Family Practice Division of the Administrative Office of the Courts.

David Tang, Esq., Chief, Family Practice Division, AOC

David graduated from Rutgers School of Law-Camden. He is the chief of the Family Practice unit that manages the federal Court Improvement grant and child welfare issues in the AOC.

David also clerked at the NJ Office of Administrative Law and was a consultant for law firms in technology and child support guidelines.