

ATTORNEYS: **HELP IS AVAILABLE TO YOU FOR** **EDUCATION-RELATED ISSUES IN YOUR CASES**

For attorneys who contract with CCPA to provide representation and guardian *ad litem* services in SCJM, a new service will be available to you starting July 1, 2009.

Center for Children's Advocacy (CCA) attorneys will be available to you under a CCPA contract, for **consultation** on education issues which affect your Juvenile Court clients.

Connecticut Legal Services (CLS) attorneys will be available under a CCPA contract to **represent**¹ clients in referrals of any education issue which affects your Juvenile Court clients.

Consultation: If you have questions or concerns about an education issue affecting your Juvenile Court clients, CCA attorneys will be available to consult with you by:

- Answering your questions/discussing education issues for any child or parent you represent in Juvenile Court or regarding children for whom you are appointed as GAL;
- Meeting with you to review school records and/or to plan advocacy at school meetings;
- Assisting you with procedures for filing State Department of Education or due process complaints.

If you would like their assistance, contact the CCA attorneys listed below.

Representation: If you would prefer to simply refer your client for representation on an education issue, you can refer them to CLS by notifying CCPA that you would like a referral made. Depending on the referral, staff availability, & the retainer agreement, CLS will:

- Meet with parent/s and discuss their child's educational rights/ next steps they can take in educational advocacy;
- Represent parent/s on their child's behalf at school meetings (including PPT meetings);
- Represent parent/s in special education due process hearings, mediations, complaints.

For more information, please contact:

Educational Consultation:

Contact Martha Stone, Executive Director, CCA (prior to September 1) (mstone@kidscounsel.org) or Sarah Eagan, Director, Child Abuse Project (after September 1) at seagan@kidscounsel.org or call 860-570-5327.

Referral for Representation:

Contact CCPA and request a referral to Connecticut Legal Services, Inc.

¹ CLS will represent the client in the education matter; the contract attorney will continue representation in Juvenile Court.