

Basic Guardian Ad Litem Training

Superior Court Custody Cases — Continuing Legal Education

Date: 9/17/2026| Sponsor: Georgia Guardians Ad Litem, Inc. | Total Credit: 7 Hours (1 Ethics)

Time	Session Title & Focus Areas	Speaker / Presenter	Duration
8:20 – 8:30 AM	Brief Intro and Welcome	GA GAL's BOD	10 min
8:30 - 9:30 AM	Foundations & The GAL Investigation Process Overview of roles, core mechanics, and utilizing engagement letters and parent questionnaires.	Brandy Daswani	1 Hour
9:30 - 10:15 AM	Statutory Frameworks: Rule 24.9 & Best Interests Standard Deep dive into Uniform Superior Court Rule 24.9, "Best Interests" metrics, and statutory updates.	Aisha Blanchard Collins	45 Min
10:15 - 10:30 AM	<i>Morning Recess & Networking</i>	—	15 Min
10:30 - 11:00 AM	The GAL Toolkit: Modern Co-Parenting & Accountability Tech Strategic deployment of digital verification and parenting tools (Our Family Wizard / Soberlink). Other Modern tools to streamline, protect, and watch out for as a GAL	Steven Cayton, Chris Beck, Rebecca Perra	30 Min
11:00 - 11:30 AM	Procedural Mechanics & Mandatory Safeguards Filing Motions, emergency motions & <i>ex parte</i> prohibitions	Amanda Love	30 Min
11:30 - 11:45 PM	<i>Mid-Day Intermission (Lunch Pickup & Panel Preparation)</i>	—	15 Min
11:45 - 12:45 PM	Lunch & Learn Panel: Custody Dynamics Interactive discussion on child elections, investigation methods, and mitigating parental alienation.	Tori White Moderating	1 Hour
12:45 - 1:00 PM	<i>Afternoon Comfort Break</i>	—	15 Min
1:00 - 2:00 PM	Ethics for the GAL Ethical duties, conflict management, and practice standards (Designated Ethics Hour).	Steven Cayton	1 Hour

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2:00 - 2:30 PM	Evaluating Domestic Violence in Custody Matters Identifying patterns of abuse, safety assessments, and integrating risk factors into final evaluations.	Lilli Crowe AVL F	30 Min
2:30 - 2:45 PM	<i>Afternoon Break</i>	—	15 Min
2:45 - 3:30 PM	Navigating High-Conflict Personalities & Complex Cases Practical strategies for cases involving substance abuse, mental health struggles, and parental conflict.	Dr. Amy Holsten PhD	45 Min
3:30 - 4:00 PM	Cultural Humility & Socioeconomic Dynamics Recognizing implicit bias, understanding cultural differences, and managing socioeconomic variations.	Tori White and Steven Cayton	30 Min
4:00 - 5:00 PM	The Written Report & Courtroom Testimony Synthesizing evidence into comprehensive reports and preparing expert courtroom testimony.	Amanda Love and Wendy Posey	1 Hour