

## Letter to CFIs and PREs

RE: HB 21-1228 Training Requirement

Dear CFIs and PREs:

The Judicial Department does recognize the added burden that additional training places on you and your business. The Judicial Department also thanks you for your ongoing commitment to serving the children and families of Colorado.

In response to HB 21-1228 the Judicial Department requested funding from the legislature to pay for the costs associated with developing and delivering the mandatory domestic violence and child abuse training set forth in the law. Unfortunately, the request for funding to support the mandatory training was not approved by the legislature. Additionally, Judicial Department procurement rules prevent the Judicial Department from publicly endorsing specific training programs without an open and competitive procurement process. Therefore, the Judicial Department will not be publishing a list of approved courses.

The Judicial Department is committed to administering a process that avoids individuals paying for training that is not approved. To ensure compliance, the Judicial Department will enforce the mandatory training requirement set forth in HB 21-1228 similar to the continuing education requirement set forth in [CJD 04-08 Standard 6](#). The comment to Standard 6 lists several categories of training such as domestic violence, substance use, and child abuse, without specifying or approving specific courses or CLEs. Over the past ten years this approach has proven to be an efficient and effective approach for meeting the mandatory training requirement set forth in CJD 04-08.

The Judicial Department will approve training if the individual can provide supporting documentation from a recognized source that confirms that 6 hours of training on domestic violence, including coercive control, and its traumatic effect on children, adults and the families and 6 initial hours of training on child abuse and child sexual abuse and its traumatic effects were completed. Supporting documentation for the required training will have a 36 month look back, if received prior to January 1, 2022. Supporting documentation received January 1, 2022 and later will have a 24 month look back. The Judicial Department will start accepting supporting documentation on November 1, 2021. CFIs currently on the Roster will be placed on a temporary hold for new appointments if they do not submit the required training by January 1, 2022. New CFIs invited to attend the November training will not be added to the Roster until completion of the mandatory 12 hours of training (The mandatory 40 hour CFI training will only cover 2 hours of Domestic Violence training and 2 hours of Child Abuse and Trauma training).

In conclusion, the combination of the lack of funding, the legal requirement that all PREs and CFIs complete 6 hours of domestic violence and 6 child abuse training by **January 1, 2022**, and the proven success of monitoring compliance of the continuing education requirements in accordance with CJD 04-08 Standards 6 have all contributed to this approach. The Judicial Department recognizes the challenges that you are facing to meet the requirements of the law and we thank you for patience and continued service.