



Family Lawyer as Neutral: Opportunities and Landmines in Mediation

October 12, 2018 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

Waukesha, WI (site TBD)

Presenters:

Tim Pierce: State Bar Ethics Counsel

Hon. Michael J. Dwyer: Presiding Judge Milwaukee Family Division

Paul W. Stenzel: practicing lawyer/mediator; part-time Family Court Commissioner

Susan A. Hansen: practicing lawyer/mediator, co-founder Family Mediation Center

Following the WI Supreme Court ethics rule effective last summer permitting lawyers who mediate family law issues to draft and file legal documents, an increasing number of lawyers are mediating with self-represented parties.

Ethical questions are arising about the application of the rule, boundaries of the role, definition of neutrality, and what is competent and diligent practice.

This Program will address topics essential for ethical practice as a lawyer mediator, including how to maintain neutrality, the distinction between information and advice, the importance of avoiding joint representation, concerns about “scrivening”, and how to draft neutrally as a mediator.

Three ethics credits will be approved for this program.

Cost: \$189; \$149 for non-profit, student, or court/government

Join us to discuss the emerging issues and ethical cautions for lawyer mediators to consider as they shift from client advocacy to neutrality with self-represented parties.