



## Annual (Virtual) Conference

# Sexts, Texts, and Tweets: The Use and Misuse of Social Media and Electronic Information in Family Law Disputes

Coming via Zoom to your home or office on

Friday, April 30, 2021 (8:45: - 1:00)

**Randy Otto, Ph.D.\***

Associate Professor

Department of Mental Health Law & Policy

Florida Mental Health Institute, University of South Florida

### Schedule:

8:45-10:15: Randy Otto, Ph.D., University of South Florida  
*Using Social Media Data in Family Court Proceedings*

10:15-10:30: Break

10:30 – 11:45: Professional Panel Discussion

*Stephanie Tabashneck, Psy.D., J.D.* (independent forensic mental health practice)

*Richard Novitch, Esq.*, of counsel, Todd and Weld, Boston, MA

*Tony Pelusi Jr., J.D.*, coach and parenting coordinator, North Andover, MA.

*Vicki Shemin, Esq., L.I.C.S.W., A.C.S.W.*, Moderator

11:45 – 1:00: Judicial Panel

*Hon. Jennifer Allen*, Associate Justice, Middlesex Probate and Family Court

*Hon. Linda Fidnick*, First Justice, Hampshire Probate and Family Court

*Hon. Arthur C. Ryley*, First Justice, Barnstable Probate and Family Court

*Jennifer Clapp, Esq.*, Moderator

\*Co-author of: Pirelli, G., Otto, R. K., & Estoup, A. (2016). Use of Internet and social media data as a collateral source in forensic evaluations. *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, 47, 12-17.

Admission Cost: Members (before April 15): **\$55.00**. Thereafter, **\$65.00**

Non-Members (before April 15): **\$75.00**. Thereafter **\$85.00**

On-line Registration at [www.maafcc.org/events---conferences.html](http://www.maafcc.org/events---conferences.html)

Reduced rates for students and probation officers available

Refund Policy: Full refund prior to April 23, no refund thereafter

Please plan to stay on after the conclusion of the conference for a casual networking luncheon (bring your own!) hour in breakout rooms for audience members to continue to discuss the issues raised by the conference.

## Brief Presenter Biographies

**Hon. Jennifer Allen** is a graduate of Boston College School of Law. She is an Associate Justice of the Middlesex Probate and Family Court. She started as an associate with Catanzaro & Effren, P.C., in 1995 before becoming a partner with the successor firm of Catanzaro and Allen, and, since 2017, the proprietor of the Law Office of Jennifer Allen and Jennifer Allen Mediation Services. As an attorney, Judge Allen frequently served as a Guardian Ad Litem, Special Master, and conciliator to the Middlesex and Worcester Probate & Family Courts. She also served on the Board of Directors of Metrowest Legal Services.

**Hon. Linda Fidnick** is a graduate of the University of Connecticut School of Law. She is the First Justice of the Hampshire Probate and Family Court. Appointed to the bench in 2008, she had, for thirty years previously, practiced family law in Amherst, MA with the firm of Burrell, Fidnick, & Booth. Her practice included litigation, mediation, and collaborative law cases. She is currently Vice President of the international AFCC organization.

**Richard Novitch, Esq.** is a graduate of Suffolk University Law School. He is of counsel with the Boston law firm of Todd and Weld. He returned to that practice, after being a partner in the Framingham firm of Lander and Lander, PC, from 2005-16. He represents clients in all aspects of domestic relations law, including complex matrimonial matters, and high net worth property division. Richard has extensive experience handling complex cases and issues on appeal, including matters before the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court and Massachusetts Appeals Court. He was one of the attorneys in the 2018 case of *Miller v. Miller*.

**Randy Otto, Ph.D.**, our keynote speaker, has been a faculty member at the University of South Florida since 1989. His primary appointment is in the Department of Mental Health Law & Policy, and he also teaches in the Department of Psychology and Department of Criminology. Dr. Otto has served as President of the American Psychology-Law Society (AP-LS, Div. 41 of the American Psychological Association), the American Board of Forensic Psychology, and the American Board of Professional Psychology. He chaired the Committee to Revise the Specialty Guidelines for Forensic Psychology and served on the interdisciplinary committee that revised the American Bar Association's Criminal Justice Mental Health Standards. Dr. Otto's research, writing, and practice focus on forensic psychological assessment. Dr. Otto is co-author of *Psychological Evaluations for the Courts: A Handbook for Mental Health Professionals and Lawyers* (Guilford Press), the fourth edition of which was published in 2018. He has also co-authored books on ethics in forensic practice, expert testimony, and forensic report writing.

**Tony Pelusi Jr, J.D., C.P.C.C.**, is a lawyer, certified professional coactive coach, and parenting coordinator. Drawing upon his years of experience as a trial lawyer and training he introduces coparents to the benefits of placing the well-being of their children ahead of their personal disagreements..

**Hon. Arthur Ryley** is a graduate of the New England School of Law. He is the First Justice of the Barnstable Probate and Family Court. Appointed to the bench in 2008, he had previously been in private practice and had served as president of the Barnstable County Bar Association and as the chairman of its Family Law Committee.

**Stephanie Tabashneck, Psy.D., J.D.**, is a forensic psychologist and attorney in Boston, Massachusetts. Her practice areas include child custody evaluations, substance use issues, criminal evaluations, and psychological assessment. Dr. Tabashneck presents regionally and nationally on psychology and law topics. She is on the board of directors of the Massachusetts chapter of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts. Recent publications include a scholarly article on the opioid crisis and family drug courts and a chapter in the American Bar Association book, *Representing People with Mental Disabilities: A Practical Guide for Criminal Defense Lawyers* (2019).

**CE CREDIT:** This program is sponsored by the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC) and is approved by the American Psychological Association to offer continuing education for psychologists. **This program is approved for 4.0 continuing education credits for psychologists, mental health counselors, and licensed marriage and family therapists.** AFCC maintains responsibility for the program and its content. Applications for 4.0 hours continuing education credits for CPCS/CAFL, PC/GAL, and Social Workers have been made.