



## Section on Child Law

### The Mission of the [ISBA Child Law Section](#):

To inform all lawyers practicing in the areas impacting children, including but not limited to juvenile justice and child protection law, adoption, education, guardianship, and family law, of current and significant developments in these areas; to review, monitor and propose legislation in all legal areas impacting children; to enhance the professional skills of lawyers who practice in these areas through continuing legal education programs and publications; and to provide a forum for all entities, lawyers and other interested parties to work for the refinement and improvement of laws and systems impacting children.

### General:

- ◆ Section fees are \$25 per year.
- ◆ To join, go to [www.isba.org/sections](http://www.isba.org/sections)

### [Continuing Legal Education](#)

The Section sponsored or co-sponsored two programs during the year:

- ◆ **Legislative Changes In Child Law Matters: Effective January 2016 – LIVE WEBCAST** (Jan. 27, 2016)
- ◆ **Co-Sponsor: Education for Attorney Appointed to Represent Children** (June 2-3, 2016)

Section members also receive discounts on section-sponsored CLE programs.

### [Newsletters](#)

Delivered electronically unless otherwise requested. During 2015-16 the Section published four newsletters. Articles include:

- ◆ CASA in Illinois (June 2016)
- ◆ CASA—Volunteers and training (Sept. 2015)
- ◆ Critical changes in child-related domestic relations law (June 2016)
- ◆ The Indian Child Welfare Act: No clear Illinois guidance (Mar. 2016)
- ◆ Legislative update (Sept 2015)
- ◆ Legislative update – Juvenile justice reforms take effect Jan 1, 2016 (Dec. 2015)
- ◆ Movement to raise the age of juvenile court to 21 (Dec. 2015)
- ◆ The need for pro bono and how you can help (Dec. 2015)
- ◆ Save the date—April 1, 2016 (Dec. 2015)
- ◆ Thoughts from the Chair (Dec. 2015)
- ◆ Thoughts from the Chair (Sept. 2015)
- ◆ Proposed bill may provide future remedy in aftermath of embryo dispute (Mar. 2016)
- ◆ Thoughts from the Chair (June 2016)
- ◆ Thoughts from the Chair (Mar. 2016)
- ◆ Time to protect children during interrogation (Mar. 2016)
- ◆ We need a statewide dialogue on the use of attorneys appointed to represent children (Sept. 2015)
- ◆ What's it really like to be a child's representative? In-depth perspectives from experienced GALs (Mar. 2016)
- ◆ When can parents leave their children alone? (Dec. 2015)

### [Legislation](#)

The Child Law Section Council reviews proposed legislation that may affect their members' practice area. Highlights of the most recent legislative session include:

1. Number of bills reviewed: 62
2. Significant legislation:
  - a. Senate Bill 2370 - Access to a lawyer
  - b. House Bill 5017 - Expungement
  - c. House Bill 6291- Juvenile probation
  - d. Senate Bill 2777- Omnibus Juvenile justice changes

### Other

- ◆ [The ISBA Child Law Discussion List](#) allows section members to pose questions and share information with fellow section members from around the state.