

SPECIALIZED CHILD ABUSE TRAINING

FORENSIC INTERVIEWING OF CHILDREN

An Introduction to the Forensic Interviewing Protocol

January 27-28, 2009

Comfort Inn & Suites Hotel and Conference Center

2424 South Mission Street, Mount Pleasant, MI 48858

The Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan, Child Abuse Training Services, in cooperation with the Prosecuting Attorneys Coordinating Council, Department of Human Services (DHS), and Governor's Task Force on Children's Justice (GTF), is pleased to present a regional, cross-professional Specialized Child Abuse Training seminar on the topic of Forensic Interviewing of Children. This training will begin with registration at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, January 27, 2009 and conclude by Wednesday, January 28, 2009 at 4:00 p.m.

This seminar is designed for prosecuting attorneys, assistant prosecuting attorneys, DHS workers, victim's advocates, and police officers who are involved with child abuse investigations or prosecution. The training is designed to increase your understanding of the primary features of forensic interviewing and provide information to enhance your interviewing skills.

Michigan's Forensic Interviewing Protocol was developed in conjunction with the DHS and the GTF. The goal of a forensic interview is to obtain a statement from a child in a developmentally sensitive, unbiased, and truth-seeking manner that will support accurate and fair decision-making in the criminal justice and child welfare systems. Topics to be covered include:

- Preinterview preparation.
- Interviewer guidelines.
- Conducting a phased interview.
- Special topics/children with special needs.
- Guidelines for questioning children.

Please find enclosed a copy of the registration form for the seminar. There is no tuition charge or charge for materials for this seminar. Attendees are responsible for overnight accommodations, transportation, meals, and other incidental costs. If there are specific questions you would like to have addressed at the seminar, please list them on the registration form, and the questions will be provided to the speakers in advance.

Please register early since registration is limited to the first 35 people. When space at seminars is available, we welcome participation from professionals in addition to DHS workers, law enforcement, and prosecutors.

Hotel reservations should be made directly with the Comfort Inn at 989-772-4000. A block of rooms has been reserved for attendees of this seminar; you **must** mention that you are with the Prosecuting Attorneys Association to receive the rate of \$65.00 per night for single occupancy and \$99.00 per night for double occupancy.

Please contact Jennifer Doerr at doerrj@michigan.gov if you have any questions.

www.micats.org

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(One form per person. Duplicate if necessary. **Please type or print clearly.**)

Name: _____

Position/Title: _____

County: _____

Agency: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email Address: (for seminar confirmation)

Signature

Your signature is your guarantee that you will attend both days of training

Do you have any specific questions/issues you would like addressed at the seminar?

Fax this form to the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan, Child Abuse Training Services office at 517-334-6787 by January 13, 2009.

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