

BACK TO SCHOOL WITH THE PUBLIC INTEREST LAW CENTER

Monday, August 31, 2009

Buying school clothes? Have your vaccinations in order? New pens? Don't go back to school without the information you need as a parent of a child with special education needs or an advocate or teacher of a child with special education needs. Join [Judith Gran](#) and [Sonja Kerr](#), both of whom are national experts in special education law as they present an update for you on key topics as the school year begins.

PROGRAM:

Registration: 12:30p.m.-1 p.m.

Introduction and Overview: 1:00 p.m. – 1:10 pm.

Inclusion/Least Restrictive Environment: 1:10 p.m. – 2:10 p.m.

Judith Gran, who is lead counsel in the landmark decision of *Gaskin v. Commonwealth of Pennsylvania*, will tell you what you need to know about: 1) the status of the Gaskin settlement and requirements; 2) what pitfalls and mistakes to avoid; and 3) how to work collaboratively towards fully inclusive programs using the Pennsylvania Department of Education--PDE's--"Tool Kit."

Transition from School to Adult Life: 2:15 p.m. – 3: 15 p.m.

Sonja Kerr, who has represented hundreds of children concerning transition issues, and who is a former Job Placement Specialist, will explain the IDEA's mandated transition requirements and Pennsylvania law on transition services, including: 1) why transition services must begin with evaluations; 2) what transition services are all about; and 3) why transition services are key to the fully independent life we want for children with disabilities.

Discipline: 3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

Sonja Kerr, and Giovanni Campbell, will team up to talk about disciplinary issues and juvenile court matters. Ms. Kerr litigated some of the very first disciplinary cases under the now common "expedited hearing" process. Mr. Campbell is a local lawyer with significant expertise in juvenile court. Learn how: 1) to use the expedited hearing process instead of expulsion proceedings; 2) to coordinate with juvenile court to help a child through the special education process; and 3) pitfalls to avoid in the process.

Dispute Resolution Process: 4:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Judith Gran and Sonja Kerr, each of who has represented parents in many due process hearings, will team up to give you the latest news on: 1) due process hearings and procedures under Pennsylvania's one tier system; 2) how to have meaningful resolution meetings; 3) how to avoid due process; and 4) appropriate settlement agreements.

CLE Credit Hours: 4

Act 48 Hours:

[Click here to Register!](#)