

Classes of Relevancy to Orphans' Court Judges

2026

Class Title	Date	Description
Discovery Disputes	1/21/2026	The program will be designed to refresh judges on the overall purpose of discovery in both criminal and civil cases. The presenters will review the role of the judge and the parties, in preventing, and resolving discovery issues. Issues to be discussed will include scheduling orders, allowable exceptions to scheduling orders, and expectations of the parties in the process. The program will discuss caselaw describing determinations to be used when considering sanctions and cases demonstrating the parameters of discovery rulings.
Civil Motions — Soup to Nuts	1/29/2026	From the trivial to the dispositive, a party can ask for almost anything by way of a motion. We'll examine the full range of motions on the menu at every stage of a civil case, with particular emphasis on dispositive motions. How are the facts supporting or opposing the motion established and considered? Along the way there will be some practical tips for how to approach particular motions and a practice scenario or two. We will also explore when a hearing is or is not required on a motion. Our focus will be on motions commonly arising in circuit courts, but all are welcome!
Micro-Inequities: Small Events in Court That May Lead to Unfair Decisions	3/3/2026	This specialized course addresses the critical role of judges in ensuring fairness and impartiality within the justice system. It delves into the often-unconscious biases that manifest as micro-inequities, examining how these subtle behaviors can impact courtroom dynamics, witness testimony, and judicial decision-making. Participants will learn to identify various forms of micro-inequities, including microaggressions, microinvalidations, and micro-assaults, and understand their potential to erode public trust in the judiciary. Through case studies, interactive discussions, and expert analysis, this course will explore the specific challenges faced by judges in maintaining neutrality. Participants will develop practical strategies to mitigate the impact of micro-inequities in their own conduct, fostering a more equitable and respectful courtroom environment. This course aims to equip judges with the tools and knowledge necessary to uphold the highest standards of impartiality and ensure that justice is served fairly and without bias for all.

Classes of Relevancy to Orphans' Court Judges

Culture, Bias, & Fairness & Cross-Cultural Dispute Resolution	3/5/2026	Understand what implicit bias means and how it affects the role of the judge in the courtroom. We will analyze how bias presents itself in everyday life and the courtroom. We will identify strategies to heighten self-reflection and decision-making in the courtroom.
Civil Impact Cases — Case Law Update	3/12/2026	What's new in the world of civil appellate cases? Great question! This course will review recent opinions from the Supreme Court of Maryland and the Appellate Court to make sure that you are up-to-date on civil cases that may apply to cases on your docket
Hot Topics in Adult Guardianship (webinar)	3/27/2026	This engaging webinar offers Maryland judges an up-to-date overview of emerging issues in adult guardianship. Topics include recent legislative developments, ethical considerations, capacity assessments, and best practices for oversight and decision-making. Participants will gain practical insights to navigate complex guardianship cases and ensure the protection of vulnerable adults within the judicial system.
Anti-Racism in the Courts	4/7/2026	Inspired by Ibram Kendi's How to Be an Anti-Racist and Isabelle Wilkerson's Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents, this course asks the question, "Can I be an anti-racist judge?" The answer, of course, is yes! We can learn about the legal, social, and economic structures of racism in America and work together to mitigate the effects of inequality, while still providing due process in a fair and equal manner
Judicial Disabilities: Understanding & Navigating the System	6/2/2026	It is not uncommon for judges to have apprehension about the Commission on Judicial Disabilities and any formal interaction they may have over the course of their time on the bench. Members of the commission and their staff will share information about how to avoid complaints and what to do if a complaint is filed against you. Understanding and awareness are key to anticipating potential problems, understanding risks, and taking protective measures to mitigate them. Knowledge is critical to navigating the process!
Removing Barriers to Inclusivity, Justice, & Fairness	6/25/2026	This class will identify barriers to inclusion, fairness, and equity in the courtroom related to gender identity, sexual orientation, disabilities, neurodivergence, immigration status and cultural diversity, with practical suggestions for making our courtrooms more welcoming and just, and our rulings better informed.
AI & Other Digital Evidence: A Demonstrative Workshop for Judges	7/16/2026	This interactive workshop explores the evolving challenges of digital evidence, with a particular focus on AI-generated content. Through a series of dynamic courtroom scenarios, attorneys Alicia Shelton and

Classes of Relevancy to Orphans' Court Judges

		Michael Berman will conduct direct and cross-examinations of expert witnesses, presenting arguments both for and against the authenticity of AI-related evidence. Judges will engage in critical discussions, examining key takeaways from expert testimony and addressing the implications of emerging technologies in legal proceedings. Designed to provide practical insights into evidentiary considerations in the age of AI, this session equips judges with the tools to navigate complex authenticity disputes effectively.
Expert Testimony	7/21/2026	Expert testimony is a feature of the majority of criminal and civil trials. This full-day course will address the legal standards and rules governing the admission of expert opinion testimony in Maryland courts. It will explore different ways judges can establish courtroom and chambers procedures for ruling on these issues in a timely and orderly fashion. The presenters will discuss the similarities and differences in presenting expert testimony in civil and criminal cases. And they will learn from one another by discussing the ways in which they and their peers have addressed expert opinion issues in their courtrooms
Selected Topics in Evidence	10/20/2026	"Objection!" Demands for evidentiary rulings come at you fast at trial. Try to make "sustained" or "overruled" a better than 50/50 proposition. This course will be part refresher on some of the basics and part exploration of more esoteric issues -- a balance of practical scenarios and some more theoretical analysis. The joys and complexity of the hearsay rule are inescapable. Look also for some authentication and maybe even some character evidence. Something for every trial judge. An appellate judge might even find something of interest!
Impact Civil Cases – Wrapping Up the Year		This course will discuss the most important civil cases decided by Maryland's appellate courts in the most recent 12-month period. The course includes interactive components that require the application of the legal principles in those cases to hypothetical cases that the participant may encounter.

Classes of Relevancy to Orphans' Court Judges

2025

Class Title	Date	Description
Protecting the Rights of Persons with Diminished Capacity in Guardianship Cases	2/20/2025	Have you ever wondered what it would be like for a court to take away your right to self-determination? Respondents in guardianship cases face this reality in every case. This course is designed to help judges be aware of the rights impacted by decisions in guardianship cases and focus on the actual needs and preferences of alleged disabled persons in their courtrooms. In addition, we will help you become familiar with options short of guardianship, known as "less restrictive alternatives."
How Not to Get Reversed - Appellate Tips for Trial Courts	2/13/2025	We've all been there. An inartful evidence objection is made following an equally inartful witness examination. You make your ruling and hope you understood what the heck the issue was. This course will examine commonly confused and misapplied evidence rules to ensure that you are well-prepared to make informed, clear rulings and won't fall victim to muddled lawyering. Get it right, help your jury, and protect your record. Voila!
Anti-Racism in the Courts	2/25/2025	Inspired by Ibram Kendi's "How to Be an Antiracist" and Isabelle Wilkerson's "Caste," this course asks, "Can I be an antiracist judge?" The answer, of course, is yes! We can learn about the legal, social, and economic structures of racism in America and work together to mitigate the effects of inequality while still providing due process in a fair and equal manner.
Culture, Bias, and Fairness	3/4/2025	Bias and fairness have been on the news in many ways. Many judges have been exposed to the concept of bias and its possible implications in the legal system. Although judges are supposed to be impartial, the reality is that they are human and can harbor unconscious biases influenced by their own identity, experiences, and culture. Judges will explore a redefinition of culture and its impact on misinformation using many experiential activities, videos, and case fact patterns. Suggestions will be provided on the best ways to achieve procedural fairness.
Crafting Sound Opinions, Written and Oral for District and Circuit Court	3/6/2025	We all have opinions, but this course will help you build and write them, starting from purposes and outcomes and examining the techniques that will make them say what you want them to say.
Ethics Issues for Trial and Appellate Courts	4/8/2025	On and off the bench, trial court judges encounter ethical issues on a regular basis. Let's take a deeper dive into the Code of Judicial Conduct and the rules governing Judicial Disabilities and Discipline as pertains to trial court judges. Come explore ethical issues faced by judges in Maryland and nationally.

Classes of Relevancy to Orphans' Court Judges

Contempt - Family, Civil, and Criminal	4/10/2025	Contempt is a powerful remedy to address court order violations in a family law case. But is contempt always the most effective remedy? Are there other effective remedies available? In enforcing a child support order, contempt may be effective to ensure child support payment. But what does a court do when the payor has involuntarily lost their job or suffers from some temporary disability? In child access, how does a court enforce its order when a parent willfully violates an existing order or when children resist the non-custodial parent? This course will explore the effective use of contempt in a family law case. Our seasoned members of the bench, with the assistance of the attendees, will evaluate appropriate valid sanctions and purge provisions in various family law situations (access, child support, etc.). Our panel will also identify potential remedies, other than contempt, to ensure compliance with a court order in a family law case.
Removing Barriers to Inclusivity, Justice, and Fairness	6/10/2025	This class will identify barriers to inclusion, fairness, and equity in the courtroom related to gender identity, sexual orientation, disabilities, neurodivergence, and cultural diversity, with practical suggestions for making our courtrooms more welcoming and just and our rulings better informed.
Understanding and Identifying Biases to Eliminate Roadblocks to Procedural Fairness	6/17/2025	Do we really understand and recognize those unintentional biases that impact our rulings and decisions in a case? Are we even aware of those biases? If you are interested in exploring answers to these questions, then we invite you to take this course. In this course, participants will explore further the meaning of implicit, explicit, and unconscious bias; learn how and why a person's race, culture, gender identity, religion, or disability could result in unintentional biases influencing the outcome of a case or the treatment of a litigant; and engage in facilitated discussions to explore best practices to ensure procedural fairness in all cases.
Handling Civil Motions	8/29/2025	A party can ask for almost anything by way of a motion. We'll look at the full range of available motions at every stage of a civil case, with particular emphasis on dispositive motions. How are the facts supporting or opposing the motion established and considered? Along the way there will be some practical tips for how to approach particular motions and a practice scenario or two. We will also explore when a hearing is or is not required on a motion. Our focus will be on motions commonly arising in circuit courts, but all are welcome!
Balancing Act: Navigating Courtroom Management for	9/18/2025	Balancing security in a courtroom with public access involves ensuring safety and order while upholding the principles of transparency and justice. It requires

Classes of Relevancy to Orphans' Court Judges

Accessibility, Security, and Fairness		measures to prevent disruptions and protect participants while facilitating public observation and participation in legal proceedings. Effective courtroom management involves balancing these factors, promoting transparency, efficiency, and the equitable administration of justice. This course is designed to provide participants with a comprehensive understanding of courtroom management principles. It focuses on ensuring accessibility, security, and fairness for all individuals involved in the legal process. Participants will learn about courtroom design, technology utilization, security protocols, and procedural fairness considerations to create an inclusive and efficient courtroom environment.
Wellness in the Court! Reducing Effects of Trauma for Everyone (Judges, too!)	10/23/2025	Wear comfortable clothes! In this course, participants will learn about the brain's structures and how we process stress and trauma. We will also learn about the effects of trauma on child development and adult behavior. Finally, we will explore best practices for litigants, witnesses, and ourselves to mitigate courtroom stress and trauma! Prepare to move as we incorporate yoga, breathing exercises, and other physical techniques for calming our central nervous systems.
Selected Topics in Evidence	11/6/2025	Sustained or overruled? Trial judges need to make these calls with speed and accuracy. This course will be a refresher on some of the basics and explore more esoteric issues, a balance of practical scenarios, and more theoretical analysis. We can't escape the joys and complexity of hearsay. Look also for authentication and maybe even some character evidence. Something for every trial judge and an appellate judge might even find something of interest!
Impact Civil Cases	11/6/2025	This course will discuss the most important civil cases decided by Maryland's appellate courts in the most recent 12-month period. The course includes interactive components that require the application of the legal principles in those cases to hypothetical cases that the participant may encounter.

Classes of Relevancy to Orphans' Court Judges

2024

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Bankruptcy	2/6/2024	The interrelationship between federal bankruptcy law and state substantive and procedural law presents issues vital to the state court process, in areas such as domestic relations, criminal restitution, jurisdiction and many others. This course is designed to assist the resolution of conflicts that may arise between state law and bankruptcy law. The objective is to help state court trial judges better spot and deal with bankruptcy issues, and thereby improve the harmonization between bankruptcy and state substantive and procedural law. This course will include a section on bankruptcy basics, summarizing the principal kinds of bankruptcies and the concepts they entail. The second section will focus on the Automatic Stay and the ways in which it should, and should not, impact on state courts. The third section will examine the function and limits of a bankruptcy discharge and the role of state courts in determining whether debts are discharged. The remaining sections will focus on how bankruptcy impacts specific kinds of cases, including domestic, criminal and civil.
Miscellaneous Civil Motions	2/6/2024	A party can ask for almost anything by way of a motion. We'll look at the full range of available motions at every stage of a civil case, with particular emphasis on dispositive motions. A key variation in all motions is how the facts supporting the motion are established and considered. Along the way, there will be some practical tips for how to approach particular motions and a practice scenario or two. We will also explore when a hearing is or is not required on a motion.
Buoyancy	2/14/2024	Self-care is what we all should be doing to be healthy in our stress-filled culture. However, Resilience/Wellness is what we need to develop when we are exposed to an environment of high stress, trauma and secondary trauma. Judges and judicial staff are exposed to evidence, exhibits, and relayed experiences of trauma on a daily basis in their professional capacity. This course will discuss what impact that exposure has on the body, brain and behavior of those exposed to it, and how to create a personalized resilience/ wellness plan to mitigate that impact.
Challenging Situations	2/29/2024	How would you handle a sovereign citizen in your courtroom, and what are their actual beliefs? What do you do if a defendant is under the influence during a

Classes of Relevancy to Orphans' Court Judges

		trial? How about a witness or even a lawyer? How do you handle challenges in your courtroom, such as competency, sentencing issues with child pornography and sex abuse cases, and victim impact statements? How do you balance controlling your courtroom and spectators while ensuring a public trial? These are some challenging situations we will discuss and develop best practices.
Culture, Bias, and Fairness	3/5/2024	Understand what implicit bias means and how it affects the role of the judge in the courtroom. We will analyze how bias presents itself in everyday life and the courtroom. We will identify strategies to heighten self-reflection and decision-making in the courtroom.
Removing Barriers to Inclusivity, Justice, and Fairness	3/20/2024	As a result of attending this course, participants will better understand, respond more appropriately, and help eliminate barriers to inclusivity, fairness and equity in the judicial system. The course will explore culture, gender identity, sexual orientation, disabilities and neurodivergence, illuminating the experience of parties in the courtroom, the impact of our behavior and words, and the impact of implicit biases on our decisions, with the goal of establishing more just and welcoming courtrooms.
As Good as it Gets	3/22/2024	Judges often encounter litigants who have difficulty regulating their behavior, and people who appear to think and behavior unconventionally. This course seeks to help judges recognize when litigants are doing their best, even though they appear resistant, recalcitrant or disrespectful of the court or its processes and procedure. Additionally, the course aims to examine some of the socioeconomic factors and other challenges that lead to difficult behaviors in the courtroom or non-compliance outside of the courtroom. The course will also provide tools to help judges manage and balance justice issues with challenging people where their behavior and compliance are as good as it gets.
Structural Inequality (Anti-racism)	4/4/2024	In this course, learners will develop a deeper understanding of equal justice by exploring the concepts of anti-racism and structural inequality, as well as how to improve public confidence in the Judiciary.
What You Always Wanted to Know About Information Technology, but Were Afraid to Ask	5/14/2024	Arthur C. Clark once said that any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic. This class will demystify many important concepts in modern information technology. The class will include discussions of core concepts and vocabulary, including

Classes of Relevancy to Orphans' Court Judges

		topics such as software development, pieces of a computer, networks whether internet, cellular or Wi-Fi, the cloud (What is it? What are the different types of cloud services?), encryption and cybersecurity, and AI/machine learning. Much of the class will be in the form of role playing, including responding to a ransomware attack, and walking through the technical issues that could be triggered in investigating a crime. The class will also include discussions of the future of AI and the ethical and practical issues raised by the new generation of AI.
Impact Civil	6/11/2024	This course will discuss the most important civil cases decided by Maryland's appellate courts in the most recent 12-month period. The course includes interactive components that require the application of the legal principles in those cases to hypothetical cases that the participants may encounter.
Civil Evidence	6/11/2024	Sustained or overruled? You can flip a coin or you can enhance your chances of getting it right with some practice and analysis. Evidence is evidence, but we'll look at some issues that arise more often in civil cases. A bit of a refresher on basic hearsay is always useful, then we will look in more detail at business records and medical records. Social media is always lurking out there, maybe more often in criminal cases, but we will update any developments there. The course will balance practical scenarios with some of the more theoretical foundation for the rules. Something for every trial judge!
Deception/Witness Reliability	6/25/2024	Every day, we are asked to make decisions based on words, appearances and other nonverbal cues and it seems that science is ever-changing. Your instructors will explain different methods of evaluating all types of evidence, examining verbal and nonverbal cues and indicators of deception and what is reliable and what may not be reliable. The instructors will discuss issues such as witness memory, identification, recantation and simply deception. They will not always agree. The group will discuss traditional methods of getting to the truth and alternatives based on the latest research by the US High Value Detainee Interrogation Group Research Group. Prepare to use what you learn to review actual testimony or cases to further explore these issues.
Family Property and Income	7/23/2024	It's none of your business – oh, yes it is! – examination of business valuation issues in family law case. Examination of a party's ownership in a business has

Classes of Relevancy to Orphans' Court Judges

		<p>broad impact on all financial issues in a divorce proceeding – alimony, child support and equitable distribution of marital property. Presentation of business-related issues is almost always reliant upon expert testimony. This course will look at the business-related issues from the perspective of both the business-owning spouse (who presumably has the dual goal of presenting a low valuation and minimal income from the business) and the non-owning spouse (seeking the highest possible valuation and substantial available income). The true picture usually involves examination of the data behind what is simply contained in income tax returns. The course will also highlight the important differences between taxable income and cash flow available for distributions – understanding the distinction between the two is essential in the court's analysis and to avoid falling into traps. The course will be presented by family law practitioners who regularly represent clients in these types of cases and an experienced business valuation expert. The presentation will include examination of the books of a fictitious company and direct and cross examination vignettes of the expert. We will also stop the action to point out tricks and tips.</p>
Judicial Disabilities	8/13/2024	<p>This course will explore the current Maryland Commission on Judicial Disabilities process and recent changes made by the Supreme Court of Maryland through the rule-making process. We will provide a comprehensive understanding of the function and work of both the Commission, Judicial Inquiry Board, Executive Counsel and Investigative Counsel. Judges will leave with an in-depth understanding of Maryland jurisprudence in judicial conduct cases. Judges will have an opportunity to interact with the professionals who work in this arena every day.</p>

Classes of Relevancy to Orphans' Court Judges

2023

Class Title	Date	Description
Effective Language Access in the Maryland Courts: A Skills-Building Course for Judges	2/9/2023	Judges and magistrates play a key role in promoting effective language access in the courts -- both in their management of the courtroom and in the administration of the court. This course will provide judges the information they need to ensure effective language access for all. Topics will include managing an interpreted event, managing a jury trial with an interpreter, how to manage fast speakers in the courtroom, cultural competency, and equipment, tools and resources to help the court respond effectively to the needs of the limited English proficient (LEP) and deaf or hard of hearing individuals, improving language access in all areas of the courthouse, and responding to emergency requests for language assistance. The course will also cover how to handle situations that arise when using court interpreters, will clarify the role of the interpreter, how to deal with interpreter errors, interpreter fatigue, and ethical issues to be considered. The course will be presented in an interactive format with simulated interpreter settings to aid judges in practicing the skills learned.
Civil Motions Practice	2/14/2023	This full-day class will cover one of the most recurring items on your docket—motions! From motions to dismiss to motions for summary judgment, and everywhere in between and beyond. Through a variety of strategies—lecture, sample motions, interactive games, and quizzes— we will explore topics such as high volume and challenging motions, discuss tips and tricks for keeping civil motions at bay, and provide you with strategies for how your law clerk can effectively help you through it all. This class will also include content on evidentiary standards for motions in limine, motions for summary judgment, TROs/injunctions, and jurisdictional arguments.
Managing Your Queue (MDEC & Chambers Docket)	2/21/2023	Heavy dockets. Loads of chambers' work. How do you fit it all in and still have time to take a breath? This course is primarily to help judges, with less than 5 years of experience on the bench, organize your workflow to increase efficiency and productivity. MDEC jurisdiction? non-MDEC jurisdiction? District court? Circuit court? No problem, we have it all covered. We will equip you with tools and strategies to complete your docket, finish your chambers' work and eat lunch too.

Classes of Relevancy to Orphans' Court Judges

Anti-Racism: Guidance to Judges on How to Apply, Rule, & Have an Impact Across Diverse Stakeholders	2/23/2023	In this course, learners will develop a deeper understanding of equal justice by exploring the concepts of anti-racism and structural inequality, as well as how to improve public confidence in the judiciary.
Evidence: Civil Overview	3/9/2023 9/26/2023	This course will review evidence issues a judge may encounter in criminal cases including: prior consistent statements and inconsistent statements, refreshing recollection and past recollection recorded, confrontation matters and hearsay issues, the admissibility of social media evidence, and attacking facial recognition issues and the role implicit bias may play in this type of evidence. This intended audience of this course trial court judges of varying time on the bench.
The Accessible Courtroom	5/16/2023	The Maryland Judiciary's mission is to provide fair, efficient, and effective justice for all. Disabled persons can face obstacles to accessing justice when court practices may not accommodate the needs or recognize the abilities of persons with sensory impairments, physical disabilities, or cognitive challenges. Judges play a critical role in actual and virtual courtrooms to ensure access to justice for all. This course will assist judges to identify policies and useful resources to fulfill their responsibilities to address access to the courts regardless of user ability or perception of user disability. Course objectives encompass handling requests for accommodation, resolving specific situations in the courtroom, noting points of disability etiquette, identifying emergency procedures to protect disabled persons, selecting jurors, and using technology to enhance access. This course will provide judges information and support they need to ensure courts are creating a truly accessible court environment and help them fulfill their obligations under Maryland Rules 18-102.2 (Impartiality and Fairness), 18- 102.3 (Bias, Prejudice and Harassment), and 18-102.6 (Ensuring the Right to be Heard).
Opinion Experts	5/23/2023	This course will review how judges handle opinion experts on the bench. Quite often a judge will qualify witnesses, encounter DNA expert testimony, and the myriad of expert testimony that often accompanies drug crimes with an emphasis on DWI/DUI cases.
Nuts & Bolts of Guardianship (Elder Abuse, Guardianship)	6/6/2023	Have you ever wanted to watch a contested guardianship case to see how its handled? What exactly is a guardianship? What are the procedures to

Classes of Relevancy to Orphans' Court Judges

		obtain a guardianship? What are the criteria for determining whether guardianship should be granted? What if a person is disabled from some but not all of the tasks of daily living? These and other questions will be addressed in Nuts and Bolts of Guardianship. This is a basic level course for judges new to guardianship court, or judges who have some experience, but want additional training in the fundamentals. Also, there will be a game at the end! Sign up!
Opinion Writing for Trial Judges & Appellate Law for Trial Judges	10/24/2023	Circuit Court judges often rule from the bench, but there are times when a written opinion is desirable and/or necessary. Perhaps you have heard a complex marital property case, an attorney grievance trial, a post-conviction matter, a declaratory judgment case, or some other complex matter. You have taken the case under advisement and now you must draft a written opinion, to include your fact findings and legal rulings. Our experienced faculty will focus on these types of cases and give you a framework for making this task easier for you and the opinion more clear to the parties.

Classes of Relevancy to Orphans' Court Judges

2022

Class Title	Date	Description
Understanding the Commission on Judicial Disabilities	2/8/2022	This course will explore the current Maryland Commission on Judicial Disabilities process and recent changes made by the Court of Appeals through the rule-making process. We will provide a comprehensive understanding of the function and work of both the Commission, Judicial Inquiry Board, Executive Counsel and Investigative Counsel. Judges will leave with an in-depth understanding of Maryland jurisprudence in judicial conduct cases. Judges will have an opportunity to interact with the professionals who work in this arena every day.
Piping Hot Topics in Adult Guardianship	2/17/2022	Adult guardianship cases are increasing in both volume and complexity. Faculty will cover alternatives to guardianship that can be used to avoid, limit, or terminate guardianships and unpack the use (and misuse) of guardianships by hospitals and nursing homes. The course will also highlight court tools and creative ways to effectively manage these cases and monitor the well-being of people and property under guardianship.
Impact Civil Cases	2/24/2022 8/18/2022	An old but relevant favorite: A trio of appellate judges catch you up on recent, important civil cases from the Court of Appeals and Court of Special Appeals. Participants will be challenged to consider how their future decisions may be impacted as a result of this course.
Civil Evidence Law: Judges Get Reversed; Lawyers Don't	2/24/2022 8/18/2022	We've all been there. An inartful evidence objection is made following an equally inartful witness examination. You make your ruling and hope you understood what the issue was. This course will examine commonly confused and misapplied evidence rules to ensure that you are well-prepared to make informed, clear rulings and won't fall victim to muddled lawyering. Get it right, help your jury, and protect your record. Voila!
Courthouse Culture – Why Can't We All Just Get Along? (webinar)	3/15/2022	This webinar explores strategies for cultivating a respectful and cooperative courthouse environment among judges, bailiffs, clerks, and other court personnel. Participants will discuss communication techniques, role clarity, and shared values that promote teamwork, reduce conflict, and enhance daily operations. Join us to strengthen professional relationships and foster a culture of mutual support across Maryland's judicial system.

Classes of Relevancy to Orphans' Court Judges

Getting to the Truth: Detecting Deception and Evaluating Evidence	4/6/2022	Every day, we are asked to make decisions based on words, appearances and other non-verbal cues and it seems that science is ever-changing. In this course we will explore different methods of evaluating all types of evidence, examining verbal and non-verbal cues and indicators of deception, and what is reliable and what is not. The instructors will discuss issues such as witness memory, identification, recantation and simply deception. The group will discuss traditional methods of getting to the truth and alternatives based on the latest research by the US High Value Detainee Interrogation Group Research Group. Prepare to use what you learn to review actual testimony or cases to further explore these issues.
Moral and Ethical Dilemmas in Judging & The Accessible Courtroom: Addressing the Needs of Persons with Disabilities	4/12/2022	What do you do when a jury finds a defendant guilty, but you think he is innocent? How do you handle a high-profile case where there is overwhelming public opinion that goes against your personal beliefs? How do you navigate the moral, ethical and human side of judging? Be part of a candid and open discussion about the “art” of judging and how best to handle difficult cases that raise moral and ethical dilemmas. This course will discuss how to consider the difficult parts of judging that you don’t learn in law school or as a lawyer. We will discuss how to factor your own feelings about a case you are judging that may present difficult ethical and moral questions.
Mindfulness Meditation & Got Buoyancy? Resiliency Training for Judges	5/24/2022 12/6/2022	Judges and magistrates have to make decisions. They need undistracted, calm and open minds, despite seeing hundreds of similar cases and dealing with time pressures, conflicts, and difficult personalities. Developing a mindfulness meditation practice reduces stress and promotes focused, non-judgmental attention in the present moment. When you hear the word “meditation,” you may have misconceptions. Join us for this class and experience meditation as a relaxing process with scientifically proven health and decision-making benefits. Mindfulness meditation practice is being taught to judges, lawyers, and law students across the country — and they are reaping the benefits. In its Path to Well Being Report, the Conference of Chief Judges, the ABA and others recommend the practice of mindfulness meditation.
Invisible Influences on the Administration of Justice	6/14/2022	Implicit bias is an often discussed, frequently misunderstood topic. This invisible influence exists within systems, organizations, and even within our minds. At all of these levels, bias can have an undue

Classes of Relevancy to Orphans' Court Judges

		<p>influence on the administration of justice. This interactive course will (1) explore the scientific foundations of implicit bias and related influences, and (2) guide judges through an exploration of the ways these influences can interfere with work in the courtroom and beyond. This session also will take a deeper dive into substantive areas where bias can have an impact on the administration of justice. Faculty will guide participants through an exploration of bias within (i) the criminal justice system, and (ii) the family law context. Participants do not need to have an understanding of bias in order to participate, but even those who have this foundation will find this session will build on prior knowledge. All participants should leave this course with enhanced understanding and practical takeaways for their work.</p>
Emerging Issues (Civil, Criminal, Family)	6/28/2022	<p>In this course, judges will discuss emerging, cutting-edge issues in criminal, civil, and family law that judges address, and the considerations that may be appropriate in resolving these issues. The course format encourages an interactive discussion about the resolution of these upcoming issues.</p>
Opinion Writing	11/30/2022	<p>Circuit Court judges often rule from the bench, but there are times when a written opinion is desirable and/or necessary. Perhaps you have heard a complex marital property case, an attorney grievance trial, a post-conviction matter, a declaratory judgment case, or some other complex matter. You have taken the case under advisement and now you must draft a written opinion, to include your fact findings and legal rulings. Our experienced faculty will focus on these types of cases and give you a framework for making this task easier for you and the opinion more clear to the parties (and the appeals court too!).</p>