

# CLARO

## CHILDREN'S LAW ADVOCACY RESOURCES ONLINE

Resources for Judges, Attorneys, Social Workers,  
CASAs, Foster/Adoptive Families, & More!

<http://www.clarola.org>

### Introduction to CLARO

The Children's Law Advocacy Resources Online (CLARO) website provides an effective means of communication between and among organizations trying to improve child protection processes within Louisiana. The website features:

### CLE Training Courses

Approved in-person and online training courses are available. Register for a live course or take one of the online courses from the comfort of your home or office. Examples of some of the courses include: The Adoptions and Safe Families Act, Understanding the Standards/Ethics of Attorneys and Social Workers, Permanency Options, Judicial Expectations on Cultural Competency, and more!

### CLARO Resources

Information on the CLARO website is available for various stakeholder groups, including judges, attorneys, CASAs, social workers, service providers, and families. The website includes a wealth of information organized by topical categories:

- *CIP Administration*
- *Child & Family Services Review*
- *Title IV-E Review*
- *Data Technology*
- *Legal Representation*
- *Court Rules, Forms & Orders*
- *Safety, Permanency & Well-being*
- *Legislation and Jurisprudence*
- *Native American & Tribal*
- *Disproportionate Minority Representation*
- *Reasonable Efforts & Other Judicial Findings*
- *Best Practices*
- *LGBTQ Foster Youth*
- *Bench Cards for Essential Judicial Functions*
- *Transformation Zone*
- *Foster & Adoptive Parents*
- *Domestic Child Sex Trafficking*

### Calendar of Events

The calendar is regularly updated with workshops, conferences, webinars and other opportunities for training.



**We Care For Our Own**

### Louisiana Supreme Court

#### Division of Children & Families

1555 Poydras Street, Suite 1550  
New Orleans, LA 70112

#### Kären A. Hallstrom

Deputy Judicial Administrator  
for Children & Families

504-599-0770

[khallstrom@lasc.org](mailto:khallstrom@lasc.org)

### Pelican Center for Children & Families Court Improvement Program

1615 Poydras Street, Suite 1000  
New Orleans, LA 70112

#### S. Mark Harris

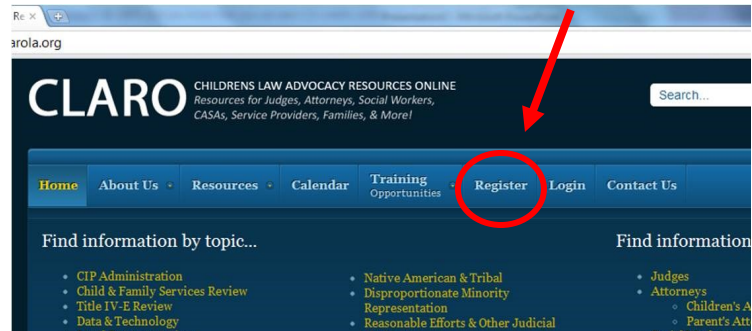
Executive Director

[mark.harris@pelicancenter.org](mailto:mark.harris@pelicancenter.org)



## Register & Log In

The first step to using the CLARO site most effectively is to register your name and email address. This will allow you to view all sections of the site and to record your participation in online training for continuing education credits. It takes only a few moments and afterwards you will need to log in.



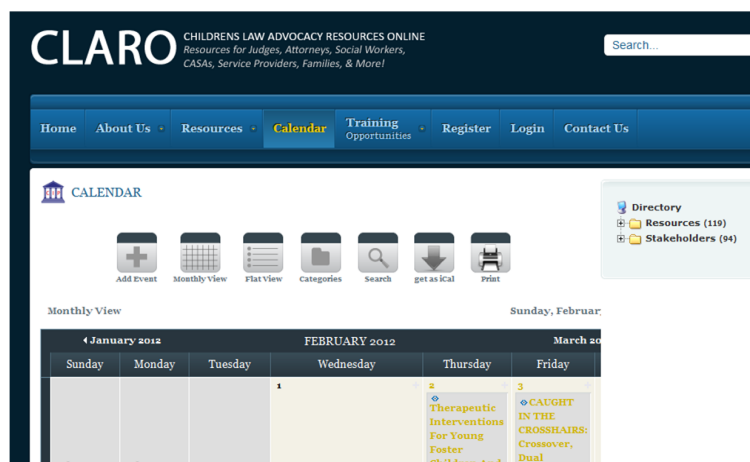
## Exploring the Home Page



You can find information that is grouped by topic or by role. Click on the category of choice and browse through the articles and reports.

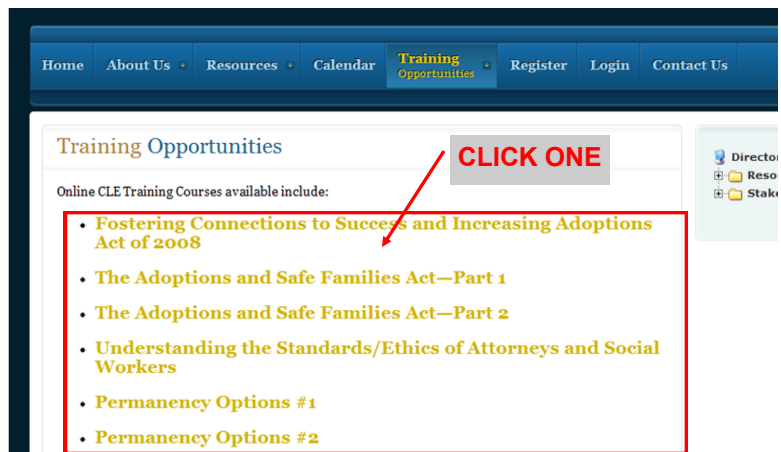
## Using the Calendar

When you link to the calendar page, you can see many opportunities for continuing education via live workshops and conferences or webinars. You can also add events that you are aware of to the calendar. After they are approved, they will appear on the calendar. Click on the calendar items to see additional details, like how to register.

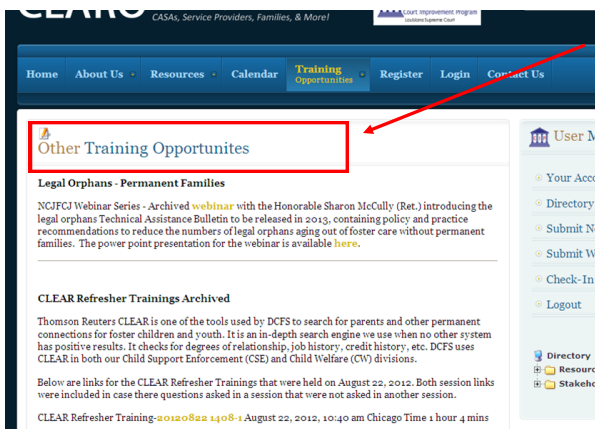


## Online CLE Training

You can go to the Training Opportunities section and browse through the various topics that have been collected archived. Some are stored on the CLARO site and others are hyperlinked to other sites. Please make sure you have logged in before you view training courses so that if there are credits available, you will be able to obtain them. Your credits for Louisiana CLE will be electronically submitted. You will be requested to enter your Bar Roll Number.



## Other Online Training

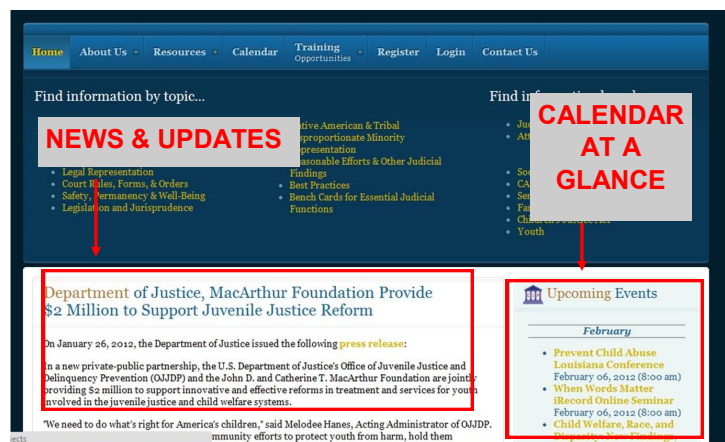


Additional opportunities for online training are in the section titled “Other Training Opportunities.” In this area you will find courses of interest to CASA volunteers, social workers, attorneys, foster and adoptive families, youth and more.

We continue to add to these sections regularly. Some of the links will have a mechanism for you to request CLE or CEU credits, but in this section you will submit them yourself.

## Current Events & Updates

New reports, legislative updates and announcements are placed on the front page of the website for everyone to see as soon as they arrive on the site. The calendar column on the side has a list of the next items coming up and the corresponding dates. To find out more, click on the item name.



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**CLARO**

Management of the CLARO site  
is provided by:  
Team Dynamics LLC in  
Mandeville, Louisiana.  
Questions or concerns  
can be sent to:  
[susan@teamdynamicsweb.com](mailto:susan@teamdynamicsweb.com).

**Do you have a training event  
coming up? You can share it  
with us for the calendar:**  
[susan@teamdynamicsweb.com](mailto:susan@teamdynamicsweb.com).

**GOOD NEWS: There is no cost to use the CLARO website!**

## What else is on the CLARO Website?



### Qualified Children's Attorneys—Rule and List

Rule 33, Part II, Subpart I of the Supreme Court Rules provides for qualification of children's attorneys by meeting 3 requirements (licensed, in good standing, completion of 6 hours of approved legal education). The Supreme Court does not "qualify" attorneys *per se*, but does maintain a list of those attorneys who have met the qualification requirements. So attorneys are qualified as soon as they have met all three requirements, even if they haven't sent in their paperwork and/or their names have not yet been posted on the website.


### Bench Cards for Judges and Model Rules

Not every case is the same and not all judges are solely assigned to CINC cases. There are Bench Cards developed to assist you with your role as a judge. The Bench Cards were created by the Louisiana Supreme Court-Court Improvement Program and include reporting forms, ICWA information and best practice tips.

### Children and Youth Planning Boards—Annual Reports

The Children and Youth Planning Boards (CYPB) were created by Act 555 of the 2004 Regular Session to address the many issues and needs of at-risk children and youth at the local level. Established by the governing authority in each judicial district, the purpose of the Children and Youth Planning Boards is to assist in the assessment, alignment, coordination, prioritization, and measurement of all available services and programs that address the needs of children and youth in a community. Per statute, Children and Youth Planning Boards are required to submit an annual report to the Children's Cabinet. This annual report is designed to help the Children's Cabinet gain a better understanding of the status and needs of each planning board as well as meet its statutory charge to provide technical assistance to local planning boards. The reports are available online by Judicial District.



**ALSO:** On many pages of the website, there are RSS subscription icons.  Click on icon for the topic areas that interest you to receive a notice when the page is updated. We also send out a monthly newsletter with that month's new items listed to those who are registered with the site. You can also set up a subscription to the TWC Toolkit—a periodic e-newsletter that will bring you announcements of training events and reports. Find the current edition of the Toolkit on the CLARO homepage/current events and open it. Click the "subscribe" button.