

The Colorado Chapter of the AFCC considers the health and well being of our members our top priority. Due to the growing concerns regarding COVID-19, and the uncertain duration of this challenge we are facing, we have made the difficult decision to announce the following changes to our upcoming programs for 2020:

**SoCo Dinner – Parenting Issues – April 7, 2020 Canceled**

**NoCo Dinner – Ideas Worth Spreading – April 21, 2020 Canceled**

**Spring Conference – Ethics of Procedure – April 24, 2020 Canceled**

**Fall Conference – October 9-11, 2020 Modified\*\***

**\*\*The Fall Conference will take place on Friday – October 9, 2020 at the Courtyard Denver Cherry Creek in Denver with the Spring Conference 2020 program. We will not have a 3-day conference in Breckenridge this calendar year.**

In making these decisions, we considered several of the same factors determined by AFCC:

- First, and foremost, the potential health risk, in gatherings.
- Many courts are closing or restricting access in some way, so even if it is healthy to travel, the calendars of registrants and members stand a good chance of being disrupted as things get sorted out. This applies to court employees and private practitioners.
- This is a marathon, not a sprint and we are in this with you for the long haul. We want you to be clear that you can count on COAFCC to do the right thing.

#### **So, what's next?**

1. We will be processing refunds over the next several days. If you registered for any one of these events, you will be receiving a full refund via the original method of payment. Please have patience, as this may be a lengthy process.
2. We will be reaching out to invite all presenters originally scheduled for the Spring Conference next month to join us in sharing their sessions in the Fall one day conference noted above and we will identify suitable replacements for those who are unable to attend.
3. Due to these circumstances beyond our control, and the postponement of the Annual Members' Meeting, we have decided to conduct the 2020 elections by email or mail-in ballot. This will be a provisional vote for board members to be ratified at the annual

meeting on October 9, 2020. This is an emergency response due to the current pandemic. There will be a separate email forthcoming with nominee bios, ballots, and instructions for voting.

4. Lawyers and mental health professionals who count on the credits earned at our multi-day conference in October – please remember to seek alternative training options this year. AFCC offers a number of online opportunities.

<https://www.afccnet.org/Conferences-Training/Webinars>

These are extraordinary times, but you all are extraordinary people. We thank you for your patience, your understanding, and your support while we continue to address this challenge. Above all, we urge you to take all appropriate precautions to protect yourselves and your family, friends, and colleagues. Stay home if you feel sick (and even if you don't), stay out of crowds, wash your hands, and stop touching your face. We look forward to seeing you and shaking your hand, hugging you, or (the least preferred option) bumping elbows with you, very soon.