Master Trial Skills for Your Family Law Practice
An Investment in Yourself for Your Clients

- Have you considered that your client’s case should be told as a story?
- Are you able to present direct testimony in an organized and persuasive fashion?
- Are your cross examinations surgical and to the point?
  Do you know how to modify your cross when the judge prompts you with “Move along, counsel?”
- Can you help a forgetful witness recall important facts?
- Do you know how to keep control of a witness who doesn’t truly answer your question by offering a narrative answer, evades your questions, or is simply nasty?
- Are you able to lay the foundation for text messages, emails, or web pages?
- Can you read expert custody and financial reports to understand the tests and calculations, turn that information into direct and cross examinations, and use the results to persuade?

If the answer to any of these questions is “no,” your trial skills in family court are deficient. To be a successful family law practitioner, you had better be prepared, efficient, and effective to be persuasive.

The ABA Section of Family Law and NITA have recruited a team of the best and brightest family law trial lawyers, judges, advocacy teachers, and expert witnesses to give you personalized attention as you master the art and skills of family law trial advocacy in a hands-on format that puts you into the courtroom. Our workshops help you master new skills and techniques while eliminating bad habits acquired in the heat of battle.

Join us this July to become the complete family law trial lawyer.

“I’ve been a bar admission instructor in my jurisdiction, a presenter at CLEs, and a student at CLEs for years, but absolutely nothing compares to the value of your program.”

Visit ambar.org/famlawtrialad or www.nita.org/programs/ABACO720 for more information or to register.

Don’t get wait-listed; register now!

“34th Annual
FAMILY LAW TRIAL ADVOCACY INSTITUTE
July 11-18, 2020
NITA Education Center
Boulder, Colorado

ABA Section of Family Law
321 N. Clark St.
Chicago, Illinois 60654-7598

This was a great course for not just improving skills, but also building confidence in trial practice. You can tell that the faculty is dedicated to elevating the practice of law and attorneys in that practice.”

A joint project of the ABA Section of Family Law and the National Institute for Trial Advocacy
The Opportunity

The Advocacy Institute is open to a limited group of no more than fifty-six (56) participants. Educational focus of the Advocacy Institute is for practicing lawyers at the beginner and intermediate levels. Those admitted to participate in the program must be admitted to the active practice of law in at least one jurisdiction.

The program sponsors have made special lodging arrangements for participants. Information about lodging will be provided upon admission into the program.

“The program was incredible. I am so glad I did it and wish I would have known about it sooner. I learned so much.”

The Most Effective Way to Master Trial Skills

The National Institute for Trial Advocacy is the world-wide leader in advocacy skills training. NITA brings its forty-nine years of educational leadership to bear in this specialized program for family law practitioners. Participants work in groups of six or eight students in a simulated courtroom environment. Every participant takes an active role in their learning by honing his or her trial skills through performance and repetition based on constructive feedback from instructors. Lectures and demonstrations are kept to a minimum as everyone learns through hands-on experience. Many exercises are recorded and then reviewed in a one-on-one session with an instructor. Individual coaching is offered to master problem areas. A special expert in communications and theater techniques counsels each participant in a private half-hour session.

While not designed as an evidence course, the program does provide information on making and meeting objections and the introduction of exhibits. There are specific workshops on the introduction and use of exhibits included in the schedule, and each workshop includes making and responding to objections that arise during the performance.

Law schools and other CLE providers have adopted NITA teaching methods for their own programs. This course is not a copycat clone; it is a program that includes the cutting edge of advocacy teaching and technology, developed by those whose sole focus is improving trial skills. The program, and its faculty, demands the best from each participant. It is intensive, yet fast-paced, and literally provides years of trial experience and confidence.

Based on a 60-minute hour, it is anticipated that participants of this trial skills program will receive 44.25 hours of credit and one hour of ethics. California and Florida attorneys: The ABA/NITA Family Law Trial Advocacy Institute course counts towards certification in marital and family law specialization.

The Advocacy Institute’s team of instructors is comprised of trial lawyers, judges, law teachers, and financial and psychological experts. Selection of each member of the team is based upon skills as an advocate, expert, and teacher. All are versed in NITA’s teaching methods and bring a wealth of experience to the classroom. Each participant receives the benefit of years of experience, insight, and expertise as they receive personally tailored comments designed to improve their skills. The one-on-one mentoring you receive is like having your own personal trial skills coach.

A Hand-picked Faculty Team

“The program was terrific. The structure of the program was outstanding. Learning and then performing and receiving instant feedback both through faculty and the videotape was invaluable.”

Tuition

Tuition for the seven-day Advocacy Institute is $3,400, with a special discounted rate of $3,200 for ABA Section of Family Law Members. Tuition is payable in full at the time of acceptance into the program. Your tuition includes attendance at all workshop sessions and individual sessions with specialist instructors, course materials, daily lunches, and refreshments. Travel, lodging, and other meals are not included in tuition and are the responsibility of individual participants.

“The best legal education program I have ever attended. . . The program follows a progression at each and every step. It makes perfect sense. But so did my advocacy course in law school. To me, the unparalleled excellence of the faculty and the genuineness and kindness of all to help students improve is what sets the program apart from any other.”

“This was the best CLE class I have taken in my 20 years of practice. I highly recommend it to anyone who tries family law cases. You will gain a level of confidence that you will not get anywhere else (except maybe by observing and trying dozens of cases yourself).”