



## Quarterly eNewsletter

Volume 6

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### Commission Activities and Programming

- **Writing Competition**
- **New Publications**
- **Upcoming Training Institutes**

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#### **Fourth Annual Law Student Writing Competition: Domestic Violence and the Law**

Law students are invited to submit articles addressing domestic violence and the law from a national or international perspective.

*This Competition is made possible through  
the generous contribution of Lois Beekman Oliviera.*

#### Awards

The paper of the first place winner will be published in the National Association of Women Lawyers' publication, the *Women Lawyers Journal*. The first place winner will also receive a resolution from the ABA Commission on Domestic Violence and \$750. The second place winner will receive a resolution from the ABA Commission on Domestic Violence and \$500. The third place winner will receive a resolution from the Commission on Domestic Violence and \$250. Winners' names and papers will also appear on the ABA Commission on Domestic Violence website at [www.abanet.org/domviol](http://www.abanet.org/domviol)

#### Guidelines

Submissions may be no longer than twenty (20) pages including footnotes (no endnotes please) and must be double-spaced with one-inch margins, using 12-point Times New Roman or Courier font. Students are free to submit papers of shorter length as we are most concerned with quality and originality. Authors must be enrolled in an ABA-accredited law school at the date of their submission

or must have graduated in December 2006 or later. Submissions may not have been previously accepted for publication, and if previously submitted elsewhere, first place winner agrees to initial publication by the *Women Lawyers Journal*. Submissions must further the legal needs of victims of domestic violence or domestic violence victims and their children. The ABA Commission on Domestic Violence reserves the right not to give the awards if the Commission deems all or any part of the submissions not of appropriate quality.

Deadline for submissions is **Friday, March 30, 2007, 5:00 p.m. EST** via email at [runger@staff.abanet.org](mailto:runger@staff.abanet.org). No exceptions. Winners will be notified in August 2007.

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## **Two New Commission Publications**

The Commission is pleased to announce the publication of two new tools for attorneys representing victims of domestic violence in civil protection orders and family matters.

***The Civil Law Manual: Protection Orders and Family Law Cases, Third Edition*** is a completely updated version of our most popular practice guide. This manual, a compilation of essential legal theory, practice tips, procedural requirements, and safety planning strategies, is designed to guide the victim's attorney through the process of representing domestic violence victims in either protection order or family law cases. The Third Edition includes updated references and sample documents, an expanded discussion of assessing client needs to promote safe and effective legal outcomes, and re-designed layout and chapter division. For order and pricing information, go to our website at [www.abanet.org/domviol](http://www.abanet.org/domviol).

***10 Myths About Custody and Domestic Violence and How to Counter Them*** is a laminated one-page tip sheet, taken from our Summer 2006 eNewsletter on Custody Issues. We had so many requests to re-print and distribute this tip sheet, we decided to have it printed as a stand-alone document. This **free** publication is available for download on our website at [www.abanet.org/domviol](http://www.abanet.org/domviol). To order hard copies, email us at [abacdvt@abanet.org](mailto:abacdvt@abanet.org).

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## **Use and Integration of Interpreters in Civil Representation of Victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking National Training Institute Seattle, WA May 14-15, 2007**

The American Bar Association Commission on Domestic Violence ("the Commission"), in partnership with the Office on Violence Against Women ("OVW"), Department of Justice, Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs, Texas RioGrande Legal Aid, and the National Center for the Prosecution of Violence Against Women, American Prosecutors Research Institute will host an two-day *Use and Integration of Interpreters in Civil*

*Representation of Victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking National Training Institute* in May 2007 in Seattle, WA. Eligible participants are Legal Assistance for Victims grant recipients, particularly attorneys funded by this program. Registration for the Institute will be limited to OVW grantee attorneys, and priority will be given to Legal Assistance for Victims grantees. Registration will be first come, first served. There will not be a registration fee to attend the Institute and grantees may use OVW funds to cover travel costs to attend. Look for registration materials on our website in late March or early April 2007.

If you have any general questions about this Institute, information updates, and registration information, please visit the Commission's website at [www.abanet.org/domviol](http://www.abanet.org/domviol), or email us at [abacdvt@abanet.org](mailto:abacdvt@abanet.org).

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**National Civil Law Custody Institute  
San Francisco, CA  
June 21-22, 2007**

The American Bar Association Commission on Domestic Violence ("the Commission"), in partnership with the Office on Violence Against Women ("OVW"), U.S. Department of Justice, and the National Institute for Trial Advocacy will host a two-day *National Civil Law Custody Institute* on June 21-22, 2007 in San Francisco, CA. This two-day Institute will provide entry-level and experienced attorneys with an opportunity to develop and improve their litigation expertise in the representation of victims of domestic violence, dating violence and sexual assault cases involving custody and visitation through mini-lectures, demonstrations and small group exercises. Eligible participants are Legal Assistance for Victims grant recipients, particularly attorneys funded by this program. Registration for the National Civil Law Custody Institute will be limited to OVW grantee attorneys, and priority will be given to Legal Assistance for Victims grantees. Registration will be first come, first served. There will not be a registration fee to attend the Institutes and grantees may use OVW funds to cover travel costs to attend. Look for registration information on our website in May 2007.

If you have any general questions about the Institute, information updates, and registration information, please visit the Commission's website at [www.abanet.org/domviol](http://www.abanet.org/domviol), or email us at [abacdvt@abanet.org](mailto:abacdvt@abanet.org).

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