

# 2022 COURSES

## January 2022

### ***2022 New Judges Seminar***

The annual New Judges Seminar was held virtually and in-person over eight days in early January 2022. During the seminar, over 100 newly elected and appointed judges attended sessions designed to help them make the transition from practicing attorney to judge. The New Judges Seminars emphasize the teaching of skills unique to judging and include substantive and procedural law sessions geared to each court type. For the first time in 2022, the Judicial Institute, to develop and improve judicial skill sets in addressing matters involving allegation of domestic violence, provided a series of vignettes on several key “nuts-and-bolts” issues.

### ***2022 Adoption Training Series***

Given the crucial role of the Judiciary in adoption matters, the Judicial Institute presented its very first in-depth look at adoptions. This comprehensive 11-part series, which focused on the nuts and bolts of adoptions and the challenges presented by modern science and technology, featured monthly sessions highlighting important topics in adoption law, including how adoptions have evolved from closed to more open adoptions over the last 30 years and the difference between private, independent, and agency adoptions. The culmination of the adoption series was the Judicial Institute’s first National Adoption Month Symposium in November 2022, which centered on the screening of the Judicial Institute’s documentary film titled “The Faces and Voices of Adoption.”

## February 2022

### ***Black History Month Program***

On February 24, 2022, the Judicial Institute presented a program on the topic “Black Health and Wellness.” This program addressed the way in which race is conceptualized and its implications concerning access to healthcare, residential segregation, education, and access to healthy food.

## March 2022

### ***Digital Assets and Smart Contracts: Impacts on Commercial and Contract Law***

In this program, the speakers examined digital assets, smart contracts, and other innovations (e.g., blockchain’s impact on contract law) and discussed how these innovations are causing a sea change in how business is conducted and how commercial law is practiced.

### ***New York Trust Law***

This program provided an overview of the theory and practice of New York’s trust law.

### ***Planning to Avoid a Will Contest***

This program provided an overview of the estate planning and administration steps lawyers take to avoid (or minimize the impact of) litigation.

### ***An Explanation of the Less is More Act***

The Less Is More: Community Supervision Revocation Reform Act (“Less is More Act”) makes significant changes to New York’s parole system. In effect since March 1, 2022, the Less is More Act restricts the use of incarceration for “technical violations,” bolsters due process for people accused of violations, provides for “earned-time” credits, and requires the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision to provide people on parole access to community-based drug treatment and mental health services. In this program, the speaker explained what judges and attorneys need to know about the effectuation of the Less is More Act.

### ***Equal Justice in the Courts: Diversity, Inclusion & Cultural Humility in the Workplace***

In this program, the speakers examined bias (implicit and explicit) and discussed useful tools court personnel can utilize in providing equal access to justice to the diverse population the court system serves. Further, this program addressed the legal responsibilities court system employees have to each other in their workspaces and the duty they have to each other to become more culturally aware.

## April 2022

### **Holocaust Remembrance Day Program**

In partnership with the Justice Brandeis Law Society of the 9th Judicial District, the Judicial Institute hosted a Holocaust Remembrance Day program, which included a showing of the film “Hitler’s Court” and a discussion titled “The Holocaust, Law & Justice: The Betrayal of the Rule of Law in Nazi Germany.”

## June 2022

### **Mental Health Awareness Month Program**

On June 10, 2022, the Judicial Institute presented a program titled “The Crisis of Black Youth Suicide in America.”

### **Pride Month Program**

On June 22, 2022, the Judicial Institute partnered with the Richard C. Failla LGBTQ Commission to host a program titled “Anti-LGBTQ Policies and the Future of LGBTQ Rights in the United States.”

## June - July 2022

### **2022 Judicial Summer Seminars, Weeks 1-3**

In June and July 2022, the Judicial Institute, for the first time since 2019, held three in-person Judicial Summer Seminars. These seminars targeted UCS judges and justices sitting in specific courts and court parts. The theme for these seminars was “Empowering Our Judiciary: Pursuing Excellence Through Education.” The seminars focused

primarily on the importance of case flow management and reducing case backlogs.

## September 2022

### **2022 Legal Update Series**

This 20-program series was designed to provide current legal updates in the following areas of the law: civil, commercial, criminal, evidence, family, landlord-tenant, matrimonial, and surrogate’s court practice. Each update examined recent decisions and legislative developments as well as their impact on the substantive law and/or court practice in a particular legal area.

- Court of Appeals Update 2022: Civil
- CPLR Update 2022
- Labor Law Update 2022
- No-Fault Case Law Update 2022
- Sidewalk and Premises Liability Update 2022
- Damages Update 2022: Personal Injury Actions
- Serious Injury Update 2022
- Recent Developments in Commercial Litigation Post-COVID-19 (2022)
- Selected Issues in Bail Law 2022
- Criminal Discovery Update 2022
- Search and Seizure Update 2022
- Evidence Update 2022, Parts 1-4
- FCA Articles 3, 7 & 10 Legal Case Law Update

- Child Support, Spousal Support and Paternity Update
- Mortgage Foreclosure Legal Update 2022
- Residential Landlord-Tenant Update (New York City) 2022
- Commercial Real Estate Update 2022
- Matrimonial Legal Update 2022
- Surrogate’s Court Legal Update 2022
- Digital Assets Update 2022

### **Introduction to Technology-Facilitated Abuse**

In this program, the speakers provided court personnel with an introduction into technology-facilitated abuse, along with practical guidance for how to identify these forms of abuse and analyze them within the existing legal framework. The presenters also discussed sample language that can be used in orders of protection where technology-facilitated abuse is involved.

### **Supreme Civil Jury Trial Simulation Series**

Divided into seven training modules, this series provided judges with the tools to effectively manage the complicated issues that frequently arise during civil jury trials. By using an actual case to simulate how issues are likely to present themselves during the pre-trial, trial, post-trial phases of a civil case, the goal of the series was to help judges develop and hone their skills in supervising the conduct of jury trials, regulating the conduct of parties in the adversarial process, and making confident, law-based evidentiary

rulings. This is the Judicial Institute's first series designed to ensure that New York judges of all experience levels fully understand their responsibility to conduct jury trials that are fair, orderly, efficient, and consistent with the Unified Court System's aim to ensure procedural justice for all litigants.

### ***Judicial Ethics Essentials 2022***

The Advisory Committee on Judicial Ethics discussed a series of fact patterns based on recent Advisory Committee opinions. The goal of this program was to examine the parameters of ethical conduct for judges, both on and off the bench.

### ***Hispanic Heritage Month Program***

On September 16, 2022, the Judicial Institute presented a program titled "Unidos: Inclusivity for a Stronger Nation – Insular Cases: A discussion on U.S. v. Vaello Madero and Beyond."

### ***The Intersection of New York's Cannabis Statute and Matrimonial Matters***

This program examined the provisions of New York's Marijuana Taxation and Regulation Act that are most relevant to matrimonial matters.

## ***October 2022***

### ***Using the Family Court Judicial Guide to Domestic Violence Risk Factors***

This program was created to assist Family Court judges in identifying risk factors and to offer legal remedies

or specific conditions that may be appropriate in response to the correlating risk. In this presentation, members of the committee responsible for developing the Guide demonstrated how judges and their staff can use it to assist with crafting temporary and final custody, parental access, and visitation orders in cases involving domestic violence.

### ***Orders of Protection, Firearms, and Bail Issues in Domestic Violence Cases***

This program addressed how the laws governing orders of protection intersect with the laws relating to bail and firearms in domestic violence cases. Among other topics, the speaker discussed how initial judicial decision making in these areas affects the safety of the families in our communities.

### ***Adjudicating the Right to the Environment: Judicial Education Comparing Decision Making from Courts Worldwide***

On November 2, 2021, New York voters approved an Amendment to the State Constitution's Bill of Rights providing that each person has a fundamental right to clean air and water, and to a healthful environment. In October 2022, the Judicial Institute and Pace Law co-hosted a program featuring three international judges and examining how their respective courts have interpreted the fundamental right to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment.

## ***November 2022***

### ***Cyber Abuse and Intimate Partner Violence***

In this program, the speakers provided an in-depth examination of Technology-Facilitated Abuse (in the context of intimate partner violence) and discussed how the lives of those targeted by such abuse are impacted.

### ***Election Law Essentials 2022***

The goal of this program was to provide UCS judges and attorneys with (1) a solid foundation in the basic principles of New York's election law, (2) an update of the most current case law and legislative changes affecting the election law, and (3) knowledge of how to work through challenging election law issues. The speaker addressed several topics, including absentee ballots, notice and cure processes, and the judge's role, including the procedures they must follow, during the early voting period.

### ***Extreme Risk Protection Orders ("ERPOs") Training Series***

This two-part series, presented in November 2022, provided an overview of ERPOs and practical considerations for adjudicating ERPO applications.