



PARENTING COORDINATOR TRAINING

September 23-25, 2026

8:00AM – 5:30PM

Wednesday, Sept. 23

7:45-8:00	Registration	
8:00-8:15	Introduction	Hon. Samantha Cabe, Chief District Court Judge, Judicial District 15B
8:15-10:00	Section 1: Purpose of PC Training & Family Law Primer Section 2: NC General Statute 50-90 Section 3: Role of the PC	Cindy Sortisio, Shaunis Mercer & Cami Schupp
10:00-10:15	Break	
10:15-11:45	Section 3 (Continued): Professional Guidelines & Ethics; Clinical v. Forensic Roles	Cindy Sortisio
11:45-12:45	Lunch	
12:45-2:30	Section 4: PC Appointment Process: Attorney Involvement in PC Selection; PC Order; PC Appointment Conference Section 5: Getting Started; First PC Meeting with Parents	Catherine Forneris, Cindy Sortisio & April Harris-Britt
2:30-3:30	Section 6: Dynamics of High Conflict Families & Personality Disorders	April Harris-Britt
3:30-3:45	Break	
3:45-5:30	Section 6 (Continued): Dynamics of High Conflict Families & Personality Disorders	April Harris-Britt

Thursday, Sept. 24

8:00-10:00	Section 7: Child Issues in High Conflict Divorce; Child Development; Impact of Divorce on Children; Parenting Plans; Stepparents and Same Sex Parents; Types of Co-parenting; How to Involve Children in PC Process	Cindy Sortisio & April Harris-Britt
10:00-10:15	Break	
10:15-11:50	Section 8: Parent Issues in High Conflict Divorce; Appropriate and Inappropriate Participants in the PC Process; Domestic Violence and Crisis Management; Substance Abuse; Child Abuse	April Harris-Britt & Cindy Sortisio
11:50-12:00	Sponsor Presentation: Our Family Wizard	Danielle Kestnbaum
12:00-1:00	Lunch	
1:00-2:15	Panel Discussion	Hon. Todd C. Roper, District Court Judge, Judicial District 15B, et al.
2:15-3:30	Section 9: Mediation and Arbitration Techniques in PC Context	Katrina Kuzyszyn-Jones
3:30-3:45	Break	
3:45-4:30	Section 10: Personal Values in PC Practice	April Harris-Britt
4:30-5:30	Section 11: Diversity Issues in PC Practice	April Harris-Britt

Friday, Sept. 25

8:00-9:00	Section 12: High Conflict & Special Issues Case Analysis	April Harris-Britt & Cindy Sortisio
9:00-10:00	Section 13 (No slide set): PC in Action, Videos & Discussion	Cindy Sortisio
10:00-10:15	Break	
10:15-11:30	Section 14: Effective Communication & De-Escalation Strategies	April Harris-Britt
11:30-12:00	Section 15: Decision Tree	Cindy Sortisio
12:00-1:00	Lunch	
1:00-1:45	Section 16: Starting a New PC Practice, Specific Areas of Authority, & PC Forms	April Harris-Britt
1:45-3:30	Section 17: Analysis of Case and Writing of Decisions	Cindy Sortisio
3:30- 3:45	Break	
3:45-5:30	Section 18: Tips from the Trenches, Self-care; & Closing Cases	April Harris-Britt & Cindy Sortisio