CAITLIN R. BURGESS, JD, MA, LMFT
Professional Clinical, Legal, and Forensic Services

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CURRICULUM VITAE

Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT):
CA 94485, CO 0002477, CT 3657, FL 5503, NY 002402, TX 205147, WA 61090853

Licensed Attorney:
California SBN 187515, Washington SBN 61142

Education:

University of San Francisco (USF) Graduate School of Education: *Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology with a concentration in Marriage and Family Therapy (MFT)*

University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) School of Law: *Juris Doctorate*

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo: *B.S. Journalism, magna cum laude*

National Professional Associations/Memberships:

Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC) National Chapter

California Professional Associations/Memberships:

AFCC – California Chapter
Bay Area Psychological Association (BAPA)
California Association of Marriage & Family Therapists (CAMFT)
Ethics Committee Co-Chair (2019 – 2021) – San Mateo County Psychological Association (SMCPA) (merged with Santa Clara Psychological Association to become BAPA)
Interim Secretary/Board Member (2021) – SMCPA

Colorado Professional Associations/Memberships:

AFCC – Colorado Chapter

Boulder Interdisciplinary Committee (BIDC)
Denver Interdisciplinary Committee (DIDC)

Florida Professional Associations/Memberships:

AFCC – Florida Chapter

Texas Professional Associations/Memberships:

AFCC – Texas Chapter

Washington Professional Associations/Memberships:

AFCC – Washington Chapter
AFCC Washington Chapter Board of Directors (2023 - 2025)
AFCC Education Committee (2025)
AFCC Professional Roles and Practices Standards Committee (2024 - 2025)
AFCC Parenting Coordination Subcommittee (2024)

Invited Addresses/Presentations:

Presented at the following continuing education conferences by invitation as listed below:

- AFCC Washington Chapter 10th Annual Conference, "Resist, Refuse and Resolve: Turning the Corner on PCCP Conflict" panel presentation with Dr. Leslie Drozd, Ph.D. and Dr. Barbara Fidler, Ph.D., CPsych, AccFM, FDRP PC (April 2025)
- AFCC WA Chapter Professional Roles and Practices Standards (PRPS) Committee, Seminar & Roundtable offered by the Parenting Coordination Subcommittee with Dana Dean Doering, ARNP, Henry (Hank) Finesilver, Esq., and Paul W. McVicker, Esq., "The Parenting Coordination Role Pursuant to the New 2019 AFCC PC Guidelines" (April 2024)
- King County Bar Association (KCBA), Family Law Section, "The Do's and Don'ts of the Parenting Coordination Role, Pursuant to the AFCC PC Guidelines" (October 2023)
- Bay Area Psychological Association (BAPA) "Intensive In-Home Intervention in Alienation Cases" (July 2023)

- NOW Network Television Segment, "How to Work with a Guardian Ad Litem" (March 2022)
- NOW Network Television Segment, "Trying a Parental Alienation Case: Why You Probably Need an Expert Witness" (December 2021)
- Mental Health Panel Discussion, "Helping Courts to Understand Alienation" with Dr. Steven Miller, M.D., moderated by Dr. Colleen Murray, Ph.D., LPC, at the International Conference on Helping Courts Understand the Phenomenon of Alienation, Family Access Fighting for Children's Rights (May 2021)

The Legal Podcast Network:

- High-Conflict Custody Cases: How Courts and Clinicians Work to Protect Children – February, 2026
- What Courts Look for in a Child Custody Evaluation – January, 2026
- Domestic Violence and the Legal System: How Therapists and Courts Can Work Together – January, 2026
- When a Child Resists a Parent: Breaking Down "Resist/Refuse Dynamics" – December, 2025
- Understanding Court-Involved Therapy: What It Is and Why It Matters – November, 2025

Press & Media:

- Quoted in Newsweek article by S. Berliner – November 7, 2022
- Quoted in Newsweek article by S. Berliner – October 17, 2022

Partial List of Recent Continuing Education and Professional Training Programs:

- Qualified 730 Expert (i.e., under the California Evidence Code pertaining to court-appointed experts for child custody and other forensic evaluations) with specialized education, training, experience, and expertise in family law matters including those that involve divorce, custody, family dynamics, domestic violence, intimate partner violence, child maltreatment, and child alignment (e.g., cases that involve contact resistance, i.e., those in which a child resists or refuses to have contact with a parent or caregiver)

- California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists (CAMFT) Certified Supervisor (2/16/22 – present): Recognized by CAMFT for going above and beyond the Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS) Requirements for Supervision for voluntary participation in this program which includes advanced training, coursework, supervision consultation, and a supervision summary
- Washington State Department of Health (DOH) Approved Supervisor (7/2024 – present): Included in the DOH Licensed Counselor Supervisor Directory as qualified to provide clinical supervision to associate marriage and family therapists in Washington State who are acquiring clinical experience towards licensure.
- Expert Testimony Workshop, by 20th Judicial District Judge, Laurence Gendelman, Attorney, CFI, Julianna Bellipanni, LCSW, LAC, CFI, Anna Bond, Attorney, Gregg Greenstein, Attorney, Lisa Hall, LMFT (Boulder Interdisciplinary Committee, January 2026)
- The Bay Area Psychological Association (BAPA), Divorcing Families in Turmoil: Evaluation, Intervention, and Diversity by Dr. Jennifer Wheeler, Ph.D., Patty Lau, Psy.D., J.D., Xynthia Rivera (doctoral student at National University), Nouhayla Benjelloun and Felicia Lee (doctoral students at Alliant University), Christina Desage (doctoral student at Palo Alto University), Rebecca Stahl, JD, LLM, SEP, Jeffrey Kline, Ph.D., and Eduardo Bunge, Ph.D., per California Rules of Court, rules 5.215, 5.225, and 5.230 (BAPA Conference, October 2025)
- The Steve Frankel Group, LLC, Child Custody Evaluator Update Training Series, IPV Annual Update by Dr. Robin Deutsch, Ph.D. per California Rules of Court, rule 5.225 (Online Training, October 2025)
- Advanced Issues in Family Law: Parent-Child Contact Problems, by Robin Deutsch, Ph.D., ABPP, Leslie Drozd, Ph.D., John A. “Jack” Moran, Ph.D., Marsha Klein Pruett, Ph.D., ABPP, Matthew Sullivan, Ph.D., Peggie Ward, Ph.D. (AFCC’s Online Training Program, January 2025)
- The Steve Frankel Group, LLC, Child Custody Evaluator Update Training Series, Overcoming Parent Child Contact Problems, by Matthew Sullivan, Ph. D., Hon. Marjorie Slabach (ret.), Sherrol Cassedy, JD, per California Rules of Court, rules 5.210(f) and 5.225(d) and (i) (Online training, September 2024)
- The Steve Frankel Group, LLC, Child Custody Evaluator Update Training Series, Advance Orientation (AO) Improves Efficacy, Efficiency, and Participant Satisfaction: Preparing Parents for Parenting Plan Evaluations, by Benjamin D. Garber, Ph.D.,

per California Rules of Court, rule 5.225 (Online training, September 2024)

- BAPA 4-Hour Domestic Violence Update Training, by Michael Saini, Ph.D. and Honorable Loran Zorfas (ret.), per California Rules of Court, rules 5.215, 5.225, and 5.230 (BAPA Conference, August 2024)
- Family Assessments, From Errors to Excellence, an AFCC Interdisciplinary Program by Dr. Jonathan Gould, Ph.D., ABPP (Forensic), Dr. Chris Mulchay, Ph.D., and David Starks, Esq. (AFCC WA Conference, April 2024)
- BAPA 8-hour Child Custody Evaluator Update Training by Philip Stahl, Ph.D., ABPP, Paul Marcille, Ph.D., Jonee Donnelly, MFT, Kenneth Perlmutter, Ph.D., Christy Schmidt, MA, LPC, Caitlin Burgess, JD, LMFT, Virginia Griffin Donnell, Esq., MA, Brian Ludmer, B. Comm, LLB, per California Rules of Court 5.215, 5.225, and 5.230 (BAPA Conference, July 2023)
- AFCC Guidelines for Examining Intimate Partner Violence and Assessment of Coercive Control by Philip Stahl, Ph.D., ABPP, per California Rules of Court 5.215, 5.225 and 5.230 (BAPA Conference, July 2023)
- Domestic Violence Litigation by Honorable Lauren Zorfas (Retired) per California Rules of Court 5.215, 5.225, and 5.230 (BAPA Conference, July 2023)
- View from the Bench by Honorable Lauren Zorfas (Retired) per California Rules of Court 5.215, 5.225 and 5.230 (BAPA Conference, July 2023)
- Litigation and Evaluation involving Abuse Allegations in Family Court Cases (Institute on Violence, Abuse, and Trauma Conference, July 2023)
- One Size Does Not Fit All: Addressing the De Facto Presumption in Favor of an Equal Timeshare by S. Margaret Lee, Ph.D., Hon. Mark Juhas, Lorie Nachlis, JD, CFLS per California Rules of Court 5.21, 5.225, and 5.230 (CA AFCC Conference, February 2023)
- What Do Judges Really Want in Child Custody Evaluations by Tammi Axelson, LMSW, Hon. Dianna Gould-Saltman, Sandra Mayberry, JD, CFLS per California Rules of Court 5.215, 5.225, and 5.230 (CA AFCC Conference, February 2023)
- Myths and Misconceptions of Gatekeeping: Limits and Opportunities in Family Law Cases by Michael Saini, Ph.D., Leslie Drozd, Ph.D., Stacey Platt, JD per California Rules of Court 5.215, 5.225, and 5.230 (CA AFCC Conference, February 2023)
- Gaslighting in Family Law Cases – What is It, How to Recognize It, and an Intelligent Response by Susan Rempel, Ph.D., Michelene Insalaco, JD, CFLS, Hon. Moni-

ca Wiley per California Rules of Court 5.215, 5.225, and 5.230 (CA AFCC Conference, February 2023)

- Considerations Regarding Parent and Child Neurodiversity in Family Court by Daniel Pickar, Ph.D., ABPP, Hon. Michelle Short, Sonia Dujan, JD per California Rules of Court 5.215, 5.225, and 5.230 (CA AFCC Conference, February 2023)
- Child Custody Evaluator Update Training, by Benjamin Garber, Ph.D., "Children in Polarized Family Systems," by Robert Kaufman, Ph.D., ABPP, "Considerations for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder," by Jorge Wong, Ph.D., "Chinese and East Indian Cultural Considerations," Philip Stahl, Ph.D., ABPP, "Relocation Evaluations," and Michele Bissada and Marisa San Filippo, "Legal Update," per California Rules of Court 5.225 and 5.230 (July 2022)
- Domestic Violence Update Training, Matthew Sullivan, Ph.D. and Deborah Reece "Legal Update," per California Rules of Court 5.225 and 5.230 (July 2022)
- Child Custody Evaluator Update Training, by Jonathon Gould, PhD, ABPP, and Sol Rappaport, PhD, ABPP, "Methodology, Gatekeeping, Research Update, Psychological Testing, Cognitive Bias, Sexual Abuse Allegations, Report Writing & Cross Examination," by Marian Chow, PhD "Cross Cultural Considerations in Parenting & Co-parenting Assessment," and by B.J. Fadem, Esq., Deborah Reece, Esq., and Nicole Ford, Esq., "International Jurisdiction and Parental Kidnapping, Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction Enforcement Act & Parental Abduction," per California Rules of Court 5.220 and 5.225 (July 2021)
- Domestic Violence Update Training, by Leslie Drozd, Ph.D., "Coercive Control Defined, Identified, & Assessed, Intimate Partner Violence in a COVID World, Co-occurring IPV and Restrictive Gatekeeping," by Marisa San Filippo, Esq., "Domestic Violence Legal Update," and by Ruth Darlene, MA, "Coercive Control: Types, Impacts on Adult Survivors & Children, Implications of SB 1141, Couples Counseling & Individual Therapy," per California Rules of Court 5.220, 5.225, and 5.230 (July 2021)
- Child Custody Evaluator Update Training, by Robin Deutsch, PhD, ABPP, Nancy Read, PhD, Marcia Clark, LMFT, Milfred "Bud" Dale, PhD, ABPP, JD, Marisa San Filipo, Esq. (Santa Clara County Psychological Association "SCCPA") per California Rules of Court 5.220 and 5.225 (July 2020)
- The Call of Darkness: Managing Suicidality in Clinical Practice, by Lawrence E. Hedges, PhD, ABPP (July 2020)
- Law, Ethics and Risk Management, by A. Steven Frankel, PhD, JD (The Steve Fran-

kel Group, July 2020)

- The Role of Family Law Professionals in Preventing Gun Violence, by Julia F. Weber, JD, MSW, Mark A. Juhas, Judge (AFCC Conference, February 2020) per California Rules of Court 5.220, 5.225, and 5.230
- More than Words: Interpreting the Digital Dialogue of Emoji in Domestic Violence and Custody Disputes, by Cari M. Pines, JD, CFLS, Lawrence P. Riff, Judge, Angela Bissada, PhD (AFCC Conference, February 2020) per California Rules of Court 5.220, 5.225, and 5.230
- Navigating Sanchez in the Wild West: Diverse Approaches and Applications in the California Family Courts, by Michele B. Brown, JD, CFLS, Joni Hiramoto, Judge, Robert Schnider, Judge, Retired, Daniel Pickar, PhD, ABPP (AFCC Conference, February 2020)
- Evaluating the High-Conflict Family: How to Conceptualize and Write Reports and Recommendations that Post-Evaluation Providers Can Capitalize On, by Ellen Mauldin, LLMFT, and Dr. Shawn McCall, PsyD, JD (AFCC Conference, February 2020)
- Critical Elements of the Analysis and Decision-Making in a Child Custody Evaluation by Philip M. Stahl, PhD., ABPP per California Rules of Court 5.225(d)(1-3) (August 2019)
- Approaching Child Custody Evaluation – Old and New Considerations after Winternitz and Sanchez by Philip M. Stahl, PhD, ABPP per California Rules of Court 5.225(d) (1-3) (July 2019)
- Conducting “Reunification” Therapies: Responding to Systemic Resist/Refuse Dynamics by B. D. Garber, PhD, Family Law Consulting, PLLC per California Rules of Court 5.225(d) (1- 3) (July 2019)
- Parenting Coordination: Work in the Trenches with High Conflict Co-parents presented by Dr. Matthew Sullivan, PhD (April 2019)
- Intimate Partner Violence: Where We Have Been and Where We Are Headed presented by Dr. Lori A. Love, PhD per California Rules of Court 5.225(e) and 5.230(d)(2) (February 2019)
- Domestic Violence: Beyond Power and Control presented by Richard Ferry, LLMFT (2018)
- Child Custody Evaluation Update Training featuring G. Andrew Benjamin, JD,

Ph.D, ABPP, Robert Geffner, PhD, ABN, ABPP, and Michel M. Bissada, Esq., CFLS, AAML, per California Rules of Court 5.225(d) (1) – (21) and (i) (1) – (2) (2018)

- Forensic Assessment in Children per California Rules of Court 5.225 (2017)
- Advanced Domestic Violence Training per California Rules of Court 5.230 (2017)
- Overcoming Barriers: Children Resisting Contact with Parents per California Rules of Court 5.220 (2017)
- AFCC Basic Training for Minor's Counsel per California Rules of Court 5.242 (2017)
- Child Custody Evaluation/Domestic Violence Update Training presented by Matthew Sullivan, PhD, Kelly Shindell, Esq., Leslie Drozd, Ph.D, and Jeffrey Kline, Ph.D, ABPP per California Rules of Court 5.220, 5.225, and 5.230 (2017)
- Effective Therapy with Teenage Boys: Theories and Techniques sponsored by the California Psychological Association (CPA) featuring Paul J. Marcille PhD (2017)
- Custody Evaluators Update by The Steve Frankel Group, LLC featuring Phillip M. Stahl, PhD, ABPP (2017).

Professional Experience (Clinical and Forensic):

Private Practice – (2016 – present)

- **Clinical Services:** These services include client- and family-focused clinical assessment, clinical treatment, psychotherapy, counseling, and other interventions for children, adults, and families, including both individual therapy and family therapy. These include court- ordered and/or court-suggested therapy and other interventions. For example, services related to Santa Clara County Victims of Crime, Santa Clara and San Mateo County Juvenile Dependency and Family Court referrals.
- **Forensic Services:** Professional Consulting in cases including but not limited to formal Child Custody Evaluations (known as "730 evaluations" in CA) and Brief Focused Assessments (BFAs), Co-parenting Counseling, Reunification therapy, Mediation, and other services. Special interests include but are not limited to: Assessment and/or Treatment of recipients and/or perpetrators of domestic violence (DV) or intimate partner violence (IPV); adults who were abused, neglected, and/or molested as children; and child maltreatment. Special interests also include expert testimony and expert consulting services in cases that involve allegations of

DV; IPV; child maltreatment; parent/child contact problems; other family dynamic issues; and other mental health issues.

- **Legal Services:** Consultation in Family Law matters such as Child Custody Evaluations (730 Evaluations), Emergency Screenings, and Brief Focused Assessments (BFA's) (2007 – present).

Creator and Leader of Forensic Family Therapy Online Consultation Group for Washington State Licensed Mental Health Professionals specializing in Court-involved cases with Parent Child Contact Problems (Online, January 2024 – present)

- Providing a bi-weekly consultation group online for licensed mental health professionals who provide therapeutic services in Family Law matters focusing on best practices in treating families where children are resisting/refusing contact with a parent post-separation/divorce.

Personal Mentorship and Training by Bill Eddy, LCSW, Esq., Co-Founder and Chief Innovation Officer of the High Conflict Institute in San Diego, CA (March 2023)

- Completion of Certification program in the New Ways for Families® Treatment Protocol, specifically the Parent/Child Counselor Training.

Personal Mentorship, Training, and Collaboration with Jeffrey S. Kline, Ph.D, ABPP, Board Certified Forensic Psychologist in San Mateo County, CA (2017 – present)

- Collaborative forensic work with Dr. Kline pertaining to child custody evaluations and related services pursuant to the education, training, and experience requirements for 730 evaluators per California Rules of Court 5.225 with an emphasis on cases involving domestic violence, relocation, sexual abuse allegations, and other complex conditions or situations, under Family Law Code Sec. 3118.

Santa Clara County Victims of Crime Referral List (2016 – present)

- Santa Clara County District Attorney referral list for providing therapeutic services to victims of crime in Santa Clara County. Professional therapeutic services have included treatment for victims of child sexual and physical abuse, adult victims of domestic violence, and victims of sexual assault.

Shine a Light Counseling Center – Los Gatos, CA (2014-2016)

- Provided individual and group counseling and psycho-educational programs to

low-income children, adolescents, adults, and families for a non-profit agency with offices in Los Gatos, Santa Cruz, Monterey, and Aptos.

Pathways, Inc. – Santa Clara, CA (2013-2014)

- Provided individual and group substance abuse counseling using Santa Clara County "Seven Challenges" treatment program at William F. James Ranch Juvenile Justice Detention Facility in Morgan Hill.
- Interfaced with the Santa Clara County Department of Probation and Social Services to provide after-care treatment services for community reintegration.

Community Health Awareness Counsel (CHAC) – Mountain View, CA (2012-2013)

- Provided individual and group counseling in a school-based program at dual-language immersion Castro Elementary School. Collaborated with principal, teachers, and parents to formulate treatment plans, provide diagnosis, and weekly support to 20+ school-aged children per week.
- Taught two psychoeducational classes per week to third-fifth grade students called "Tween Talk" and "Just For Kids" on self-esteem/self-advocacy for a successful elementary school experience and confident entry into Middle School.

Chamberlain's Children Center – Hollister, CA (2011-2012)

- Provided intensive short and long-term individual and group therapy to foster children at a Residential Treatment Facility.
- Formulated treatment plans to promote and develop individual goals.
- Assessed and monitored the conditions of clients to evaluate success of treatment and adapted interventions as needed.
- Collaborated with resident psychiatrist regarding client treatment planning.
- Provided forensic reports to Juvenile Dependency Courts, including the Santa Clara County Juvenile Dependency Court in an evaluative capacity regarding children and their placements, under the clinical supervision of Carlos Rodriguez, LMFT (MFC # 52669)
- Obtained training and Certification in Child and Adolescent Needs and Strength (CANS) through the Praed Foundation.

Other Professional Experience (Legal):

Law Offices of Caitlin R. Burgess – Los Gatos/Los Altos, CA (2007 - 2016)

- Provided divorce and legal separation services focusing on child custody/visitation and the creation of child-centered Parenting Plans, Marital Settlement Agreements, child support modifications, and representation of clients through complex child custody/visitation disputes and litigation proceedings.
- Representation of clients in domestic violence family law matters and in cases involving restrictive gatekeeping by a parent post-separation/divorce.
- Collaborative divorce and mediation.
- Counseled clients on business law and intellectual property matters including preparing and prosecuting trademark applications and representation of clients before the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

Blakely, Sokoloff, Taylor & Zafman, LLP – Sunnyvale, CA (2000 - 2001)

- Counseled clients on intellectual property matters and drafting a patent infringement letter for a major Silicon Valley semiconductor company.
- Prepared and prosecuted patent applications for companies such as Intel and Apple in technical fields including semiconductors and software.
- Served as associate trial counsel in a patent infringement lawsuit Wireless v. R.I.M. in the Federal District Court for the Northern District.

Santa Clara County District Attorney's - Palo Alto, CA (1995)

- Conducted multiple misdemeanor court trials, which included interviewing witnesses and police officers, and preparing and executing legal arguments in the courtroom. Drafted legal brief regarding complex Fourth Amendment issues.

2/18/2026