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Enhancing Judicial Skills in Domestic Violence Cases Workshop

Five Arkansas circuit judges and the Domestic Violence Program Coordinator for the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) attended the Enhancing Judicial Skills in Domestic Violence Cases Workshop offered by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Judges.

The Judges who were selected to attend the training were:

Hon. Ralph Wilson, Jr.

Hon. David Laser

Hon. Barbara Elmore

Hon. Tim Fox

Hon. Mike Maggio

Also in attendance was the Domestic Violence Program Coordinator, Lensa Odima-Warden.

The workshop took place Feb. 11 - 15, 2012 in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The three -day training offered extensive information on the dynamics of domestic violence. The workshop also gave judges insight into the obstacles faced by victims who appear before them in court. The curriculum was designed to foster an environment of creative thinking, information sharing and team work. The program utilized detailed hypotheticals and an analytical, problem-solving approach to domestic violence cases. At the conclusion of the session, one attendee remarked, "I wish I had attended this training when I first became a Judge!"

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