



# COVID-19

## Response for Prosecutors and Courts



**May 26, 2020**

### **Webinar: Conducting and Defending in Court a Pandemic-Era Forensic Interview**

**Date: Tuesday, June 2, 2020**

**Time: 1:00 - 2:30 pm EDT**

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, adjustments have been made to conducting in-person forensic interviews and, in some instances, tele-forensic interviews are being used. In this webinar, presenters will discuss modifications being made across the country to the forensic interview process and provide approaches to anticipate defense attacks to these forensic interviews. Please join us for this webinar on ***Tuesday, June 2, 2020 at 1-2:30 PM EDT*** to learn practical guidance for defending these interviews in court.

This webinar will be an interactive session featuring Rita Farrell, Director of the ChildFirst® program of the Zero Abuse Project; and Victor Vieth, Director of Education and Research of the Zero Abuse Project.

To ensure that we are addressing your concerns, please share any specific topics that you would like addressed during the webinar (e.g., specific questions on the interviewing process). Please enter your questions when you register.

**Note:** There is no cost of attendance for this webinar. The National District Attorneys Association (NDAA) will be applying for CLE credits in the state of Virginia.

[Register](#)



### Rita Farrell

Rita Farrell serves as the Director of the ChildFirst® program of the Zero Abuse Project. Rita has been in the field for more than 20 years and manages the ChildFirst® Forensic Interview Training Program, ChildFirst® Arkansas state program, and the development of advanced training courses and programs for forensic interviewers. Rita is a certified law enforcement instructor and provides training and technical assistance for child protection professionals. Rita currently conducts forensic interviews and has interviewed more than 1,500 children. She serves as an expert witness on child sexual abuse, authored many peer reviewed articles specific to forensic interviewing and has trained nationally since 2005 on issues relating to child maltreatment and forensic interviewing.



### Victor Vieth

Victor is the Director of Education and Research of the Zero Abuse Project, a public charity, committed to education, training, and survivor support in order to eradicate child sex abuse and remedy its resulting harms. Victor has trained thousands of child-protection professionals from all 50 states, two U.S. Territories, and 17 countries on numerous topics pertaining to child abuse investigations, prosecutions and prevention. He is the 2018 President of the Academy on Violence & Abuse, and founder of the National Child Protection Training Center (NCPTC). With NCPTC and its partners, Victor has been instrumental in implementing 22 state and international forensic interview training programs and dozens of undergraduate and graduate programs on child maltreatment.

We want to hear from you! If you would like to submit questions or have other concerns, please email us at [covid19\\_courts@cna.org](mailto:covid19_courts@cna.org).

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***COVID-19-related news articles and resources, and past bulletins will be posted on the [NDAA website](#). Continue to check the website for updated information.***

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