

IN THE NEWS

Butzel Long Family Law Practice Group hosts “Alienated Child” seminar April 24

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

First in a series designed to share information with other professionals working with families and marital dissolutions

DETROIT, Mich. – Children suffer from the effects of both a bad marriage relationship and a resulting divorce. **Butzel Long's** Family Practice Group will explore the issue of children disengaging from a parent during divorce with a complimentary seminar entitled, “The Alienated Child” featuring Joan B. Kelly, Ph.D. from 7:45 a.m. to Noon on Thursday, April 24, 2008 at The Townsend Hotel in Birmingham. Materials and a continental breakfast are included.

The program is designed for mental health professionals dealing with families where marital problems exist, members of the family law judiciary, family law referees and clerics.

“The Butzel Long Family Practice Group believes it is essential to understand how a child becomes alienated from a parent and to obtain the necessary skills and resources to assist a client and their children,” said **Denise Alexander**, Practice Group Leader for the Butzel Long Family Law Practice.

Joan B. Kelly, PhD., is a clinical psychologist, researcher, teacher and consultant. Dr. Kelly's research, clinical, and teaching career has focused on research in children's adjustments to divorce, custody and access issues, divorce mediation, applications of child development research to custody and access decision-making, and Parenting Coordination. She has more than 85 publications in these areas of interest, including the book *Surviving the Breakup: How Children and Parents Cope with Divorce* (Basic Books, 1980).

Seminar participants will learn to identify and describe the alienated child, differentiate realistic estrangement and alienation in children who refuse or resist visits with one of their parents, and principles of case management and important elements of court orders for assessment and treatment when a child is alienated. Participants also will learn to identify background factors that can potentiate child alienation, as well as learn to understand the respective roles of both parents in complex alienation cases.

Space is limited. Register online at www.butzel.com. For inquiries, call Sherry Beaupré at Butzel Long at (313) 983-7415.

About Butzel Long

Butzel Long was established in 1854 and is headquartered in Detroit. Butzel Long is one of America's leading law firms, with 235 attorneys and offices in Detroit, Bloomfield Hills, Lansing, Ann Arbor, and Holland, Michigan, New York City, Washington, D.C., Boca Raton and Palm Beach, Florida, as well as Alliance offices in Beijing, Shanghai, Mexico City and Monterrey. The firm represents clients from diverse industries on a regional, national and multi-national level and is the sole Michigan member of Lex Mundi, a global association of 160 independent law firms. Visit the Butzel Long website at www.butzel.com.

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