

STATE OF MAINE

—
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-TWO

—
S.P. 648 - L.D. 1831

An Act To Improve the Child and Family Court Process

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 4 MRSA §10-A is enacted to read:

§10-A. Annual training; domestic violence and child abuse issues

The Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court shall establish annual training and education designed to inform Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court on domestic violence and child abuse, neglect and maltreatment issues.

Sec. 2. 4 MRSA §122 is enacted to read:

§122. Annual training; domestic violence and child abuse issues

The Chief Justice of the Superior Court shall establish annual training and education designed to inform Justices of the Superior Court on domestic violence and child abuse, neglect and maltreatment issues.

Sec. 3. 4 MRSA §164, sub-§17, ¶E, as amended by PL 1993, c. 680, Pt. A, §6, is further amended to read:

E. The Chief Judge, following notification to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court or the Chief Justice's delegate, may authorize such forms and procedures as the Chief Judge considers appropriate to carry out this subsection; ~~and~~

Sec. 4. 4 MRSA §164, sub-§18, ¶E, as enacted by PL 1991, c. 635, is amended to read:

E. The Chief Judge, following notification to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court or the Chief Justice's delegate, may authorize forms and procedures as the Chief Judge considers appropriate to carry out this subsection; ~~and~~

Sec. 5. 4 MRSA §164, sub-§19 is enacted to read:

19. Annual training; domestic violence and child abuse issues. Establish annual training and education designed to inform District Court Judges on domestic violence and child abuse, neglect and maltreatment issues.

Sec. 6. 4 MRSA §183, sub-§1, ¶D, as amended by PL 2015, c. 296, Pt. C, §1 and affected by Pt. D, §1, is further amended by amending subparagraph (2) to read:

(2) Interim orders in actions involving divorce, legal separation, parentage or parental rights, including interim orders in postjudgment proceedings arising out of these actions, ~~except that a contested motion concerning interim parental rights and responsibilities, excluding interim child support orders, may be determined by the family law magistrate only if both parties consent to determination of the issue or issues in dispute by the family law magistrate;~~

Sec. 7. 4 MRSA §183, sub-§5 is enacted to read:

5. Annual training; domestic violence and child abuse issues. The Chief Judge of the District Court shall establish annual training and education designed to inform family law magistrates on domestic violence and child abuse, neglect and maltreatment issues.