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Presenter Biographies

Susan Badeau has been a child welfare professional for thirty years. Currently the Director of the Cross Systems Integration team within the Knowledge Management department of Casey Family Programs, Sue has been a child welfare policy consultant for a decade. In recent years, Ms. Badeau also served as the Executive Director of the Philadelphia Children’s Commission (focused on all aspects of children’s health and well-being in the city of Philadelphia) and as the Deputy Director of the Pew Commission on Children in Foster Care. She has also worked in direct services at both the casework and supervisory levels in adoption and foster care in both public and private agencies. She has developed curricula on many topics used to prepare professional child welfare staff, adoptive and foster parents, judges, attorneys and youth. She also writes extensively on topics related to children, particularly those with special needs and is a frequent speaker at state, regional and national conferences.

Active in community efforts on behalf of children and families with special needs at many levels, Sue has particular passion and expertise around a number of topic areas, including achieving permanence for older adolescents, the importance of the sibling bond, the impact of adoption and foster care on children’s development, the lifelong value of birth family connections for adopted children, and spiritual development for children in adoption and foster care. In addition, she has a strong belief that the multiple systems in which children and families become involved – child welfare, courts, education, mental health, physical health, developmental disabilities, etc – must learn to better communicate and collaborate to best serve children and families.

Sue and her husband, Hector, are the lifetime parents of twenty-two children, two by birth and twenty adopted. They have also served as foster parents for more than 50 children in three states, and as a host family for refugee youth from Sudan, Kosovo and Guatemala. Recently, their 30th grandchild and first 2 great-grandchildren were born. They have won numerous awards for their work, including being recognized by President Clinton with an “Adoption Excellence” award for their work on behalf of adoption and children in foster care.

Sarah Carnochan is the Research Director for the Bay Area Social Services Consortium and the Mack Center on Nonprofit Management in the Human Services at the School of Social Welfare, University of California, Berkeley. Dr. Carnochan’s research interests relate to social service delivery systems, organizational change and learning, evidence informed practice, and policy implementation in social service organizations. Specific projects have examined the relationships between legal and child welfare professionals in the juvenile dependency system, and the development of supports for evidence informed practice in child welfare agencies. As an attorney and a social worker she has worked with nonprofit legal services, transitional housing, and community based advocacy organizations. She completed her Ph.D., M.S.W. and J.D. at the University of California, Berkeley.

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Hon. Michael V. Coccoma is a Justice of the New York State Supreme Court. He was appointed as Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for Courts Outside New York City in May 2009 by Chief Administrative Judge Ann Pfau. In his new position, Judge Coccoma is responsible for managing the courts in the 57 counties outside of New York City. Judge Coccoma is a graduate of The Citadel and earned his J.D. at Albany Law School.

He began his career in private practice and served as Otsego County Attorney and Assistant District Attorney before being elected as District Attorney in 1991. He was elected to his first term as a multi-bench judge of County Court, Family Court and Surrogate's Court in Otsego County in 1994. Five years later, Judge Coccoma was appointed Presiding Judge of the then newly-created Otsego County Drug Treatment Court. In 2004, he ran unopposed for his reelection to County Court. Judge Coccoma was appointed an Acting Supreme Court Justice in 2000 and elected to the Supreme Court in 2008. From May of 2008 until May of 2009 he served as Administrative Judge for the Sixth Judicial District.

In addition to this experience, Judge Coccoma has served on important state-wide committees including the New York State Matrimonial Commission and the Family Court Advisory and Rules Committee, and as a member of the Law Guardian Advisory and Rules Committee for the Third Department. He also participated in the Otsego County Children's Center Committee, which created a safe haven for young family members awaiting hearings. He serves currently as a member of the New York Family Court Judicial Leadership Team.

Michele Cortese, Esq. is the Deputy Director of the Center for Family Representation in New York City and has held that position since November of 2002. CFR is a law and policy organization that works with families where there is a risk of a child entering foster care: CFR provides legal and social work support to parents during child welfare investigations and in child protective proceedings, provides training and technical assistance to professionals working with families and participates in numerous policy initiatives to support parent engagement and family reunification at the city, state and national level. Since joining CFR, Ms. Cortese has conducted more than 150 training sessions, and has supervised the development of interdisciplinary models of representation for parents in child welfare cases. CFR currently works with more than 500 new families each year.

In addition to representing parents, Ms. Cortese served as an Attorney for the Child (law guardian) for over a dozen years and has also represented foster care agencies in trial and appellate proceedings. She worked at the NYC Legal Aid Society Juvenile Rights Practice, as the Director of Professional Development, where she coordinated and conducted training citywide for attorney, social work, paralegal and management staff. She also served as the Attorney-In-Charge of JRP's Manhattan trial office that represented 12,000 children annually in child protective, delinquency and PINS proceedings. She is frequently asked to train and consult with a variety of agencies, including the Administration for Children's Services and Court Appointed Special Advocates. Ms. Cortese has been a member of the faculty of the Practicing Law Institute, the New York State Judicial Institute and the Child Welfare League of America, and has written for the American Bar Association's Center on Children and the Law. Ms. Cortese is a graduate of Columbia University School of Law and Colgate University.

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John Mattingly was appointed Commissioner of New York City's Administration for Children's Services (ACS) on July 6, 2004. ACS was established in January 1996 as the first agency in New York City's history solely devoted to serving children. The agency is responsible for child protective, foster care, adoption and child care services. For the past five years, Commissioner Mattingly has led a wide scale child safety reform effort focused on improving child protective investigations, enhancing the safety and well-being of children in foster care, and enhancing the quality of support services provided to children and families who have come into contact with the child welfare system. His innovations have included the ChildStat performance evaluation system, the hiring of former law enforcement professionals as Investigative Consultants, and the Improved Outcomes for Children initiative.

In January 2010, Mr. Mattingly was also appointed by the Mayor as Commissioner of the NYC Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), which provides custody and care to juveniles under the age of 16 who are involved in the City's juvenile justice system. Through the planned integration of child welfare and juvenile justice, the Agency will work under Commissioner Mattingly's leadership to increase public safety and improve outcomes for these young people by placing them on the path toward school, work and successful adulthood.

Before his appointment at ACS, Mr. Mattingly served as Director of Human Service Reforms at the Annie E. Casey Foundation, a national foundation headquartered in Baltimore and dedicated to helping build better futures for disadvantaged children and families. At the Foundation, Mr. Mattingly designed and for 12 years managed the Family to Family foster care initiative and was also the Foundation's team leader for child welfare policy. From 1998 to 2001, he served as a member of the New York City Special Child Welfare Advisory Panel, whose work helped end two child welfare class action lawsuits in the City. He also helped to mediate a class action case against the state of Tennessee in 2001 and 2003 and convened a similar panel currently operating in that state.

Prior to joining the Foundation, Mr. Mattingly served for more than six years as the Executive Director of Lucas County Children Services, the public child welfare agency serving the Toledo, Ohio area. Mr. Mattingly has also served as Executive Director of the Institute for Child Advocacy in Cleveland and the West Side Community House in that city. Prior to that, he directed the statewide effort to remove juveniles from Pennsylvania's adult correctional system known as the Camp Hill Project.

Mr. Mattingly received a Ph.D. in community systems planning from Pennsylvania State University and a Master of Social Work from the University of Pittsburgh. He and his wife Linda live in Queens, and have two grown children.

Nancy Miller is the Director of the Permanency Planning for Children Department (PPCD) of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. Nancy came to the Council in February, 2007. The PPCD assists courts across the country to improve their practice in child abuse and neglect cases. PPCD also conducts research, provides cutting edge training to judges and other system stakeholders, and publishes numerous technical assistance publications to assist courts in improving practice.

Nancy previously served as the Deputy State Court Administrator for Program Operations for the Oregon Judicial Department. She worked in several capacities for the Judicial Department for nineteen years before

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coming to the Council. She was responsible for court improvement activities in juvenile, civil, family, and criminal law. She also directed judicial and employee education and strategic planning for the Judicial Department. In this capacity, she also served as the Director of the Citizen Foster Care Review Board program, the Oregon Court Interpreter Services program, and the Juvenile Court Improvement Project. She served as one of the Judicial Department's primary legislative liaisons.

Nancy has worked in the child welfare and juvenile justice field for almost 30 years. She received her Bachelor's Degree in psychology from the University of Florida in 1974 and did graduate work at Oregon State University. She has worked as a Juvenile Court Probation Officer, a child welfare agency protective services caseworker, and as a Residential Treatment Center Program Coordinator.

Hon. James Payne, a graduate of DePauw University and the Indiana University Law School, is currently the Director of the Indiana Department of Child Services. He was appointed by Governor Mitch Daniels in 2004 to head up the newly created Department of Child Services. DCS is an agency with 3,000 employees responsible for child protection services and child support. DCS is receiving national recognition for its efforts to improve child protection in Indiana and its CFSR results demonstrate that. Prior to being appointed by Governor Daniels he served the last 20 years as the Juvenile Court Judge in Marion County, Indiana. During that tenure he was responsible for the development of case management software for juvenile justice and many statewide and national award winning programs.

Judge Payne speaks frequently around the country on issues of delinquency, abuse and neglect, case management and juvenile justice practice and policy. He has served on many Boards and Executive Committees developing Juvenile Court policy both in Indiana and throughout the Country. Judge Payne was featured in a Dateline NBC and MSNBC special "For Their Own Good," a documentary addressing child abuse and neglect cases in the Marion County Juvenile Court. This involved allowing cameras to record the hearings and events of abuse and neglect cases and explaining to the public the efforts provided by Courts and the system to protect children, preserve families and provide permanency.

A member of many associations including the Child Welfare League of America, American Public Human Services Association and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, Judge Payne has also received numerous awards including the Distinguished Hoosier Award from the Indiana Governor's Office and the Juvenile Court Judge of the Year award for the State of Indiana.

He has served as a Council Member of the NIAAA, National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. He has also served on an advisory committee for the Federal Government to review the Children and Family Services Review, CFSR. CFSR is the major initiative to improve the child welfare system in each state and to measure that improvement in tangible and measurable outcomes. CFSR is the single most important initiative driving the system to improve itself. Indiana will be a leader in its outcome improvements.

Judge Payne is married to Terrie, his wife of 42 years. They have two children and five grandchildren.

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Hon. Edwina G. Richardson-Mendelson was appointed to the Family Court bench by Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg on January 24, 2003. On February 14, 2008 she was appointed Supervising Judge of Queens County Family Court. On May 7, 2009 she was elevated to Administrative Judge of all New York City Family Courts. Prior to becoming a Judge, Judge Richardson-Mendelson served as a Court Attorney-Referee in Queens County Family Court presiding over post-dispositional child protective proceedings. Prior thereto, Judge Richardson-Mendelson practiced law for ten years as a member of the Assigned Counsel Panel, representing parents and children in New York County Family Court and in Supreme Court matrimonial matters. She also served as the first Staff Attorney with the Sanctuary for Families Center for Battered Women's Legal Services from 1990 to 1991, and with the Bronx County Civil Division of the Legal Aid Society from 1988 to 1989, where she represented indigent clients in Housing Court and in benefits entitlement proceedings.

Judge Richardson-Mendelson graduated from the C.U.N.Y. Law School, Queens College, in 1988. She earned a Master of Philosophy degree in Criminal Justice from the C.U.N.Y. Graduate Center in 2000, and a Ph.D. in Criminal Justice from the C.U.N.Y. Graduate Center in 2002. Judge Richardson-Mendelson taught courses in criminal law, constitutional law, evidence, and administration of justice as an adjunct professor in the Law and Police Science Department at John Jay College of Criminal Justice from 1990 to 2000, and she lectures frequently on Family Law issues. She serves on numerous committees involving family law and children's issues, and chaired the Children and the Law Committee of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York From 1999 to 2001.

Hon. Stephen M. Rubin is in his 23rd year as a member of the Pima County, Arizona bench. He served as a full time Judge Pro Tempore assigned to the juvenile division from 1987 –1995 he was reassigned as a Judge Pro Tempore/ Court Commissioner to the adult division of the court where he served on the criminal bench as a trial division and for 3 ½ years as a family division trial judge. He was reassigned to the Juvenile court in February of 2001. Judge Rubin has served as the lead or co- lead judge of the Tucson Model Court Project since 2002.

Judge Rubin teaches extensively in the fields of both Juvenile and Family Law. He taught Child Abuse and Neglect Law and Practice for three years as an adjunct assistant professor of law at the University of Arizona's James E. Rogers College of Law. He is a frequent presenter at national seminars in the field of child welfare law. He is a co founder of the Child Abuse and Neglect Institute, CANI, an intensive one week training program for Judges. He served as a board member and officer of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. Judge Rubin was President of the Council, 2005-2006.

Bill Stanton has worked as an administrator, trainer and practitioner in the child welfare system for over 25 years. In addition, he is a alumni of foster care, foster parent and a adoptive parent. He began his career as a juvenile probation officer and has developed and implemented many programs involving juvenile delinquency and child welfare issues.

He is currently employed as a Consultant/Technical Specialist with ICF/Caliber Consulting. As a Fellow, Bill provides support to the national review team in conducting the Child and Family Service Reviews (CFSR) in order to assure compliance with the state plan requirements in Title IVB and IVE of the Social Security Act. Utilizing his background in the courts, Bill assists the team in building collaborations with the

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courts and child welfare agencies. In addition, he provides technical assistance to States' in addressing Child Welfare and Court issues.

Prior to joining ICF/Caliber Consulting, Bill was the Division Director of Dependent Children's Services for the Arizona Supreme Court where he lead a division of 58 employees and 1200 volunteers that provide services in four statewide programs. He was responsible for overseeing the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA), the Foster Care Review Board (FCRB), Court Improvement and the Hotline Program, as well as providing assistance to state legislatures, and other policy makers to improve Arizona Child welfare system. He has conducted training for probation officers, law enforcement, court staff and child welfare personnel.

Bill is past Chair of the board of directors of Foster Care Alumni of America. This organization that was started by Alumni of the foster care provides insight into the experiences of adults who spent time in foster care. They meet with policy makers to educate and advocates for changes.

Tamara A. Steckler is the Attorney-in-Charge of the Juvenile Rights Division of the Legal Aid Society in New York City (JRD), supervising a staff of 325 attorneys, social workers and paralegals who represent over 30,000 children and young adults per year in child welfare, delinquency, PINS, appellate and impact litigation proceedings in all five boroughs. After law school, Tamara worked as a staff attorney for JRD in the Bronx trial office, then became the Legal Director for Talbot Perkins Foster Care Agency and then continued her work with JRD in the Brooklyn trial office. In 1994, Tamara left JRD to become the Director of the Family Law Unit for a growing not for profit law firm, New York Legal Assistance Group (NYLAG). While at NYLAG, Tamara started and supervised a full-service family law program in which staff represented thousands of impoverished domestic violence victims and others in Family and Supreme Courts. After two years, Tamara also became the Assistant Executive Director of NYLAG and served as the Development Director for two years. Tamara returned to JRD in 2005 as the Attorney-in-Charge. She is active in numerous state and city working groups and task forces addressing issues of child welfare and juvenile justice, including the Governor's Task Force on Transforming Juvenile Justice, the New York State Task for on the Future of Probation, the Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children, and is a Board member with the National Association of Counsel for Children. She has also recently published an article entitled, "*Litigating Racism: Exposing Injustice in Juvenile Prosecutions*", which was published in the Rutgers Law Review.

Gilbert Taylor has been the Deputy Commissioner for Family Court Legal Services (FCLS) at NYC Children's Services since April of 2008. In this role his duties include managing and directing a division of 500 staff, comprised of attorneys assigned in the Family Court litigation units in all five boroughs, as well as the agency's Juvenile Justice Initiative Program (JJI) which employs evidence-based therapeutic interventions to improve outcomes for youth involved with the juvenile justice system. Mr. Taylor also oversees the agency's Family Assessment Program (FAP) which is responsible for all PINS diversion work in New York City.

Prior to becoming Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Taylor served as the Associate Commissioner for Child Protective Operations in the Division of Child Protection at ACS for two and a half years. In this position Mr. Taylor worked with a staff of over 3000 people and managed the implementation of major child welfare

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initiatives, including the agency's trailblazing ChildStat management tool. He provided direct oversight on all operations in the division in conjunction with the Deputy Commissioner, the five Borough Commissioners and the Assistant Commissioners for the Office of Special Investigations (OSI) and Emergency Children's Services (ECS).

For five and half years prior to returning to Children's Services, Mr. Taylor served as the Attorney-in-Charge and Executive Director of The Children's Rights Society, Inc., the designated agency law guardian office in Orange County New York, representing children on all family court proceedings in the county.

Prior to holding this position, Mr. Taylor served for four years as an Attorney Supervisor with NYC ACS in the Queens County Family Court Unit; and before that he practiced law in the private and not-for-profit sectors in New York City.

Gilbert Taylor has his law degree from the University of Illinois – College of Law and has a Bachelors Degree from Cornell University.

Hon. Sharon S. Townsend was appointed Vice Dean for Family and Matrimonial Law of the New York State Judicial Institute in May 2009. Judge Townsend will provide advice, mentoring and support throughout the state to judges handling Family Court and matrimonial cases, and will chair the court system's Matrimonial Advisory Committee. Hon. Sharon S. Townsend was appointed Administrative Judge of the Eighth Judicial District on January 1, 2003, the first woman to be named to this position in this district and the first Family Court Judge in the State to be appointed Administrative Judge. Judge Townsend was elected to the New York State Supreme Court in November, 2003. Judge Townsend was previously elected to the Erie County Family Court in 1991 and was re-elected to a second 10 year term in November, 2001. In 1996, Judge Townsend was named Supervising Judge of the Family Court of the Eighth Judicial District.

Prior to her election to the Family Court bench, Judge Townsend was a Village Justice in the Village of Williamsville for seven years. A native of Connecticut, she is a graduate of the University of Rochester and the University of Connecticut School of Law.

Judge Townsend served on the Board of Trustees and has served as lead judge for the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges' Victims' Model Court Act project. Judge Townsend is a member of the Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children and chairs the Court Improvement Project Advisory Committee. Judge Townsend previously served as chair of the Family Court Advisory and Rules Committee for the New York State Office of Court Administration for four years.

Judge Townsend has been recognized for her work on behalf of children and families and has received numerous awards.

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Laura Velez has a Masters Degree in Social Work and 25 years of human services experience in a variety of management capacities. Her experience includes work in New York City with runaway and homeless youth, directing an outpatient substance abuse treatment program, and holding local government positions in mental health and child welfare. She spent six and a half years as the Director of Children and Family Services in Schenectady County overseeing child protective, foster care, adoption, and child care services. Her most recent experiences include serving for one year as the Executive Assistant to Commissioner Carrion at the NYS Office of Children and Family Services, and is currently the Deputy Commissioner for Child Welfare and Community Services.

Frank Woods is Coordinator of the New York State Unified Court System's Child Welfare Court Improvement Project, a federally-funded initiative that provides technical assistance to the Family Courts to support their efforts to engage in continuous quality improvement and fulfill their mandate to ensure the safety, permanency and well being of children who are the subject of abuse and neglect proceedings and to protect the due process rights of litigants. Mr. Woods was previously Assistant Coordinator of the Office of Alternative Dispute Resolution Programs, where his responsibilities included the development of the state's first child welfare mediation pilot programs.

Prior to joining the court system, Mr. Woods held a variety of executive management positions in not-for-profit organizations. He has taught courses in social problems, criminal justice and conflict resolution at both St. John's University and SUNY Binghamton.

Mr. Woods earned a B.S. in Human Service Studies from Cornell University and an M.S.W. from Columbia University School of Social Work.

Fred Wulczyn is a Research Fellow at Chapin Hall center for Children at the University of Chicago. He is the recipient of the National Association of Public Child Welfare Administrators' (NAPCWA) Peter Forsythe Award for leadership in public child welfare. Wulczyn is lead author of *Beyond Common Sense: Child Welfare, Child Well-Being, and the Evidence for Policy Reform* (Aldine Transation, 2005) and co-editor of *Child Protection: Using Research to Improve Policy and Practice* (Brookings Institution, 2007). Wulczyn is director of the Center for State Foster Care and Adoption Data, which provides cutting edge information technology to states for use in research and management. His expertise includes analysis of administrative data, being an architect of Chapin Hall's Multi-State Foster Care Data Archive and constructed the original integrated longitudinal database on children's services in Illinois. Other areas of expertise include foster care, child maltreatment, child welfare services, fiscal policy, research and evaluation methodology, program design and evaluation, epidemiology and public health, administrative data and community-based services. The databases he has developed give state administrators a powerful capacity to analyze key child welfare outcomes, compare outcomes across agencies and jurisdictions, project future services patterns, test the impact of policy and service innovations, and monitor progress.

Wulczyn designed two major social experiments: the Child Assistance Program and the HomeRebuilders Program. The Child Assistance Program was awarded the Innovations in Government award from Harvard University and the Ford Foundation. Wulczyn developed the nation's first proposal to change the federal law limiting the ability of states to design innovative child welfare programs, which then led to the development of the Title IV-E waiver programs now used by 25 states to undertake system reform.