

Julia F. Weber, Esq., MSW

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Experience

Senior Policy Advisor, Masa Group, Gun Violence Prevention July 2023-Current

Consult on firearm violence prevention policies and procedures and the intersection of firearms and domestic violence

Consultant/Trainer/Expert Witness/Mediator *Private Practice, San Francisco* **May 2017-Current**

- Consult & present on firearm violence prevention policies and procedures and the intersection of firearms and domestic violence; gender-based violence policies & access to justice; trauma-informed approaches to providing court-connected services; child custody matters; child welfare/abuse/neglect policies; race and gender bias prevention; tech, law, and ethics; court administration; children's participation in court; online dispute resolution; and using visuals in legal communication
- Design customized curricula for court staff, judges, attorneys, mental health professionals and others
- Provide policy guidance and legislative drafting on extreme risk protection orders (ERPOs) and domestic violence matters
- Keynote presenter and workshop faculty at state and national conferences
- Expert witness/consultant on intimate partner violence court cases
- Facilitate organizational retreats, strategic-planning processes, & community convenings
- Clients have included/include: UC Davis' Violence Prevention Research Program on firearms & restraining order research; Institute on the Advancement of the American Legal System (IAALS); Battered Women's Justice Project's National Center on Gun Violence in Relationships; Giffords; Hope & Heal; California Partnership to End Domestic Violence; Judicial Council of California
- Child custody mediator in private practice and during 2019, for Mendocino County, CA Court

Director *National Center on Gun Violence in Relationships & National Resource Center on Domestic Violence and Firearms* **Jan. 2023-April 2023**

- Led national effort to improve the development, implementation and enforcement of gender-based and relationship violence-related firearm laws by communities, states, and federal government agencies
- Collaborated with a diverse group of partners to achieve the project's objectives, including development of an emergency response to communities experiencing gun homicides
- Developed policies and procedures with local jurisdictions
- Provided training & technical assistance on legal issues and relevant social science research
- Supervised staff, participated in fundraising and budget processes; served on Senior Leadership Team

Implementation Director/Fellow

Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence, San Francisco

Oct. 2018-Jan 2023

- Led efforts to implement gun safety laws nationally with an emphasis on intimate partner violence prevention, restraining order policies, criminal legal system procedures, and community-building
- Worked with local, state, and national organizations to develop & identify promising practices; convene community leaders to implement existing laws; advocated for improved policies and

procedures on firearms violence prevention; served on committees in multiple states; served as subject matter expert on domestic violence, court administration, systemic change/implementation, legal remedies; drafted legislation; collaborated with survivors

- Trained over 3,000 professionals and volunteers and regularly presented
- Collaborated on approaches to ensuring equity and inclusion around gun violence prevention
- Significant accomplishments include co-drafting legislation changing California's approach to civil domestic violence firearm relinquishment procedures (SB 320) and successfully advocating for a \$40 million budget allocation for implementation
- Wrote implementation toolkit for gun violence prevention laws; developed brochure, website, and related publications to support implementation nationally
- Managed judicial consultant contract for retired judge position
- Collaborated with partner-agencies/colleagues nationally on policies, training & technical assistance
- Media contact on domestic violence and extreme risk protection order issues
- Prior to establishment of director position, hired to implement gun violence restraining order policies; initiated and led statewide convenings for courts, attorneys, law enforcement and social service providers

Adjunct Professor *Golden Gate University School of Law, San Francisco* **Fall 2016-Current**

- Develop and teach law school seminar course on Domestic Violence Law each Fall semester

Consultant *Safer Schools Sexual Assault Task Force, San Francisco* **Oct. 2016-Dec. 2017**

- Led innovative task force addressing sexual assault on college and university campuses
- Conducted research on federal, state, and local policies on sexual assault; crafted recommendations for Task Force approval; wrote final policy report for Board of Supervisors and Commission on the Status of Women with the Dept. on the Status of Women

Supervising Attorney *Judicial Council of California, Center for Families, Children & the Courts, San Francisco* **Aug. 1999-April 2017**

- Managed statewide policy projects on domestic violence; protective/restraining orders; family and juvenile law; child custody mediation; child welfare; access to justice; bias prevention; improving public trust and confidence in courts; self-represented litigant issues; court coordination; firearm prohibitions; unified courts; collaborative courts; and court administration issues
- Supervised team of attorneys, administrative staff, analysts
- Lead staff/co-counsel to Family and Juvenile Law Advisory Committee; staffed Domestic Violence Practice and Procedure Task Force, Elkins Family Law Task Force, and Domestic Violence Institute; supervised work of Access and Fairness Advisory Committee addressing racial, ethnic, and gender bias
- Faculty/curricula planner/developer for statewide educational programs for court staff and judges
- Provided subject matter expertise/technical assistance to courts and policymakers on domestic violence; family law; children's participation in court; mental health issues; privacy concerns in family law cases; court-connected mediation; co-authored first California study of domestic violence courts
- Drafted policies/legislation/legal opinions and reports
- Oversaw/managed grants; developed budgets; provided grant reports to funders

Lecturer and Advisor *Washington University, Women's Studies, St. Louis* **Aug. 1995-May 1999**

- Developed & taught undergraduate courses on race, gender, and law and violence against women
- Advised dual degree (JD/MSW) students (1997-1999)

Attorney *Private Law, Mediation, and Consulting Practice, St. Louis* **Sept. 1995-May 1999**

- Represented children in high conflict family law matters
- Directed/staffed and obtained grants for the first Family Violence Council in St. Louis City
- Mediated and consulted on family law and domestic violence cases and policies

Social Worker *Domestic Relations Services, St. Louis County Family Court* **Aug. 1994-March 1996**

- Met with parents and children to provide services related to child custody conflicts
- Mediated child custody cases; testified; supervised parent/child visits/conducted home visits
- Developed/trained on screening approaches for handling domestic violence/ abuse cases

Education, Awards, Memberships

- **J.D.**, Washington University School of Law, St. Louis, 1994; top 15%
 - *Recipient, National Association of Women Lawyers Outstanding Law Graduate Award*
- **MSW**, Washington University, George Warren Brown School of Social Work, St. Louis, 1994
- **B.A.**, Women's Studies Major, Political Science Minor, Washington University, St. Louis, 1989
- **Member**, California State Bar; California Partnership to End Domestic Violence
- **Member**, Pitzer College Family Leadership Council
- **OutLAW** (LGBTQ+ student group), Washington University in St. Louis, Founder Award Recipient, 2017
- **Fammy Award Recipient**, for work on transracial adoption, JFCS, San Francisco, 2007
- Completed **Certified Mediation Training**, 1994 (40 hours at University of Missouri, St. Louis)

Examples of Work

Written Work

["Texas Court's Radical Firearms Decision Jeopardizes Domestic Violence Survivors," National Domestic Violence Report, Vol. 28, No. 04, April/May 2023, pp. 57-65\(9\)](#)

["New Federal Gun Laws and the Bruen Case," National Domestic Violence Report, Vol. 28, No. 04, April/May 2023, pp. 97-98](#)

["Implementation Challenges Plague Firearm Relinquishment Laws," National Domestic Violence Report, Vol. 27, Number 06, August/September 2022, pp.85-90\(6\)](#)

"Three kids killed in a church shooting illustrates the flaws of our domestic violence laws," op-ed, special to *The Sacramento Bee*, March 6, 2022

["COVID-19 Puts Domestic Violence Survivors at Even Greater Risk,"](#) Giffords blog, March 31, 2020

[“Civil Courts and the Coronavirus.”](#) Giffords blog, April 15, 2020

“Dramatic Spike in Firearms Sales During COVID-19 Endangers Survivors,” with Lindsay Nichols, *National Domestic Violence Report*, Volume 25, Number 06, August/September 2020, pp.101-105(5)

“California Courts Change to Meet Evolving Needs of Families,” Univ. of Baltimore UFCC Newsletter, April 2019

[Gun Safety Laws Implementation Toolkit](#), Giffords

[“Domestic Violence Courts: Components and Considerations,”](#) CFCC Journal (30+citations)

Legislative Policies and Reports

Collaborated on drafting SB 320 (eff. 2022), California’s civil domestic violence firearms relinquishment procedures

Staffed development of various rules and forms addressing domestic violence, mediation, child custody, and family law issues, including: [California Rules of Court 5.215, 5.235, 5.250, 5.240, 5.440, 5.445, 5.495, 4.700](#) and [Family Law Forms FL 313-/ 314-INFO; FL329-INFO](#)

Task Force/Court Report Examples
[Elkins Family Law Task Force Report](#)
[Domestic Violence Practice & Procedure Report Unified Court Coordination](#)
[National Portrait of Domestic Violence Courts](#)

Select Presentations

Panelist, Center for the Study of Guns and Society’s Symposium, “Lessons from History on Domestic Violence, Firearms, and the Law,” Wesleyan University, May 5, 2022

Keynote, Santa Clara County Domestic Violence Conference, October 21, 2022

Co-presenter with Hon. Sherrill Ellsworth (ret.) on federal and state firearm relinquishment policies in IPV cases for Prosecutors Alliance Webinar, Sept. 15, 2022

[“Death Anxiety and Gun Violence,”](#) Moderator Ernest Becker Foundation panel discussion webinar, Sept. 13, 2022

“Domestic Violence and Firearms: Research on Legal Policies,” University of Texas, Austin, School of Public Health course presentation, Sept. 9, 2022

Panelist and Moderator on DV 101 and Restraining Orders & Firearms Panels at San Mateo County Convening on Firearm Relinquishment, Mar. 11, 2022

“Domestic Violence & Firearms Legal Update: What You Need to Know,” co-presenter with Hon. Mark. A. Juhas, Judicial Council of California, Feb. 8 & March 21, 2022

[“Beyond Solidarity: Awareness, Accountability, and Action,”](#) panelist, Pitzer College True Equity Series, Nov. 16, 2021

“Family Law Parenting Cases, Abuse, and Gun Violence: What We Can Do,” Bar Association of San Francisco Panelist, Oct. 14, 2021

Domestic Violence & Firearms Conversation, panelist for Battered Women’s Justice Project/Giffords event, October 6, 2021

[“True Equity: Systemic Change,”](#) Moderator for panel discussion with Pitzer College Pres. Melvin Oliver and Angela Blackwell, Feb. 13, 2021

Domestic Violence and Firearms Workshop Panelist for NCADV Pre-Conference Institute, Oct. 25, 2020

"What Family Law Professionals Can Do About Gun Violence,"
Assoc. of Certified Family Law Specialists,
Webinar, [May 29, 2020](#)

"UCCJEA, Domestic Violence, and Child Custody," Statewide Family and Juvenile Judges Training, Nashville, Tennessee, February 24, 2020

"Gun Violence Retraining Orders: Implementation," UC Irvine, School of Law, February 28, 2020

"Mental Health Providers Addressing Gun Violence," NASW Statewide Conference, November 2, 2019

"Domestic Violence: A Cross-Sectional Approach to Effecting Change," panelist, [Commonwealth Club, Oct. 29, 2019](#) (click for audio/podcast)

Testimony for California's Little Hoover Commission on Intimate Partner Violence (video: <https://lhc.ca.gov/report/intimate-partner-violence>), Oct. 24, 2019

Keynote and Presenter, "Working with Today's Families," and "Ethical Considerations in Ordering & Referring Litigants to Family Law Apps," AFCC, Wisconsin, Statewide Conference, Oct. 4, 2019

"Gun Violence and Domestic Violence Prevention: Working with Families," Santa Clara Court, three-hour training for family court services professionals, Aug. 16, 2019

Presentation to San Mateo Law Enforcement Officers on Gun Violence Restraining Orders, June 2019

"Tools for Preventing Gun Violence," San Francisco Interfaith Council, May 9, 2019

"Gun Violence Prevention and Response: Understanding and Implementing Firearms DA Event), San Francisco, April 25, 2019

"Working with Today's Families: Tech, Apps, and Ethics," Judicial Council of California, Family Law Institute, Keynote Address, Los Angeles, April 12, 2019

Supervised Visitation Training, Faculty, Los Angeles, April 12, 2019

"Starting with Families to Prevent Gun Violence," Family Law Conference, Los Angeles, April 11, 2019

"Family Law Apps: Making Orders and Referrals,"
Judicial Training, Vancouver, Feb. 14, 2019

"Addressing Bias in Domestic Violence Cases," Queens Bench, San Francisco, Nov. 7, 2018

"Trauma-Informed Approaches to Providing Court Services," addressing the impact of trauma, for clerks/ court staff, San Francisco Superior Court, Oct. 25, 2018

"Providing Court Services to Millennials," (bias prevention program), California Judges Association Conference, San Diego, Sept. 14, 2018

"Using Visuals and Tech to Communicate About the Law," (Domestic Violence MCLE), Self-Help Center Conference, San Francisco, Aug. 24, 2018

"Millennials, Tech, and Family Law," AFCC Chapter Lunch and Learn Presentation, Chicago, Aug. 20, 2018

"Does It Really Work to Not Meet In Person? Online Dispute Resolution in Parenting Disputes," co-presented w/Hon. Sherrill Ellsworth

(ret.) AFCC International Conference,
Washington, DC, June 8, 2018

"Improving Access to Legal Information: Using
Visuals, Plain Language and Tech," Napa
Court, June 1, 2018

"Family Court Services: Domestic Violence
Legal and Research Update", Orange County
Court, April 12, 2018

"Using and Testing Visuals to Improve Access to
Justice," with Christopher Griffin, Harvard
University Access to Justice Lab, Self-
Represented Litigant Network Conference,
Feb. 23, 2018

"Domestic Violence Legal and Research
Update: Working with Tech and Today's
Families," Los Angeles Superior Court (4 hours),
Jan. 25, 2018

"Victims Reclaiming Technology: Becoming
"Techsafe" in a World of Cyber-abuse,
Harassment, and Hacking," co-presented with
NCEDV, Beyond
the Bench, San Diego, Dec. 20, 2017

"Perspectives of Victims and Survivors: Court
and Community Challenges," National Center
for Victims of Crime, Portland Conference,
Dec. 4, 2017

"The Millennials are Coming," AFCC Midwest
Regional Conference, Milwaukee, Nov. 4, 2017

San Francisco District Attorney Red Zone Sexual
Assault Prevention and Response Event,
Moderator,
Panel on Sexual Assault Cases, Sept. 14, 2017

"Judicial Branch History, Procedures & Policies,"

Presentation for visiting judges from India, UC
Berkeley, Aug. 22-31, 2017 (planned curricula
and presented)

"New Mediator Training: Domestic Violence
Law, Research, and Procedures," Judicial
Council, Los Angeles, April 2017 (taught and
planned multi-day training annually 2000-2017)

"Domestic Violence Legal and Research
Update,"
Los Angeles Superior Court, January 19, 2017

"Domestic Violence Update: New Laws and
Addressing Bias in Our Work," w/Kyanna
Williams,
AFCC Chapter Conference, San Francisco,
February 19, 2016

Domestic Violence Institute, Faculty for Judicial
Officer Training, Judicial Council, San Francisco,
May 9-12, 2016

"Putting Survivors at Risk: Exploring and
Challenging
Personal Bias About Violence in Our Work,"
Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence,
Marianna Rural DV Statewide Training Institute,
May 26, 2016

"What Happens After a Dependency Case is
Dismissed?" & "We Need to Talk! Handling
Domestic Violence Cases That Appear in
Multiple Courts," Beyond the Bench, Anaheim,
December 2, 2015

1999-2017: Annual and regular statutory /rule-
based trainings provided for family law child
custody mediators, child welfare social workers,
judicial officers, attorneys, and court staff
throughout California