



## Interstate F.A.C.T.S., LLC.

FORENSIC ASSESSMENT, CONSULTATION, TRAINING & SUPERVISION

Integrated Service ~ Professional Growth

Kathryn A. Dixon, MSW, LCSW, LMSW - Executive Director

*Diplomate American Board of Forensic Counselors, Fellow American College Forensic Examiners Institute*

*PACE, Nationally Certified Parent Coordinator / Nationally Certified Custody Evaluator*

*NJ License# 44SC01011300 ~ NY License# 043467 ~ NPI# 1730328451*

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### QUALIFIED EXPERT STATEMENT

As a consultant to social workers, attorneys and individuals I apply my experience, education and training to criminal and family part cases that raise concerns around multiple, complex issues wherein the parents', or defendants', mental health and/or substance use may be a factor. I have provided formal and informal consultation to more than 100 attorneys and have testified at more than 100 hearings. A unique factor in my credibility is my background of twenty-five years in the social work field as a counselor-psychotherapist, adjunct professor of sociology & social work, as well as several years serving as a judges' expert T.A.S.C. evaluator and the Statewide Coordinator of the Adult Criminal New Jersey Drug Court program.

I am a practicing licensed clinical social worker with Court experience and have been qualified as an expert witness by the Superior Court of the State of New Jersey. Forensic specialization includes family systems, addiction and mental health disorders. My practice consists of offering a range of services to a broad spectrum of clients. These clients include individuals with a variety of addiction disorders, family, marital and other mental health or family functioning issues. Services include diagnostic evaluations for mental health and addiction, divorce mediation/ parent coordination, parenting and custody evaluations, individual & family therapy, agency consultation, training for non-mental health and criminal justice professionals, and clinical supervision of other social workers.

I have trained and served as a consultant to agencies that include outpatient substance abuse treatment centers, as well as a variety of agencies providing services for youth with special needs, adolescents, and people with co-occurring disorders. During my employment in the New Jersey Judiciary, I provided training and technical assistance to the 15 Vicinage Criminal Drug Court Judges and Court team personnel regarding treatment for addiction and emotional problems. I train colleagues in preparation for becoming licensed social workers, as well as providing several courses related to applying clinical social work skills in forensic settings. I am also an Adjunct Professor teaching related courses to those students who are preparing to become social workers and criminal justice professionals.

I have provided forensic evaluations and expert testimony in family court in both New York (1988-1991) and New Jersey (1993-present). I have extensive *testimonial* experience, and have provided expert evaluation reports and testimony in several counties in NJ, as well as the Boroughs of NYC. I have been appointed (2007-present) by NJ Superior Court Judges as a Parent Coordinator in family court, high conflict matrimonial matters.

Case types have included: diagnostic evaluations and treatment recommendations, child welfare termination of parental rights verses reunification, pre & post judgment of divorce child custody, visitation/parenting time domestic violence & weapons forfeiture cases, and particularly cases which have involved substance abuse/addiction and/or mental health disorders. Additional subject matter expert case types have included: institutional child abuse & mandated reporter, battered women's syndrome & PTSD, grandparent visitation & attachment/ psychological parent, wrongful death, and reunification & parental alienation syndrome.

## **PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE & EDUCATION**

- Since 1994: Licensed Clinical Social Worker (L.C.S.W.) - New Jersey State #44SC01011300
- Since 1991: Licensed Master Social Worker (L.M.S.W.) - New York State # 043467 – 1
- May 1991: M.S.W., Fordham University, Graduate School of Social Service, Tarrytown, New York, Administration track, Advanced Placement.
- May 1988: B.S.W., University of New Hampshire, College of Liberal Arts, Durham, New Hampshire, Major: Social Work Clinical Program, Minor: Justice Studies. *Graduate recipient of the University Women's Award, for demonstration of consistent leadership, loyalty, scholarship and service.*

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## **EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

### **Interstate F.A.C.T.S., LLC. Founder, Est. January 2007. Hackensack, NJ**

Executive Director - Forensic Assessment, Counseling/Consultation, Training & Supervision

Forensic social work specialty practice providing expert & diagnostic/clinical services to court involved individuals; expertise in complex cases including adults & children with co-occurring disorders. Design and provide individualized direct services: assessment, counseling & supervision; development and facilitation of continuing education, training and client/consumer education programs; integration of client services among mental health, addiction, child welfare and other legal systems; provide mentoring and clinical supervision to social workers, addiction counselors and criminal justice professionals.

Training, Consultation, Program Evaluation & Development: The Center for Alcohol & Drug Resources (Hackensack, NJ) Creating Healthy Attitudes in Teens (CHAT) first offenders diversion program (2009-2010); NJ Community Development Program (Paterson, NJ) Independence House, residential program for aging-out teens and young adults (2009-2010); Child Welfare Training Partnership, Montclair State University, lecturer / trainer for DCP&P Child Welfare caseworkers & supervisors: *Understanding the NJ Anti-Bullying Law for Caseworkers; Casework with Substance Abuse/Mental Health involved parents in Child Welfare* (2011-2015).

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**March 2003 – December 2006 Trenton, N.J., Statewide Drug Court Coordinator, State of New Jersey, Administrative Office of the Court, Criminal Practice Division** – Developed and provided training for interdisciplinary drug court staff; ongoing development of policies and procedures of the Drug Court in accordance with Federal and State guidelines; collaborate with a variety of agencies and stakeholders (e.g. Prosecutor's Office, Office of the Public Defender, Probation Services, Police and Sheriff's Departments, Mental Health, Social Services, etc); coordinate information and responsibilities related to the Drug Court; acts as liaison to governmental agencies, Vicinage Superior Courts, law enforcement agencies, etc.; identify statewide resources for the Drug Court Program; collaborate with treatment providers to discuss and review treatment issues with Drug Court and Drug Court participants. Administrative Office of the Court, Staff to committees: Statewide Drug Court Steering Committee, Statewide Workgroups and Focus Groups with Drug Court Coordinators, TASC Evaluators, Probation Officers, Public Defenders and Prosecutors, and the Division of Addiction Services and treatment providers involved with Drug Court.

**February 1999 – March 2003 Hackensack, N.J., Substance Abuse Evaluator/ Senior Probation Officer, State of New Jersey, Bergen County Superior Court, Family Division** – Developed and implemented Treatment Assessment Services for the Courts (TASC); chemical dependency diagnostic evaluations for the Family Division, including child support/ visitation, domestic violence and weapons forfeiture cases; provide recommendations regarding treatment and child custody / parenting time issues to nine Family Part Judges; collateral contacts with diverse treatment providers and agencies; budgeting supplies; coordinate with Judges and court teams for case management; communication with attorneys, pro se litigants and treatment facilities regarding progress/ status updates.

**April 1997 – February 1999 Saddle Brook, N.J., Adolescent Program Therapist, High Focus Centers, Inc., Morristown site, Adolescent Intensive Outpatient Program** – Evaluation, diagnosis and treatment for chemically involved adolescents with co-occurring mental health diagnoses; evaluation for adult treatment program; case management, group and family therapy.

**September 1991- March 1997 Hackensack, N.J., Youth Services Counselor, Bergen County, Dept. of Human Services, Div. of Family Guidance, Paramus site, Adolescent Substance Abuse Program**  
-Designed and implemented state funded grant program - out-patient after-care treatment for recovering youth; program development, graduate student supervision, treatment planning, budgeting and case management; individual, family and group therapy; developed adventure, experiential and metaphorical activities for use with adolescents in relapse prevention strategies.

**October 1992- June 1993 Ardsley, N.Y., Student Assistance Counselor, Student Assistance Services, Inc., Mount Vernon High School assignment** – Provided individual and group counseling for students whose parents are chemically dependent; educational presentations, community relations and resource development; conducted evaluations and referrals for youth substance abusers.

**June 1991 – February 1999 New City, NY, Psychotherapy for Children and Families**  
– Private practice and public speaking. Provided individual and family therapy, parent/child conflict resolution, consultation, evaluation and referral. Design and conduct workshops and presentations, such as (1992) “The Uniqueness of the Mother-Daughter Relationship” with mother, MSW/1960.

**October 1990 – June 1991 Spring Valley, N.Y., Overnight Relief Staff at Safe House site of Rockland Family Shelter** – Shelter hotline, crisis counseling, overnight intake, emergency management and assistance to residents with general functioning of the house.

**October 1988- June 1990 Dobbs Ferry, N.Y., Social Worker, St. Christopher's -Jennie Clarkson Child Care, Inc.** – Primary social worker for adolescent girls in residential treatment facility, removed from parental care by the NYC Child Welfare Administration. Conducted individual counseling, home visits, family sessions, recommendations for permanency / reunification, testimony when indicated, case management for families from five boroughs of NYC and Westchester County, N.Y.

### **TESTIMONY:**

-NY Superior Court Family Part hearings: Oct 1988 through September 1990

-NJ Superior Court Family Part hearings: March 1999 through March 2003; and since January 2007

-NJ Senate Judiciary Committee, December 7, 2009 - In support of the *Marriage Equality* bill, as a representative of NASW-NJ. Accessed by date at: <http://www.njleg.state.nj.us>

-NJ Assembly, Women & Children's Committee, June 13, 2013 - In support of a bill banning *Reparative or Conversion Therapy*, as a representative of NASW-NJ. Accessed by date at: <http://www.njleg.state.nj.us>

## **LECTURE EXPERIENCE: COLLEGIATE & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT INSTRUCTION**

- 2017 Spring: Adjunct Professor, Montclair University, Montclair, NJ; Instructor for Seminar in Professional Social Work, The Robert D. McCormick Center for Child Advocacy and Policy
  - 2016 Spring: Adjunct Professor, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ; Instructor for MSW- ACT program, "Addiction Across the Lifespan", Social Work Department & Center for Addiction Studies
  - 2015- present: Adjunct Professor, Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ; Instructor, "Social Work & the Law", and "Family Violence" (2015-spr2017), BSW program, Social Work Department
  - 2015- present : Adjunct Professor, Ramapo College, Mahwah, NJ; Instructor, "Case Management with Substance Abusers" , BSW program, Social Work Department
  - Sept. 2004 to May 2014: Adjunct Professor, Bergen Community College, Paramus, N.J.  
Instructor: Introduction to Human Services; Social Work & Social Welfare Policy; Sociology of the Family; Introduction to Sociology; Social Problems; Introduction to Substance Abuse Counseling; Changing Roles of Women.
  - National Organization of Forensic Social Workers, Manhattan, NY July 26, 2014, *The Impact of Financial Inequality in Family Court* (with A. Coglianese, Esq, MSW, LSW).
  - National Organization of Forensic Social Workers, Seattle, WA April 16, 2013, *Utilizing Advanced Interventions in Parent Coordination* (with A. Coglianese, Esq, MSW, LSW).
  - NJ State Bar Association, LGBT Rights Section, *Symposium on LGBT Youth: Juvenile Justice*  
Panel member: January 17, 2013; September 19, 2014; June 10, 2015.
  - NJ State Bar Association, Pilot-Economic Mediation with DV FRO's; assisting the Panel as a practicum coach: September 21 & 28, 2015.
  - Bergen County Bar Association with Women Lawyers In Bergen, March 22, 2011, *Parent Coordination* (with M. Stokes, Esq.) ; November 19, 2013, *Custody Evaluations* (Panel Member)
- NJ Chapter - National Association of Social Workers Conference, approved Continuing Education provided:
- (2016) Been to Court Yet? Testimony Tips for Social Workers (with A. Coglianese, Esq, LSW)
  - (2015) Reunification: Conflict, Estrangement, Alienation (with A. Coglianese, Esq, LSW)
  - (2014) The Specialized Continuum of Services for Family Court Clients (with A. Coglianese, Esq, LSW)
  - (2013) Custody Evaluations (with A. Coglianese, Esq, LSW)
  - (2012) Supervised Parenting Time
  - (2011) Parent Coordination (with C. Heer, Esq, LCSW)
  - (2009-2013) Social Work and Technology; Social Work Professional Responsibilities & Social Media
  - (2008-2010) Ethical Guidelines for Social Workers in Interdisciplinary Settings
  - (2008-2011) Forensic Social Work; Effective counseling with Court Involved Families
  - (2007) New Jersey's laws impact on LGBT population & contributing toward issues for psychotherapy
  - (2006) New Jersey Judiciary's Adult Criminal Drug Court program
  - (1999) A Toolbox for Substance Abuse Treatment with Adolescents
- 2007-2011: Addictions Professional Certification Board of NJ, Education Provider & Instructor of all topics in 300's, 400's & 500's / view at: <http://certbd.org/courses-that-need-to-be-completed-for-non-degree-training-programs/>
  - March 2003- December 2006 - State of New Jersey Judiciary, Statewide Coordinator of Training & Technical Assistance for the Criminal Practice Division, Drug Court Unit. –Designed & facilitated in-service training programs for multi-disciplinary Drug Court staff on multiple topics, such as: Burnout Prevention; The Role of the Clinical TASC Evaluator in Court; Drug Testing; Ethical Guidelines for Forensic Counselors; Co-occurring Disorders; Assessment, Diagnosis & Treatment Planning; Utilization of DSM, ASI and ASAM criteria; and Relapse Prevention and the Criminal Offender.

**LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE: AWARDS RECOGNITION & CIVIC COMMITTEES**

- 2016- Bergen County LGBTQ Committee, Appointed by County Executive James J. Tedesco III
- 2016- GLSEN, Chapter - Northern New Jersey, Member of the Board
  - National Association of Professional Women (NAPW) member
- 2013-14 *Woman of the Year* VIP status awarded
  - Professional Academy of Custody Evaluators (PACE)
- 2012- Nationally Certified Custody Evaluator
- 2012- Nationally Certified Parent Coordinator
  - National Association of Social Work (NASW) - Washington DC
- 2012;2016- Appointed, National Practice Section Steering Committee, Social Work & the Courts;  
*Section Chair through June 2018*
  - National Association of Social Work (NASW) –New Jersey Chapter
- 2015- present Appointed, Co- Chair, Social Work & Law, practice section SIG Committee
- 2012- present Appointed, Co-Chair, LGBT practice section SIG Committee; Legislative  
And Social Action Committee member (LASA); Elected, Chapter Nominations (CCNLI)
- 2009-2011 Vice President -Executive Officer, Chapter governance, Chair Personnel Committee
- 2006-2010 Chair, Membership Committee; Continuing Education Committee member
- 1999-2000 Co-Chair, Statewide Public Relations & Image Enhancement Committee
- 1996-2000 Chair, Bergen County Unit
- 1994-1996 Committee on Bylaws revision
  
- 2011 *Equality Company of the Year*, Awarded by Garden State Equality (GSE)
- 2010- National Organization of Forensic Social Work (NOFSW) member
- 2009- Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC) member
  
- American College of Forensic Examiners Institute (ACFEI)
- 1999- Diplomat, American Board of Forensic Counselors (DABFC)
- 1999- Fellow, American College of Forensic Examiners Institute (FACFEI)
- 2007-2008 Commission on Forensic Education (ACFEI)
  
- 2003- 2008 National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP) member
  
- *Marquis Who's Who*, Biographee: 2017 Lifetime Achievement Award
- 2001-2011 Editions 22 - 28 - Who's Who of American Women
- 2002-2003 Editions 56 & 57 - Who's Who in America
- 2002 Edition 19- Who's Who in the World
- 2002-2003 Edition 4- Who's Who in Medicine and Healthcare
  
- 1999-2003 Bergen County- Municipal Alliance Committee, Dept. of Health; PACADA
- 1996 & 1993 Outstanding Employee recognition, Dept. of Human Services, Div. of Family Guidance

**POST-MASTERS & ADVANCED PRACTICE CERTIFICATE TRAINING:**

- 2013 NASW-NJ & the Institute for Families at Rutgers University, Graduate School of Social Work,  
*Certificate in Leadership Development.*
- 2009 Eagleton Institute of Politics, Center for American Women and Politics, *Ready To Run* program
- 2007 Rutgers University, School of Social Work, *Certificate in Divorce Mediation*
- 2006 Morristown, NJ NASW-NJ, *Certificate in Clinical Supervision*
- 2004 Milwaukee, WI NDCI *Annual Conference*, National Association of Drug Court Professionals
- 2003 Reno, NV NDCI *Annual Conference*, National Association of Drug Court Professionals

- 2001 Rutgers University, School of Social Work, *Certificate in Parent Education*
- 1996 New England Education Institute, Matthew Selekman, *Solution Focused Therapy with Difficult Adolescents*
- 1996 Syracuse University, Maxwell Institute, *Certificate in Conflict Resolution & Anger Management*
- 1995 Seton Hall University, *Law Related Education* program
- 1994 New York University Graduate School of Social Work, *Seminar in Field Instruction*, approved MSW graduate field placement supervisor
- 1993 National Crisis Prevention Institute, *Certificate in Therapeutic Crisis Intervention*
- 1992 Project Adventure, *Adventure Based Counseling with Chemically Dependent Clients*

### **COMPUTER LITERACY & PROFICIENCY**

Microsoft Office programs and Internet research; NJ Judiciary systems (Family Court 1999-2003; Criminal Drug Court 2003-2006); Orion Healthcare Technology, *Certified AccuCare Trainer* (2007-2012); various software programs for custody & parenting time calculation, and for generating collegiate and continuing education exams.

**Testimony** at the New Jersey Legislature can be accessed by date at: <http://www.njleg.state.nj.us>

### **WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS:**

[www.interstatefacts.com](http://www.interstatefacts.com)

<http://www.linkedin.com/in/kathrynadixon/>

<https://twitter.com/kadixonsw>

[http://www.valeriepersaud.com/Radio\\_Show.html](http://www.valeriepersaud.com/Radio_Show.html)

December 7, 2011 New Jersey's Anti-Bullying law and tips for parents (archived)  
Panel discussion included a teenager, social work graduate students and NJ attorneys involved in the legislation

[http://www.valeriepersaud.com/TV\\_SHOW.html](http://www.valeriepersaud.com/TV_SHOW.html)

January 23, 2013 New Jersey's Anti-Bullying law and tips for parents (Show # 15: @minute 15)  
Interviewed by producer & host Valerie Persaud on key areas of community public education

> 2016 - National Association of Distinguished Professionals, Women of Distinction; Inclusion based upon demonstrated leadership and professional achievements in the field of Forensic Social Work.  
<http://www.nadprofessionals.com/blog/2015/08/nadp-welcomes-this-weeks-top-industry-experts-women-of-distinction-and-the-great-american-educators-for-magazine-inclusion-43/>

### **PUBLICATIONS:**

- NASW, Washington, DC; Social Work & the Courts, Specialty Practice Section Newsletters;
- 2012: Social Work & the Court, Keeps Me Smiling
- 2013: Our American Violence Trifecta: Bullying, Mental Health & Gun Safety
- 2013: Book Summary- Social Work Documentation: A Guide to Strengthening Case Recording
- 2014: From the Field- Continuum of Services for Court Involved Families
- 2015: Growing Interest in #ForensicSW (with A. Coglianese, Esq., LSW)
- 2016: REUNIFICATION: Increased Need For Skills in Complex Family Court Ordered Therapy (with A.Coglianese, ESQ., MSW, LSW)
- 2017: How to Say No to Clients (with A.Coglianese, ESQ., MSW, LSW)