

LITIGATION SECTION CLE FOCUSES ON HELPING CHILDREN

Over 40 lawyers recently attended a CLE aimed at helping children caught in the middle of highly contested divorce cases. Third District Court Commissioner Kim Luhn joined Jennifer Spangenberg of the Utah Office of Private Guardian ad Litem to instruct lawyers how to be effective private guardians *ad litem* for these children. The CLE generated a lively and informative discussion about issues facing children in divorce cases.

This CLE program was part of the Litigation Section's ongoing commitment to assist the judiciary, children in need and the community. The CLE was free to all Section members and registered private guardians *ad litem*.

"Guardians *ad litem* fill a critical need," said Litigation Section Executive Committee member Keith Call. "They can be a voice for children in difficult cases where the parents might be looking after their own interests, sometimes at the expense of innocent children."

The Litigation Section encourages all members to consider serving as private guardians *ad litem*. The demand for such help is much greater than the supply. Family law experience is not required. Free training and mentoring is readily available. Fees are sometimes available, but *pro bono* assistance is also encouraged. And the intangible benefits of helping children are priceless.

For information on how to serve as a private guardian *ad litem*, please contact Keith Call at (801) 521-9000 or kcall@scmlaw.com.