

**Part 1: Lawyer Information**

- Last Name, First Name:\*
- Alberta Year of Call:\*
- Firm Name:\*
- Mobile Number:\*
- Email Address:\*
- Primary Language:\*
- Secondary Language \*
- Primary Court Location:\*

**\*Are you able to conduct a trial in this secondary language?**

**Part 2: Panel Competencies / Competency Plan**

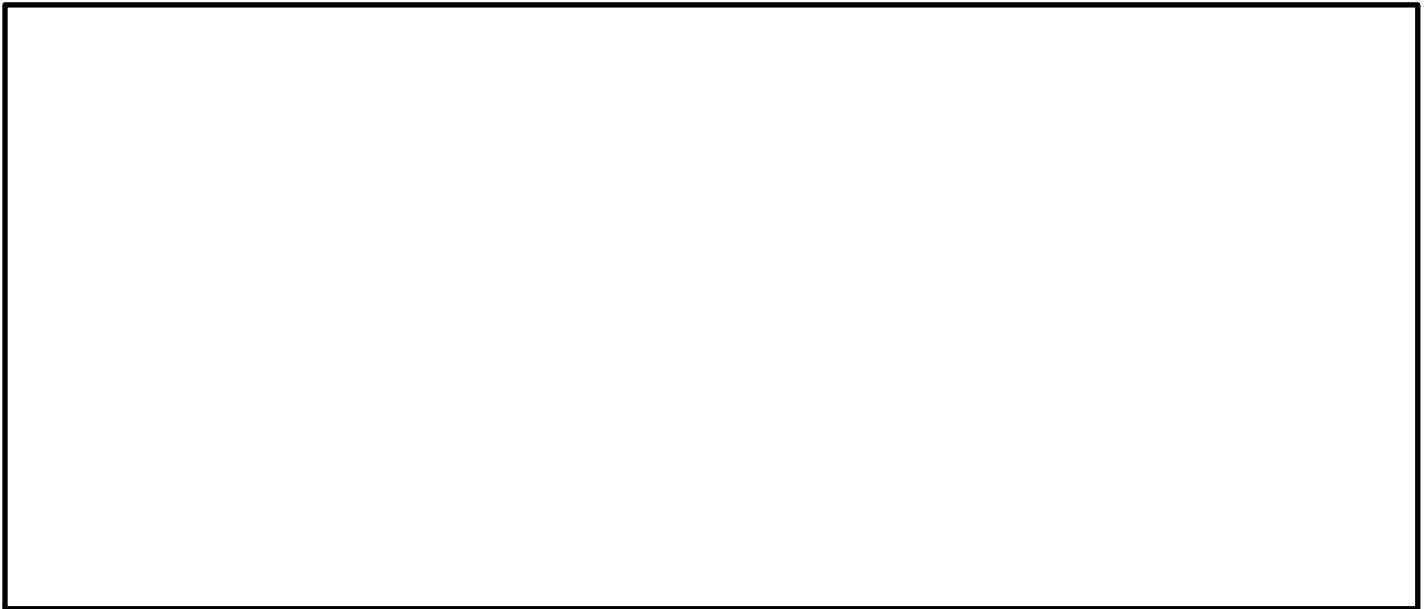
**Note:** Legal Aid Alberta invites applications from lawyers who have at least five years at the bar and 5 years of experience practicing family law. LAA does require that panel members demonstrate all four of the competencies mentioned below. LAA will select lawyers for this panel based on the lawyers' demonstrated competency in the areas listed below.

1. **Competency #1: Significant knowledge of and experience in family law proceedings under *Family Law Act* and the *Divorce Act* and amendments, including conducting all aspects of a family file from negotiating resolutions to conducting trials**

1.1. Approximately how much of your practice is devoted to family law?



1.2. Approximately how many high conflict parenting files have you represented parents in over the last five years? Of those high conflict parenting files, approximately how many have you had independent counsel for the children appointed and worked with child's counsel?



- 1.3. Summarize any training seminars or other continuing legal education programs that you have attended in the last 36 months that relate to family law, divorce, and/ or high conflict parenting matters.

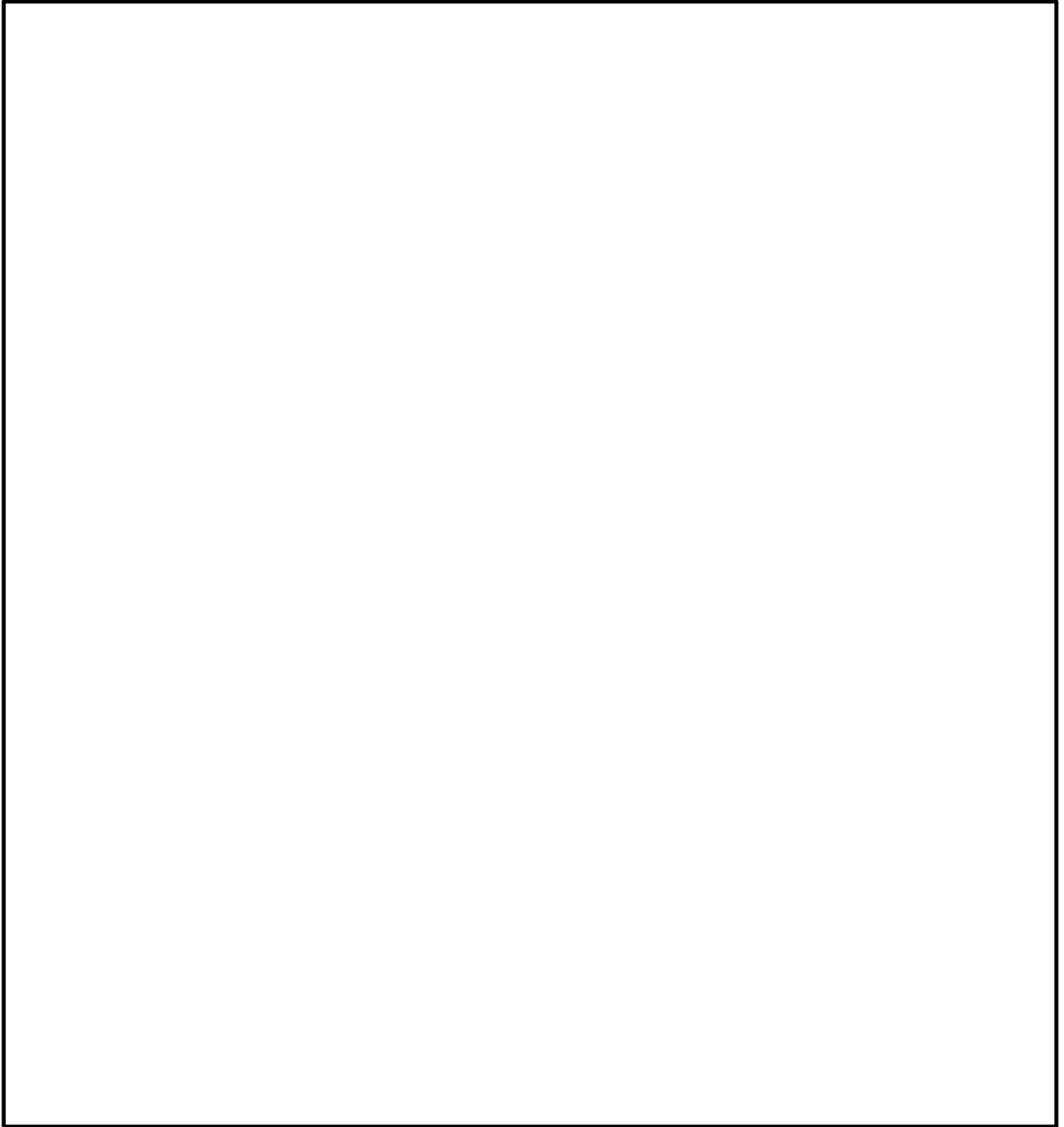
A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for the user to provide a summary of training seminars or continuing legal education programs attended in the last 36 months related to family law, divorce, and high conflict parenting matters.

**Competency #2: Specific training and experience in representation of children in high conflict parenting matters and knowledge of the United Nation Convention on the Rights of the Child and extensive knowledge of Alberta Rules of Court and Practice Notes and a demonstrated understanding of the unique nature of representation of children in high conflict disputes.**

- 2.1 Summarize any specific training seminars or other continuing legal education programs that you have attended that relate to representation of children in high conflict family law matters or are planning to attend in the near future.

- 2.2. Approximately how many child representation files, if any, have you had carriage of over the last five years? Please include information about any other child representation panels that you are currently on or have been on in the past in Alberta or other provinces or any professional associations that you may be a member of that would support your application to be on the Child Representation panel such as AFCC, CBA-Child and Youth Section.


2.3. Describe your understanding of children's right to participate in family proceedings. What do you see as being the most important functions of independent counsel for the child? How do you determine the appropriate role for child's counsel?

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**Competency #3: Experience in working with and interviewing children.** A deep understanding of the child development, the brain science literature, dynamics of high conflict parenting litigation and the effects on children being exposed to the toxic stress resulting from a high conflict family breakdown and litigation is required. Knowledge of the literature on impact of high conflict disputes on children and resources available to children within the lawyer's geographic service areas would be an asset.

3.1. Why are you interested in working with child clients? Describe any experience you have in meeting and working with children?

3.2 How would you best address the evidentiary issues in getting the views and preferences of a child client before the Court. What experience do you have in working with Parenting Experts (including under PN 7 & PN 8).





3.3 What training, if any, have you taken in brain science as it relates to the affects of children being exposed to toxic stress from high conflict family matters and how have you incorporated the brain science literature into your representation of children?

3.4 Describe any other ways you have demonstrated your aptitude or experience in representing children including speaking engagements that may relate to Representation of Children in High Conflict family law matters.

**Competency #4: Strong communication, problem solving, conflict management, resolution focused and negotiation skills in working with families involved in high conflict parenting litigation.** This includes, for example, interest or experience working with children from Indigenous and marginalized communities, families who are experiencing domestic violence, poverty, addiction, in addition to family breakdown. Experience in working with and navigating parents with mental health and addictions is required.

- 4.1. Please detail any training you have in interest-based negotiation, mediation, collaborative law and/or parenting coordination. Provide examples where your strong communication and problem-solving skills helped resolve a high conflict matter.

### Part 3: Explaining Your Interest in the Panel

Please share any other reasons why you are interested in being a member of the Child Representation Panel.

Is there anything else you want LAA to know when we consider your application?

### Part 4: References

Please provide up to two references who can comment on your interest, aptitude, and experience in the areas mentioned above. If you name any references, LAA may contact them for their confidential opinion about your competencies and your suitability for this panel. LAA may choose not to contact the references.

#### Reference #1

1. Name:

2. Phone number:

3. Email address:

4. Relationship:

#### Reference #2

5. Name:

6. Phone number:

7. Email address:

8. Relationship:

## Part 5: CV/Resume

Please attach a copy of your CV/Resume for LAA to review with this application.

## Part 6: Declarations

\* I have read the panel description document for this panel. I certify that all information I have provided to LAA as part of this application is accurate. I acknowledge that LAA will use this information to evaluate my application in accordance with LAA policies. I give LAA permission to make confidential inquiries about my competencies to the references I have listed above. I agree that any information provided by these references will only be used to evaluate my suitability for this panel and I agree that LAA may keep this information confidential from me.

## Instructions To Submit

Please save this form and submit the completed PDF (and any attachments) by email to: [childreppanel@legalaid.ab.ca](mailto:childreppanel@legalaid.ab.ca) The deadline for submitting this form is **January 31, 2025**.