

BIO's - July 29th 11th annual Cultural Competency in Family Practice Judicial Panel

Honorable **Laura Cohen** was elected in January 2019 as a Commissioner for Los Angeles Superior Court. She is in a family law assignment and currently sits in Department 94 in Stanley Mosk. Prior she was a Clinical Professor at Southwestern Law School where she was locally and nationally recognized for her work including implementing and directing both the Street Law Clinic and Public Service Program. While at Southwestern she helped initiate the Los Angeles Incubator Consortium which was awarded a grant from the State Bar of California's Commission on Access to Justice. She facilitated creating the Family Law Clinic, a partnership with Harriett Buhai Center for Family Law. Commissioner Cohen worked closely with many court-related community programs including Teen Court and the Small Claims Clinic. She began her career as a dependency attorney in Children's Court, has mediated permanency planning cases, and later initiated the Children's Law Center Year-Long Program which she continues her involvement working with students and graduates interested in a career advocating for children and families. She is a member of the Access to Justice Committee of the Los Angeles County Bar Association, served as a member of the California State Bar Council on Access and Fairness, was on the California State Bar Task Force on Admissions Regulation Reform (Phase II: Implementation) and was on Equal Justice Work's National Advisory Committee. Her 30+ years of experience working with youth and families, law students and graduates, collaborating with legal services organizations, and helping the community on a range of pro bono matters serves her well with her current assignment handling restraining orders.
