



The California  
Professional Society  
on the Abuse of Children™  
*an independent affiliate of APSAC*  
*Strengthening Practice Through Knowledge*

# THE CONSULTANT

WINTER 2024



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS:  
NEAL SNYDER AWARD 2

CALL FOR APPLICANTS:  
PAUL CRISSEY AWARD 3

BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:  
WELCOMING SETH GOLDSTEIN 4

ARE YOU AN ACES HEALTH  
CHAMPION? 5

CAC SPOTLIGHT: CALICO 6

CA PASSES SB 603 7

SAVE THE DATE & CAPSAC  
AWARD WINNER BETTE  
BOTTOMS, PH.D. 8

2024 APSAC STATE CHAPTER  
WEBINAR TRAINING SERIES 9

APSAC AT THE SAN DIEGO  
CONFERENCE 2024 10

## CAPSAC Awards Ceremony 2024

**WED, APRIL 10, 2024**  
**1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (PT)**



CAPSAC is pleased to announce the recipient  
of the 2024 Karen Saywitz Legacy Award:  
Dr. Bette L. Bottoms!

At our online awards ceremony, Dr. Bottoms will reflect  
on the ways she was influenced professionally by  
Dr. Saywitz and share observations about the field of  
children’s eyewitness testimony and psychology and law  
generally. She will also share some practical career advice  
with the students and early career professionals in the  
CAPSAC audience.

**Read more about Dr. Bette L. Bottoms  
and her accomplishments on Page 8!**

**Keep an eye out for more information  
on this event by visiting [CIRinc.org](http://CIRinc.org) or [CAPSAC.org](http://CAPSAC.org)**

## Call for Nominations: Neal Snyder Outstanding Service Award

CAPSAC established the Neal Snyder Outstanding Service Award in 2019 to recognize professionals who demonstrate extraordinary dedication and efforts on behalf of children.

Neal Snyder graduated Phi Beta Kappa from UC Berkeley with a BA and MA in sociology, and obtained his JD from Hastings College. As an attorney, he specialized in protecting children from abuse - an area he helped make a legal specialty - and became a role model for many others in the field. Neal worked for the CA Department of Social Services in daycare licensing litigation. He was a co-founder of CAPSAC, drafted its initial bylaws and assisted with its incorporation. He continued to serve as a board member, supporter, and consultant to CAPSAC for the rest of his life. Neal was an intelligent, even tempered, positive, athletic, and kind man who loved jazz, his wife, Yvonne Garcia, their annual visits to Thailand, his children and grandchildren.



Any professional in California may submit nominations. Nominees cannot be CAPSAC Board Members or CAPSAC Executive Committee Members.

**SUBMIT NOMINATIONS @  
CAPSAC.ORG/CAPSAC-AWARDS  
BY MARCH 01, 2024**

**Nominees should demonstrate the mission and goals of CAPSAC and exhibit outstanding service in the area of child maltreatment. They should also model outstanding professionalism and have made contributions in the area of child maltreatment.**

- The mission of CAPSAC is to improve the effort and response of professionals working with children who have experienced abuse and neglect.
- The goals of CAPSAC are to promote collaboration among all disciplines working in the area of child protection, to promote education on child maltreatment of professionals and community members who work with children, to promote research on child abuse and neglect in the areas of prevention, identification, intervention, and treatment, and to promote appropriate and effective services to the children and families who have experienced child maltreatment.

The Neal Snyder Outstanding Service Award recipient will be selected from among the nominees by the CAPSAC Board of Directors and presented with the Neal Snyder Outstanding Service Award certificate as well as a one-year membership to APSAC/CAPSAC at a CAPSAC meeting or online training event in April 2024. Also, an article about the recipient will be published in The CAPSAC Consultant and posted on the CAPSAC website ([capsac.org](https://capsac.org)).

## Call for Applicants: Paul Crissey Graduate Student Outstanding Research Award

The California Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (CAPSAC) annually awards a grant of \$750 for outstanding research by a graduate student (or early career professional up to one-year post MA/PhD) in the field of child maltreatment, child welfare, foster care, or a related topic. The recipient will also receive a one-year membership to APSAC (American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children) and CAPSAC.



The American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children, founded in 1987, is a nonprofit membership society focused on meeting the needs of professionals engaged in all aspects of services for maltreated children and their families. Especially important to APSAC is the dissemination of state-of-the-art practice in all professional disciplines related to child abuse and neglect. To learn more about APSAC's publications, see [www.apsac.org/apsacpublications](http://www.apsac.org/apsacpublications)

CAPSAC aims to provide additional support to California professionals working in the field of child abuse through training, consultation, advocacy, and networking. We also publish The Consultant, a professional newsletter highlighting relevant issues for our members.

### Applicants Must:

- Be a graduate student within one year of completion (before or after) of a Master's or Doctoral degree from an accredited California educational program.
- Submit a one-thousand word summary of the research in progress or completed study in the field of child maltreatment.
- Submit one or two letters of recommendation from faculty members or academic readers who are familiar with your research.
- Be available to receive the award and present an overview of the study at a CAPSAC meeting or CAPSAC online event in April, 2024.
- Agree to the publication of the submitted summary in the CAPSAC newsletter, The Consultant, and/or posting on the CAPSAC website, [capsac.org](http://capsac.org).

**APPLY BY  
3/1/24!**

**For consideration for the 2024 award, all materials must be received by March 1, 2024. For more information and to submit your application and letter(s) of recommendation, please visit:**

**[capsac.org/capsac-awards](http://capsac.org/capsac-awards)**

# New Board Member Spotlight

## SETH GOLDSTEIN, JD



CAPSAC is very pleased to welcome Seth Goldstein, JD to the CAPSAC board of directors. Currently a consultant and attorney in private practice, Seth is the Executive Director of the Child Abuse Forensic Institute, which he created in 1992. He brings over five decades of experience protecting children and women in violent families.

Before embarking on a career as an attorney, Seth worked for the Berkeley, California Police Department for thirteen years. He holds a B.A. degree from the University of California at Berkeley, was conferred a J.D. degree from the Oakland College of Law and was admitted to the California Bar in 1995. Seth was the investigator and Project Director for the Child Abuse Vertical Prosecution Unit of the Napa County District Attorney and also worked as an investigator with the Santa Clara County District Attorney in San Jose. He has served as a Special Prosecutor for the San Benito County District Attorney, and now represents parents in family law, juvenile, and personal injury matters where child abuse allegations have arisen. Immigrants, and persons of color and diverse sexual orientation have all relied upon his litigation skills and dedication, benefitting the communities in which he practices.

Seth teaches specialized courses for professionals involved in assessing child abuse allegations in the context of custody and visitation cases, a topic on which he has published several articles. He has presented throughout the USA and overseas, including lecturing at seminars for the University of Southern California, Stanford and Harvard Universities, and the FBI Academy at Quantico, Virginia. Seth is the author of the textbook *The Sexual Exploitation of Children: A Practical Guide to Assessment, Investigation, and Intervention*, 2nd Edition, published by CRC Press. He has also authored legislation on the issues of child protection, family violence and Family Law, specifically addressing the needs of women and children.

Seth's career has been one of dedication to service. He was a consultant to the National Resource Center on Sexual Abuse of Children and the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP). He sat on the California Attorney General's Violent Crime Information Systems Advisory Group; was a founding Member of the Board of Directors of the National Center For Missing and Exploited Children; is a former president of the Northern California Juvenile Officers Association (NCJOA); was a founding member of the California Sexual Assault Investigators Association (CSAIA); and, was a founding member of the American Professional Society on Abuse of Children (APSAC). Seth's outstanding work and service has been recognized with several state and national awards.

CAPSAC is extremely fortunate to have Seth Goldstein serve on the CAPSAC board of directors and help further CAPSAC's mission.

When asked about his hope for CAPSAC and ending child maltreatment Seth said, *"It only works if we all work together."*

# Are you an ACEs Health Champion?

Do you work to prevent or address the effects of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and toxic stress? If you answered yes, please consider attending the 2024 free virtual Gatherings of the ACEs Health Champions Network.

The ACEs Health Champions Network (AHCN) is built upon the overwhelming success of the yearlong (2020–2021) CALIFORNIA ACES ACADEMY Grant collaboration with the state of California. The Network is a system of interconnected non-profit organizations (of which CAPSAC is a founding member), and continues to grow! These organizations share the mission to address and prevent the health effects of violence and abuse throughout the life course.

The purpose of the AHCN is to educate, inspire and connect as we build a community of health-focused individuals, organizations, and others dedicated to:

- Addressing the effects of and preventing Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and toxic stress
- Improving access to trauma-informed care
- Assessing and enhancing individual, family, and community strengths and protective factors
- Identifying and incorporating Positive Childhood Experiences (PCE)
- Sharing and disseminating evolving knowledge
- The promotion of healing from the health effects of violence and abuse throughout the life course

All AHCN Gatherings are recorded and available with slides/handouts at [capsac.org](http://capsac.org) or [avahealth.org](http://avahealth.org).

You are cordially invited!

## ACEs Health Champions Gathering

Friday, February 23, 2024 12:00pm - 1:00pm PT via Zoom

You are invited to a free virtual gathering

### HOT TOPIC

#### What Are We Learning About Online Child Sexual Abuse Material and the Predatory Marketplace?

Dr. Cross and Mr. Turkheimer will discuss international strategies for combatting online Child Sex Abuse Material (CSAM), including stopping CSAM producers from historically advantaged countries from exploiting poor children in historically disadvantaged countries.

RSVP Here



### Meet the Presenters



Stefan Turkheimer



Theodore Cross, PhD

[Read Presenters' Bios](#)

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE AHCN, VISIT  
[CAPSAC.ORG](http://CAPSAC.ORG) OR [AVAHEALTH.ORG](http://AVAHEALTH.ORG)



# Child Advocacy Center Spotlight: CALICO Center

The Child Abuse, Listening, Interviewing, and Coordination Center, or CALICO is Alameda County's children's advocacy center (CAC). Located in the San Francisco Bay Area, CALICO is a non-profit CAC with a staff of 10 people, including five interviewers and two family advocates. Two of their interviewers have worked at CALICO for over 25 years! Every year, CALICO serves over 700 children and their families.



As Alameda County's CAC, CALICO provides forensic interviews, family support services, and facilitates the multidisciplinary team response of 29 agencies to child abuse allegations. The MDT comprises all 16 law enforcement agencies in the county, four child welfare agencies, two hospitals, two victim advocacy organizations, two mental health organizations, one probation team, and the CAC. CALICO is particularly proud to have partnered with these agencies for 27 years to support the justice and healing of over 18,000 children.

In addition to CALICO's forensic interviewing and family support services, CALICO conducts training for our multidisciplinary team partners throughout the year and does community outreach. The annual Collaborative Training brings specialized topics like investigating internet crimes to dozens of police officers, child welfare workers, therapists, attorneys, doctors, and more. To connect with the community, CALICO holds a yearly "holiday shop" where caregivers are invited to "shop" for holiday presents for their families. Community members and our multidisciplinary team partners donate all the gifts.

CALICO also houses the Children's Advocacy Centers of California (CACC). An accredited chapter of the National Children's Alliance, CACC supports the formation and equitable growth of children's advocacy centers and multidisciplinary teams throughout California. With 50 member centers, CACC provides training, support, technical assistance, and legislative advocacy for California's child advocacy centers and multidisciplinary teams. In 2023, CACC co-sponsored a bill to protect recordings of forensic interviews and is currently advocating for funding to fill a gap in supporting victim services.



# California Passes SB 603 Protecting Child Forensic Interviews

BY BRADLEY L. MCCARTT

Victims of child abuse deserve the greatest protection that can be afforded to them. There is an inherent privacy interest that a child has with respect to the child's recorded voice and image when describing the highly sensitive details of physical or sexual abuse. Previously, the State of California did not have clearly defined legal limits for the release of recorded child forensic interviews. This provided a daily challenge for children's advocacy centers throughout California who sought to protect the rights and privacy of these vulnerable victims. Additionally, this gap in the law discouraged children and their families from participating in recorded forensic interviews, which are crucial to the investigation of child abuse. Recently, there have been instances of child forensic interviews being posted on social media platforms. Therefore, it was imperative that California pass privacy protections for these recordings.

SB 603, effective January 1st, requires the children's advocacy center or other identified multidisciplinary team member custodian to ensure that all recordings of child forensic interviews be released only in response to a court order. The bill, codified in California Penal Code Section 11166.4, requires the court to issue a protective order as part of the release, unless the court finds good cause that disclosure of the interview should not be subject to such an order.

Notwithstanding that provision, the bill requires the children's advocacy center or other identified multidisciplinary team member custodian to release a recording, upon request, to specified parties, including, among others, law enforcement agencies authorized to investigate child abuse and other members of the multi-disciplinary team. SB 603 also added language so that in the case of a Native American child, the multi-disciplinary team also includes a representative from the child's tribe, including, but not limited to, a tribal social worker, tribal social services director, or tribal mental health professional. The bill authorizes the child advocacy center to use the recording for training, among other things. The bill prohibits the actual recording from becoming a public record in any legal proceeding and would require the court to order the recording be sealed and preserved at the conclusion of a criminal proceeding.



## CAPSAC Awards Winner: Bette L. Bottoms, Ph.D.

Dr. Bette L. Bottoms is Professor Emerita and Dean Emerita at the University of Illinois at Chicago, where she recently retired after 29 years. She earned her Ph.D. from SUNY-Buffalo, her M.A. from the University of Denver, and her B.A. from Randolph-Macon Woman's College.

Dr. Bottoms' research focuses on issues related to psychology and law, including child abuse, children's eyewitness testimony, juror's perceptions of children, and the impact of race and racism in cases involving minority victims and defendants. She published over 100 papers and edited six books. She also co-authored *Intake and Forensic Interviewing in the Children's Advocacy Center Setting: A Handbook*, used by the National Network of Children's Advocacy Centers (now the National Children's Alliance).

Her research was funded by the National Science Foundation and recognized with a number of awards such as the American Psychological Association's 2023 Award for Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship, bestowed by the association's Society for Child and Family Policy and Practice for her "tireless efforts on behalf of advancing science to benefit children and families." She also won a dozen awards for excellence in graduate and undergraduate teaching and mentoring. But she now considers winning the Karen J. Saywitz Legacy Award her greatest honor.

She currently resides in South Hill, VA with her husband, Dr. Gary Raney, on the farm that has been in her family since the 1890s. She volunteers in the community and spends boatloads of money and time on two spoiled horses.

**Visit the CAPSAC Website at [capsac.org](https://capsac.org) for an opportunity to attend the online awards ceremony on April 10th!**

## APSAC Webinar: Save the Date!

*CAPSAC BOARD DIRECTOR SETH GOLDSTEIN TO PRESENT*

**Sexual Abuse Allegations in the Context of Divorce · Thursday, May 16, 2024**  
for the APSAC State Chapters 2024 Webinar Series

The failure of the "system" to protect children involved in family court proceedings is a problem encountered by all disciplines involved in child protection. Social workers, law enforcement officers, prosecutors, clinicians, MDs, victim advocates and judges all fall victim to the misconceptions and procedural derailments that afflict this difficult and time-consuming area of child protection. Too often professionals' eyes glaze over when the words "child custody" are uttered. This training is intended to illuminate the problems these professionals face and present immediately applicable research and practices to help them successfully investigate allegations & protect children in these settings.

**Register for this webinar, visit: [apsac.org/calendar](https://apsac.org/calendar)**  
**Read more about the APSAC State Chapters 2024 Webinar Series on Page 9!**



# MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

## 2024 APSAC State Chapter Webinar Training Series

APSAC's state chapters will host an exciting webinar series throughout the 2024 year, with an array of important topics, expert presenters and chance to collaborate with fellow professionals.

Participation is highly encouraged and is free for APSAC members. Cost is \$30 for non-members. This would be a great time to join APSAC as your annual membership fee allows you to participate in all webinars FREE as well as get all the other professional perks that APSAC has to offer.

To register, click this button or visit [apsac.org/calendar](https://apsac.org/calendar)



### The webinar training schedule is as follows:

#### 2/15/24- 12:00 – 1:00 pm ET – New York

- **Title:** Assessing False Allegations of Sexual Abuse and Issues Regarding Recantation
- **Presenter:** Lawrence Jay Braunstein, J.D and Anne H. Meltzer, Psy.D



#### 5/16/24- 12:00 – 1:00 pm ET – California

- **Title:** Sexual Abuse Allegations in the Context of Divorce
- **Presenter:** Seth L. Goldstein, J.D.



#### 7/18/24- 12:00 – 1:00 pm ET – Wisconsin

- **Title:** Sentinel Injuries and Child Protection
- **Presenters:** Lauren Krukowski, MSW, Samantha Wagner, JD, and Jennifer Yates, RN, MSN, APNP

#### 9/19/24- 12:00 – 1:00 pm ET – Iowa

- **Title:** Detect and Protect: The Dentist's Role in Identifying and Reporting Orofacial Child Abuse, Neglect, and Endangerment
- **Presenter:** Polly Iben, DDS

**Watch [apsac.org](https://apsac.org) for updates as more webinars and information is added!**

# CAPSAC at the The Annual San Diego International Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment 2024

The CAPSAC board gathered in San Diego on January 21, 2024 for a joint reception with the National Children's Alliance, Academy on Violence and Abuse, and APSAC (which is the national organization that CAPSAC is part of). Members and other guests mingled and enjoyed refreshments at the lovely Town & Country Resort.

At the board meeting that followed the reception, CAPSAC marked several transitions on the board.

- Outgoing President Lauren Maltby passed the torch to incoming Board President Brad McCartt. The board owes Dr. Maltby a special thank you for leading the organization through the pandemic, including a major revision of the bylaws. Dr. Maltby juggled her work at the Harbor UCLA Medical Center, her private practice, her duties as a CFIT trainer and as a parent to keep us all on track. Thank you so much Dr. Maltby!
- Incoming president Brad McCartt dove right into the leadership role, and the board looks forward to his steady hand at the helm. Thank you also to Seth Goldstein and Elisa Carias for stepping in as co-treasurer and board secretary, respectively.
- Having completed her term as immediate past president, new Arizona resident Dr. Susan Moan Hardie will no longer have a voting position on the CAPSAC board, but we know she will be just a phone call away. The board thanked Dr. Hardie for her many years going above and beyond the call of duty for CAPSAC.

We hope you will all join us at next year's reception, which is also planned for the Town & Country immediately before the Chadwick Center's International Conference on Child Maltreatment. Be sure to watch for the announcement of CAPSAC's exciting pre-conference session in the fall!



*From left to right, CAPSAC Board Members Shelley Hamilton, Monica Borunda, past board member Bea Yorker Schumacher, Kris Murphey, Brad McCartt, Lauren Maltby, Laurie Fortin, Susan Hardie, and Colleen Friend.*



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## CAPSAC Board of Directors

### *President*

Bradley McCartt, JD

### *Secretary*

Elisa Carias, JD

### *Treasurer*

Monica Borunda, LMFT &

Seth Goldstien, JD

### *Immediate Past President*

Lauren Maltby, Ph.D., ABPP

### *Directors*

Laurie Fortin, LCSW

Colleen Friend, Ph.D., LCSW

Shelley Hamilton, LCSW

Susan Moan Hardie, MN, Ph.D.

Julie Robbins, LCSW

Suzie Walsh

Kris Murphey