



STATE OF NEW YORK

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER

ALBANY 12224

**Governor's Blue-Ribbon Commission on Forensic Custody Evaluations
Public Listening Sessions**

PURPOSE: To provide the public with the opportunity to address the Governor's Blue-Ribbon Commission on Forensic Custody Evaluations. The commission is comprised of judges, forensic evaluators, attorneys, parents, survivors of gender-based violence, and domestic violence advocates and is tasked with issuing recommendations to the Governor regarding the use of forensic evaluations in custody determinations.

SESSIONS TO BE HELD VIRTUALLY VIA WEBEX (links provided upon RSVP):

- **Thursday, September 9th, 2021 | 5:30PM-7:30PM**

- **Thursday, September 23rd, 2021 | 10AM-12PM**

In order to meet the needs of those who may have a disability, in accordance with New York State's policy of equal opportunity and non-discrimination on the basis of disability, we will provide reasonable accommodations, upon request sent to FCEsession@exec.ny.gov, to afford such individuals access to programs and activities. Language access services will also be available, upon request.

ORAL STATEMENTS:

Persons interested in presenting pertinent statements related to New York State's forensic custody evaluation process at the sessions should complete the attached reply form and return it to FCEsession@exec.ny.gov as soon as possible. It is important that the reply form be fully completed and returned to obtain the event url and password.

The length of oral statements will be limited based on the number of interested speakers. The exact amount of time available will be communicated to those providing oral statements no later than 48 hours prior to the session. We will attempt to accommodate individual requests to speak at particular session dates. These requests should be made on the attached reply form or communicated as early as possible. We cannot guarantee that requests to speak submitted later than 48 hours prior to the sessions will be granted.

WRITTEN STATEMENTS:

The Commission requests that all individuals providing oral statements also submit written statements. The public may also submit standalone written statements. Please send any written submissions to the Commission by September 23, 2021.

PRESS AND INDIVIDUALS WHO DO NOT WISH TO PROVIDE A STATEMENT:

Press interested in attending these public sessions can email FCEsession@exec.ny.gov for access. Members of the general public who wish to listen to the sessions but not provide oral or written statements should also RSVP to FCEsession@exec.ny.gov obtain the link and password.

The Commission is seeking input on the following questions related to the use of forensic custody evaluations in New York State, and encourages those offering statement to attempt to answer at least one of them:

- **For professionals, what has been your experience with the evaluation process? What worked, what did not work, and why?**
- **What are the primary benefits and challenges of the current forensic custody evaluation process?**
- **What are possible solutions to improve the forensic custody evaluation process?**
- **Have you experienced systemic biases exist under the current system and how can we address them?**
- **What should accountability look like for our forensic custody evaluation process?**

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