

# Protocols for Dealing with Pro Se Litigants in the Probate & Family Court

*A litigator's toolkit for successful case management and resolution with pro se litigants*

The steep rise of pro se litigants, individuals who seek to represent themselves in court, forces lawyers to recalibrate their litigation approaches to account for the pro se litigant's general unfamiliarity with court procedure, filings, discovery, and evidentiary rules. A good lawyer makes crucial changes to their strategy, including introductions, service, communications, presentation in court, and finalization of agreements.

Join our expert as we explore key differences between litigating against a represented party versus a pro se litigant, and adjustments the lawyer may need to make to ensure the case progresses smoothly and the client's expectations are managed.

## Agenda

- Brief Introduction to the Pro Se Litigant
- First Contact: Introducing Yourself to the Pro Se Litigant
- Best Ways to Formally Communicate with Pro Se Litigants and Serve Documentation
- Litigation Against Pro Se Litigants—Exploring the Additional Steps Required
- The Lawyer's Role: Adjustments to Style and Tips for Entering into an Agreement and/or Trying the Case Against a Pro Se Litigant
- Managing Client Expectations Before, During, and After the Case
- "Ask the Expert" Q&A Session

## Faculty

Grace C. Roessler, Esq., *Mirick, O'Connell, DeMallie & Lougee LLP, Boston*

## Dates & Location

Register at [www.mcle.org](http://www.mcle.org)

### LIVE WEBCAST

Wednesday, March 27, 2024  
12:00 pm–1:00 pm  
Program # 2240240WBC

### REBROADCAST

Thursday, April 11, 2024  
3:00 pm–4:00 pm  
Program # 2240240RB1

### REBROADCAST

Friday, April 19, 2024  
10:00 am–11:00 am  
Program # 2240240RB2

### ON DEMAND WEBCAST

View after Friday, April 19, 2024  
Program # 2240240WBA

## Tuition *(includes written materials)*

- \$125
- \$112.50 MCLE Members
- \$62.50 New Lawyers admitted to law practice within 5 years, Pending Admittees, Law Students, and Paralegals
- **FREE** for MCLE OnlinePass Subscribers

To apply for a need-based scholarship, email [scholarships@mcle.org](mailto:scholarships@mcle.org).

## Materials

- E-materials link emailed upon registration
- Transcript & videorecording emailed 2 weeks post-program

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