

**Dr. Karin D. Huffer**

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### **Employment**

- 2015-present John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York, NY, Adjunct Professor – Department of Professional Studies.
- 2009-pres Founder and director of EAA, formerly LVAA, website dedicated to research and the training of certified ADA advocates for the invisibly disabled participating in the legal system.  
Evaluates and advocates for litigants currently participating in the judicial System resulting in a daily recognition of the need for the implementation of the ADA and trained ADA advocates.
- 1963-03 Clark County School District, Las Vegas, NV, resulting in the identification of C-PTSD as a result of family trauma and recognition of accommodations as intervention.
- 1986-03 Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) liaison under Section 504 and IDEA Special Education resulting in a working familiarity of the disabled as they function within a public entity.
- 1972-pres Marriage and Family Therapy private practice, emphasis on post-trauma stress, litigation stress, and EMDR treatments resulting in past and current/ongoing cases relevant to the use of the ADA.
- 1975-83 Chapman College, La Salle University, and University of Las Vegas, Nevada Extension Division, instructed in the areas of traumatic stress resulting in the expansion of the program.

### **Clinical Developments Employing the ADA and/or Non-apparent Disabilities**

- 2009-present Given litigants with non-apparent disabilities and clinical assessments determining the need for physical and psychological equal access to improve the judicial experience advocacy as an accommodation under the ADA was recognized.
- 2010-2011 Developed a suggested standard of care for litigants with invisible disabilities with the intent of building awareness of the need for a change to a social model from a medical model accommodating the general population resulting in a more inclusive implementation of the ADA.
- Pub. 2011 Developed a graphic for training and a rubric for evaluation of the certified ADA advocates resulting in a clear and dynamic program of ethical application of the ADA within the judicial system.
- 2010 Developed and authored advocate certification and ADA forensic specialist certification syllabi used to obtain 3 college credits, 18 CEUs, CLEs including 6 ethic credits approved by the Nevada Board of Continuing Legal Education, King's International University of Science and Technology, and Nevada Social Workers Licensing Board resulting in 5 years of online teaching experience and refinement of presentation.

- 1997-07 Conducted a longitudinal survey identifying the unique needs of litigants with PTSD, Huffer/Alexander Research 2007, unpublished, sponsored by Redressinc, 501c3, Charity resulting in the identification of Legal Abuse Syndrome.
- 2001 Broadened and aligned the FBI protocols regarding diagnosis of PTSD (DSM III/IV/V) resulting in a debriefing graphic that improves executive functionality for persons with disabilities as they work with legal counsel.
- 1993-2003 Developed “Neighborhood, Home, and School” questionnaire for improved training of counselors and educators resulting in early identification of risk/onset of C-PTSD from non-acute traumatic exposure.
- 2001 Given the FBI’s critical-incident and PTSD debriefing protocols and children with special needs, developed through assessments and observations a training program for counselors resulting in the broadening of special education services in Clark County School District, Las Vegas, NV.
- 1995-2000 Developed a PTSD survey modified from Keane, T.M., P.F. Malloy & J.A. Fairbank for empirical development of an MMPI subscale for the assessment of combat-related post-traumatic stress disorder applied to legal consumer experiences resulting in a tool for field work to vet/expedite need for psychological evaluation.<sup>1</sup>
- Pub. 1995 Developed a therapeutic mitigation program to facilitate a resolution for those unable/unwilling to continue in the adversarial conditions of the courtroom resulting in predicted outcomes of decisions agreed upon outside the courtroom.
- Pub. 1995 Developed Huffer’s 8-Steps, a mental health component, in the treatment of PTSD and stress related conditions caused or exacerbated by litigation resulting in increased executive functionality, preparedness, and recovery.
- 1983-92 Conducted presentation for peer review regarding treatment protocols, potential ethics violations, and inadvertent abuses of those with PTSD in our bureaucratic and legal systems resulting in data for pre-publishing analysis of thesis and protocols.
- 1979-84 Through diagnosis, dialogue, observations, and peer review, achieved a foundational consensus that PTSD, with etiology of litigation stress, is an anxiety condition compensable by insurance and treatable resulting in the development of a treatment protocol, sponsored by “Life Span” at Hospital Corporation of America Monte Vista Psychiatric Hospital in Las Vegas, NV.

### **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Evaluator and Expert Witness**

Testimony has met both Daubert and Frye Standards for testimony as expert witness.

Due to the sensitive nature of litigant’s cases, especially those involving domestic violence, examples are limited to the following:

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<sup>1</sup> *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 52, 888-91 to give preliminary indication of PTSD (1997).

- Accepted as an expert witness and testified in Court in Martinez Family Court, Contra Costa County, CA, May 1, 2008, for a pro se litigant.
- Testified in Federal Court in Palm Beach and Miami/Dade Court, Florida for pro se litigants.
- Served as expert witness in San Diego, CA for Attorney Stephen Dimeff.
- Served as expert witness in San Rafael, CA for Attorney William Russell.
- Served as a case consultant to Legal Victim Assistance Project (501c3) Public Charity Congressional District Programs.

Serves/served as ADA advocate/forensic disability specialist for clients w/invisible disabilities in the states of Nevada, Colorado, California, Michigan, Minnesota, Massachusetts, Alaska, Arizona, Alabama, New York, Texas, Virginia, Illinois, Ohio, Oregon, New Hampshire, Georgia, Pennsylvania, Florida, North Carolina, Montana, and Iowa. Consultations reach to UK, Ireland, Canada, and Australia.

### **Current Licenses and Certifications**

PhD Counseling and Forensic Psychology granted for original research, publication, academic preparation, and creative services for persons with invisible disabilities Hon. Kings International University of Science and Technology.

Marriage and Family Therapy, License #0082, Nevada State Board of Marriage and Family Therapists with full privileges to diagnose, treat, and assess clients as clinical fellow of AAMFT per DSMIII-IV-V and corresponding ICD.

Certified EMDR Therapist on levels I and II by Eye Movement and Desensitization Reprocessing (EMDR) Institute.

Nevada Department of Education, licensed Psychology, Counselor, English, Social Studies, Special Education Title I under IDEA and Section 504.

Certified in "Parent, Human, and Leader Effectiveness Training" currently Effective Training Association Inc., San Jose, CA.

### **Education**

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|-----------|---|
| 2010      | Doctorate of Counseling & Forensic Psychology, high honorary academic/research PhD.2010, Kings International University, Delaware and Republic of Dominica  |
| 2009      | American Bar Association Commission on Domestic Violence and DOJ-OVW bi-weekly webinar series gaining legal/sociological/medical updated knowledge resulting in advocacy for adoption of a social model for granting ADA accommodations in public services. |
| 1974-92   | Doctoral coursework, UNLV, Las Vegas, NV  |
| 1964-2015 | Post-Graduate Continuing Education Units in Traumatic Stress (more than 800 units) annually for relicensing   |
| 1972      | M.S. 1972, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Nevada, Psychology, Pupil Personnel Services  |
| 1963      | B.S. 1963, University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho, Psychology   |
| 1959-60   | Nurses Training Deaconess Hospital, Spokane, WA 1960  |

### **Current Memberships**

- American Association of Marriage and Family Therapists, Clinical Fellow
- Nevada Association of Marriage and Family Therapists, NAMFT
- EMDRIA Professional Association of EMDR Therapists
- Las Vegas Psychiatric Society
- Faculty BMCC, Albany, NY
- NCSC National Center for State Courts International Partnership
- American Association for Persons with Disabilities
- Member of the Multidisciplinary Professionals in Colorado
- Colorado Disability Cross Coalition

### **Keynote and Professional Speaker, Instructor, and Consultant on Ethical Obligations of Professionals under the New ADA and Legal Abuse Syndrome**

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| 2016    | American Psychological Association accredited online class sponsored by Lovefraud.com, a self-help organization.  |
| 2014    | Speaker, June 11-14, Athens, Greece John Jay College of Criminal Justice International Conference, <i>The Rule of Law in an Era of Change: Security, Social Justice and Inclusive Governance</i> .  |
| 2013    | Telly Award Winning Documentary <u>Scandal at the State Bar</u> .<br>"Traumatic Stress Suffered by Lawyers from CA State Bar."  |
| 2013    | UCLA Law School Symposium "Including Disability: How Legal Discourse Can Shape Life's Transitions" March 22-23.   |
| 2012    | International Conference against Violence, Abuse, and Trauma focus on Elder Abuse, Re-traumatization, and the ADA, San Diego, CA September 11   |
| 2012    | 10th Biennial John Jay International Conference Global Perspectives on Justice, Security, and Human Rights John Jay College New York City, NY, June 8   |
| 2012    | The 6 <sup>th</sup> Biennial National Conference on Health and Domestic Violence to advance the health and care system responses to domestic violence San Francisco, CA, March 29.  |
| 2012    | Keynote Speaker: The Association of Multidisciplinary Professionals Serving Families Colorado Springs, Colorado March 8.  |
| 2011-12 | Battered Mothers Custody Conference focus on advancing the use of the ADA as a resource for domestic violence traumatic stress and introduced medical/legal model, establishing a quality standard of care for litigants with disabilities. Albany, NY. |
| 2010    | "Ethical Obligations of ADA" attorney training for CLEs at conferences results in a greater sensitivity toward invisible disabilities and the applications of the law.  |
| 2010    | Battered Mothers Custody Conference presentation offers insights, tactics, and resources in self-protection in the high-tech age expanding awareness and resources for self-protection for victims of domestic violence, Albany, NY, January.           |

- 2009 International Conference on Violence and Trauma presenter and panel member emphasizing Huffer's 8-Step Counseling Protocol increasing resilience while being re-traumatized Albany, NY, Sept.
- 2009 Battered Mothers Custody Conference presents as faculty-speaker results of research identifying common conditions resulting from protracted litigation and assistance to ADA resources, Albany, NY.
- 2008-10 PTSD, Ethics, Legal Abuse Syndrome, and Communications CME training expanding physicians' skills in diagnosing PTSD, awareness of their ethical role with the ADA, and chronic extreme stress (i.e. litigation, acute traumatic incidences) precipitate PTSD, Sunrise Hospital and Medical Center, Las Vegas, NV.
- 1995-00 "FIRST" (Financial Institution Robbery Support Task Force) consultant for the U.S. Attorney's Office and FBI in a joint effort to assist victims of bank robberies (both customers and employees) leading to a collaboration with FBI field agents yielding a video portraying adaptations from their Critical-Incident Debriefing method used with bank robbery victims and employees, Las Vegas, NV.

### **Published Works**

- May 2013 Frederick, M. and Karin Huffer. 2013. "Including Disability: From Discourse to Action ADA Ethical Obligations; Nexus Requirements; Functional Screening for Designing Accommodations; Advantages of the Social Model for Determining ADA Accommodations." University of Phoenix. UCLA International Database.
- Jan 2012 Huffer, Karin. 2012. *Unlocking Justice: The Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act Protecting Persons with Invisible Disabilities*. Las Vegas, NV: Fulkort Press. Pp.294. Note: Used as text for training ADA advocates and instructing use of Huffer's 8-Steps counseling protocol. ISBN 978-0-9641786-1-8.
- Jan 2011 Huffer, Karin. 2010. "Therapeutic Mitigation." Available at [equalaccessadvocates.com](http://equalaccessadvocates.com). Note: Explains the use of a proxy voice service for high-conflict court cases.
- Feb 2010 Huffer, Karin. 2010. "Certified ADA Advocate Training—Ethical compliance with Titles II and III." Graduate and undergraduate syllabi approved by Nevada Bar Association, Nevada Licensing Board for Social Workers, and King's International University of Science and Technology, (KIUST).
- Jan 2009 Huffer, Karin. 2009. "Application of Americans with Disabilities Act to Preventable Public Health Conditions during Litigation." Albany, NY: BMCC.com website.
- Jan 2008 Huffer, Karin. 2008. "Survey of Family Court Litigation Participants Measuring Perceived Legal Abuses and Public Health Risk." Albany, NY: BMCC.com website.
- Fall 2005 Huffer, Karin. 2005. "Legal Abuse Syndrome: Fact or Fad" *Diogenes the Magazine*. Las Vegas, NV: Fall, 2005. Pp. 8-10, 34.
- 1996-7 Huffer, Karin. "The Human Side." *Risk Management Magazine*. Las

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- Vegas, NV: Risk Management Magazine. P.18.
- 1995-2003 Huffer, Karin. "Dear Karin," *Nevada Woman*. Las Vegas, NV. 8p.1995-2003.
- 1995 Huffer, Karin. 1995. *Overcoming the Devastation of Legal Abuse Syndrome*. Las Vegas, NV: Fulkort Press. Pp.234.

**Website**

[www.equalaccessadvocates.com](http://www.equalaccessadvocates.com) shows examples of radio appearances and reviews.