## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO



## NOTICE FROM THE CLERK NO. 25-08 POWER ACT EVENT TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES & EVIDENTIARY CHALLENGES IN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CASES

The United States District Court for the District of Puerto Rico, in partnership with the Women's Advocate Office of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (WAO), will host its annual Pro Bono Work to Empower and Represent Act (POWER Act)<sup>1</sup> event on **Friday, September 19, 2025,** in Courtroom 2, at the Clemente Ruiz Nazario U.S. Courthouse, 150 Carlos Chardón Street, Hato Rey, Puerto Rico, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

This event is part of a continuing series highlighting the increasing rates of gender violence in Puerto Rico, and how such violence or behavior harms vulnerable members of our society.

The 2025 POWER Act event will feature the following presentations:

• Fabiola Plaza Rivera, Esq., Attorney, Legal Division, WAO "Trauma-Informed Legal Practices in Domestic Violence Cases"

This session will provide practical guidance on integrating trauma-informed practices into legal representation, with emphasis on minimizing re-traumatization and strengthening survivor-centered advocacy.

• Nelson D. Vélez Colón, Esq., Deputy Solicitor of Legal Affairs, WAO "Artificial Intelligence and the Challenges it Presents in Domestic Violence Cases"

This presentation will focus on evidentiary challenges posed by artificial intelligence, including authentication, admissibility, expert testimony, privacy concerns and implications for pro bono representation.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Pub. L. No. 115-237, 132 Stat. 2447 (2018).

Attorneys interested in registering to attend the POWER Act event are advised that:

- Event registration is on a first-come, first-served basis through the Court's registration application link (sent via email).
- Attorneys must be in good standing to register and commit to attending the entire event (contact the Clerk's Office Cashier at 787-772-3061 to verify your status).
- Each attorney must make his or her own registration.
- The registration deadline is **Friday. September 5. 2025.**
- Cancellations must be notified by <u>September 16, 2025</u>, to the following email address: <u>prd-cle-registration@prd.uscourts.gov</u>.
- No telephone calls for registration will be accepted.
- After the registration period has ended, the Office of the Clerk of Court will send the confirmation notification by email to registered attorneys.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, this 27th day of August, 2025.

ADA I. GARCIA-RIVERA, ESQ. CPA

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CLERK OF COURT

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