

Guidebook on Use of Experts in Juvenile Justice Proceedings

< [LFAA RESOURCES](#) < [PUBLICATIONS & RESEARCH](#)

Publications & Research

23 Jan 2026

This memorandum examines the role, admissibility, and strategic use of expert witnesses in juvenile justice proceedings, with a focus on federal standards and the laws of New York and California. While the Federal Rules of Evidence apply the Daubert standard to assess the reliability of expert testimony, both New York and California adhere to the Frye standard, which emphasizes general acceptance within the relevant scientific community. These standards apply similarly in juvenile cases, but some states, like California, have qualifications that the expert testimony addresses issues uniquely relevant to minors, such as developmental psychology, trauma, and mental health.

LFAA is not a law firm and does not provide legal services or referrals. The contents of this resource do not constitute legal advice and the user of this resource agrees that no attorney-client relationship is being formed between the user and any person or entity, including LFAA and the lawyers or law firms that drafted the resource. LFAA makes no representation regarding the accuracy of any information included in this resource.

Attachments

[Guidebook on Use of Experts in Juvenile Justice Proceedings](#)

Contacts

[Guerby Noel](#)

Working Groups

[Child Welfare](#)

LFAA is not a law firm and does not provide legal services or referrals to individuals, legal services organizations or public interest agencies. If you believe you need a lawyer, please contact your local bar association or go to www.lawhelp.org.



© 2026 Law Firm Antiracism Alliance. All Rights Reserved