

American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers - June 2023
Monthly Newsletter



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Brent A. Cashatt
AAML President

during this busy time. Since summer is full of vacations and out-of-office replies, it is important to let your clients know what to expect. Throughout the month of May, I'd encourage you to look at your calendar and understand your schedule so you can set expectations for your clients too.

Our clients rely on us to be

they don't have to worry while we are away.

In some cases, we may also want to reach out to our clients to see their summer plans so we can accommodate their busy schedules. It's always a good idea to go above and beyond and make the client experience better.

Another month has come and gone. May was a busy month for me, and I know it was chaotic for many of you too. I'm excited for the coming months and the heat of summer.

As we head into the summer months, I know many of you will be busy with vacations, family gatherings, and other activities. I want to remind everyone of the importance of communication and managing expectations

responsive and reliable. It is important that we set clear expectations with them and communicate regularly, even when we are not in the office. This could mean sending a quick email to let them know we will be out of the office or preparing everything in advance so

Thank you for your hard work and dedication to the practice of family law. I am grateful for the opportunity to lead the AAML this year, and I am excited to see what we can accomplish together. I hope you find time to prepare for an incredible summer and that you make time to spend with your loved ones.



EDITOR'S MESSAGE

[Kiilu Davis](#)

[Natalia C. Wilson](#)



Fireside Chat will Return in July!

Check all past FCs on YouTube!

[Fireside Chat Playlist](#)

THE AAML WELCOMES THE FOLLOWING NEW FELLOWS!

Ashley D. Davis
Springfield, IL

Erin Fox
Tucson, AZ

Jennifer Helland
Colorado Springs, CO

SyMone (Nicci) Hinderaker
Tucson, AZ

Pamela S. Holmes
Wells, ME

Bryan R. Johnson
Islandia, NY

Keela P. Johnson
Troy, MI

Lawrence Persick
King of Prussia, PA

Matthew Skarin
El Segundo, CA

Jeff Travis
Bakersfield, CA



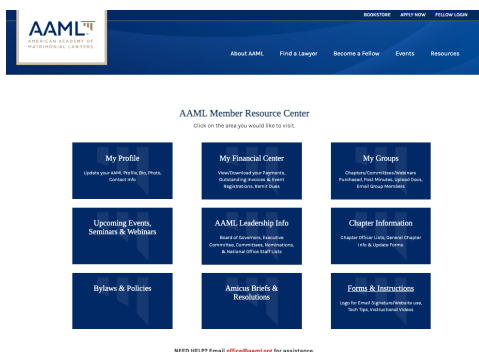
From the Bahamas to Chicago!

The Health and Wellness Committee is reminding all Academy Members to move their bodies this summer. Starting June 1, 2023, track your miles and report them by weekly emails to [Joani Moberg](mailto:Joani.Moberg@henschelmoberg.com) at: joani.moberg@henschelmoberg.com.

We'll add up the totals weekly with the goal of virtually moving our group from the Bahamas to Chicago, or 1,302 miles, but maybe we'll get further! The top participants will receive a prize at the Annual Meeting and all participants will be recognized.

So strap on your gear and walk, run, swim, bike or row and report both your miles and your method of travel!

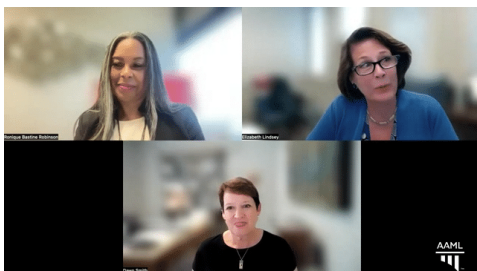
Let's get moving! And be sure to add #AAML to your Peloton profile!



By now you have noticed The Member's [Resource Center Landing Page's](#) new look and have settled in using this new feature to navigate to your profile, view your event registrations, visit your committee and chapter group's pages and watch an instructional video or two. What would you like to see next by way of an instructional video? We have a video for Chapter and Committee Administrators on sending emails/messages out to their groups and another for those admins that need to upload agendas and minutes to their group portals. Please [let us know](#) what you would like to see next and we'll make it happen.

Got Suggestions?

What should our next video topic be? What instructions would you like to see for navigating the website.



Click on the gif for a Message from Co-Chairs Dawn R. Smith, Ronique B. Robinson and AAML Past President, Elizabeth Green Lindsey

Do you like making the world a better, more inclusive place? We thought so!

Join our Racial, Ethnic, and Religious Considerations in Family Law Committee (RERC) and you'll get plenty of opportunities to do both. Plus, you'll meet some awesome people and have a chance to make a real difference. Click on the graphic to hear past AAML President [Elizabeth Lindsey](#) and Co-Chairs [Ronique Robinson](#) and [Dawn Smith](#) discuss the vision for the committee and why you should consider joining. So, what are you waiting for? Sign up now!



2023 Arbitration Training Institute in Chicago a success

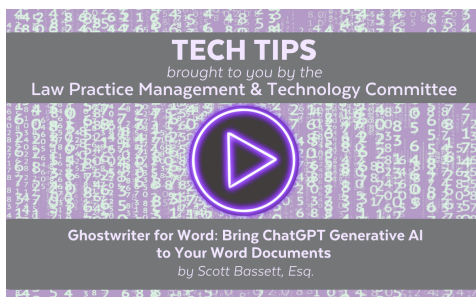
[Click Here to Read More](#)



The [AAML SoCal Chapter Retreat in Santa Fe, New Mexico](#) was a smashing success. On Friday, the SoCal Fellows were treated to an amazing experience of CLE, followed by a tour of the Georgia O'Keeffe

Thirty-five Fellows and some non-Fellows came prepared for training on June 1-2, 2023, at Chicago's Gleacher Center. The esteemed faculty included Fellow [Carolyn Moran Zack](#), author of *Family Law Arbitration: Practice, Procedures and Forms* (ABA 2020), [Rochelle Grossman](#), an experienced arbitrator and former master from Pennsylvania, and retired Judge Robert Childers, a Circuit Court judge, mediator, and AAA-trained arbitrator.

Museum and a wonderful group dinner at the La Posada Resort. The Retreat started on Thursday evening with a Tequila Tasting. On Friday, SoCal Fellow [Stephen Hamilton](#) did a spectacular job of educating the Chapter on the current state of Crypto Currency, and on Saturday Stephen discussed Hot Tips regarding the designation and use of Expert Witnesses in California Trials. This was a wonderful opportunity for the SoCal Fellows to get together for a weekend of learning, dining and fun! A million thanks to Stephen Hamilton and 2023 SoCal Retreat Team for putting together another fantastic SoCal Retreat.



Tech Tips Videos

The AAML Law Practice Management & Technology Committee's [David J. Morgan](#) shares time-saving Tech Tips that focus on handy Adobe maneuvers. Just when you thought you knew it all about Adobe! You will want to take a minute to view this and other videos the committee has been providing since 2021. [Click Here](#) for Past Tech Tips (Login Required)

Complimentary Zoom Meeting

Today and Open to ALL!

Issues Regarding Social Media & Custody Cases and Understanding Adults Who Sexually Abuse Children

**June 7, 2023****12:00pm-1:00pm (CST)**

***Last Chance to Register!
Today and Starting Soon!***

[REGISTER](#)

This presentation is being offered 'live' only and will not be recorded.

This presentation will be a conversation led by AAML/AFCC Committee Co-Chairs [Lawrence Jay Braunstein](#) and [Nancy D. Kellman](#) with two experts who will present at the [AAML-AFCC Joint Conference on Advanced Issues in Child Custody: Evaluation, Litigation, and Settlement](#) being held from September 28-30, 2023 in Washington, D.C. The speakers, [Graham Hill, PhD.](#), a renowned British Criminologist and [Chris Mulchay, PhD.](#), a psychologist specializing in matters related to family law and psychological evaluations will be answering questions on social media and custody cases, and understanding adults who sexually abuse children. This zoom meeting will hopefully inspire you to attend the conference in September, and will provide important information for family law practitioners.

***Zoom Meeting******Complimentary to AAML Fellows*****Drinks and Diversity****June 21, 2023****7:00pm-8:30pm (CST)**
[REGISTER - Login Required](#)

There will be a book discussion led by AAML Past President, [Cary J. Mogerman](#), around the book: **The Third Reconstruction – America's Struggle for Racial Justice in the 21st Century** by *Peniel E. Joseph* (288 pages). ***We ask that you read this book prior to the program.***

UPCOMING NATIONAL EVENTS/MEETINGS

[Zoom Meeting - Issues Regarding Social Media & Custody](#)
[Cases](#)
[June 7, 2023](#)
[12:00pm - 1:30pm CST](#)
[Zoom Meeting - Drinks and Diversity](#)
[June 21, 2023](#)
[7:00pm - 8:30pm CST](#)

UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS/MEETINGS

[AAML-Mountain States Annual Meeting](#)
[June 29-July 1, 2023](#)
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Institute for Family Law Associates

[Introductory Course](#)

[Advanced Course](#)

June 22-25, 2023

Chicago, IL

[Webinar - Where's Waldo? Spotting the International Law](#)

[Issues in your Family Law Case](#)

July 18, 2023

12:00pm - 1:00pm

[Webinar - Redefining Advocacy: How Collaborative Practice](#)

[Has Changed the Landscape](#)

August 2, 2023

12:00pm - 1:00pm CST

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Journal of the American Academy of
Matrimonial Lawyers 

[Click Here to Read
About this Issue](#)

The Board of Editors of the AAML journal is pleased to offer **Part II** of the edition dedicated to Constitutional Issues in Family Law. As always, our journal is at the forefront of family law scholarship. In fact, this edition contains the first journal article to extensively discuss the ramifications of the Dobbs decision.

The authors of the article, "[Ordered Liberty after Dobbs](#)" (Linda C. McClain and James E. Fleming) agreed to actually switch topics to reflect on this timely and important topic.

Also, a shout out to our journal board members [Gary Debele](#) and Laura Morgan for their extraordinary contributions in this edition. Gary (along with Sydnie Peterson) wrote on [constitutional issues in assisted reproductive technology](#).

and Laura (along with [Jennifer Koiles Pratt](#)), wrote on the question of the applicability of the Thirteenth Amendment ("[Involuntary Servitude](#)") to support obligations. A fascinating inquiry!

We are pleased to share this top-tier scholarship with our members and the family law community at large.

If you have a topic that you would like to propose or to write about, please contact either [Steve Peskind](#) or [Dana Prescott](#) with your ideas.

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**Time Travel:
Prenups and Identity**
by [Steven N. Peskind](#)

*Reprinted from [The Successful Lawyer](#)
blog*

Call it serendipity.

It's curious and amazing how two random unconnected events can converge to provide a new way of thinking.

I have been involved in a case where the parties signed a prenup roughly 35 years ago. The consequences of enforcement involve millions of dollars.

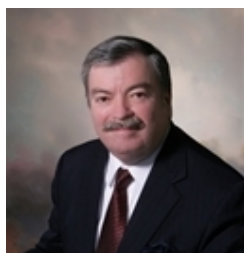
At the same time, I'm reading David Edmonds' mind-blowing biography of the late philosopher, Derek Parfit.

Among many other things, Parfit addressed the question of identity. Am I the same person I was when I was a child? And will I be the same person 20 years from now? Not really. Parfit theorized that identity isn't static; rather it is a continuum of psychological states. Our psychological state in our 20s isn't the same as in our 50s.

Parfit's thoughts on identity led me to question longstanding public policy favoring enforcement of premarital agreements.

While I appreciate notions of freedom of contract in a commercial sense, contracts governing intimate relationships are different. Typical mercantile contracts cover a single or a series of related transactions. Premarital agreements, on the other hand, may span a lifetime. And at least according to Parfit, the parties who execute the document today may be different persons at the time of enforcement. Parfit even questioned whether a person who commits a crime today and doesn't get caught until many years later should suffer the same sentence as one caught red handed because a "different" person may have committed the crime years ago. Interesting stuff.

[Click Here to Read More](#)



**Primer on Former Spouse Medical
Benefits: P.2**
by [Mark E. Sullivan](#)

Author of the [The Military Divorce Handbook](#)

[Click Here to Read Part 1](#) of this article which covered eligibility for benefits, coverage options, and military ID cards.

**Continued Health Care Benefit
Program (CHCBP)**

If the servicemember's spouse for some reason loses eligibility for

The CHCBP is not part of TRICARE; it is a health insurance plan negotiated between the Secretary of Defense and a private insurer. The spouse must apply for coverage within 60 days of losing TRICARE eligibility. The DoD sets the premiums for the CHCBP, and they must be paid promptly, either through a credit card on file with the agency or in quarterly advance payments. It is essential that the CHCBP premiums be paid on time and coverage not lapse because reenrollment will not be permitted.

On purchase of CHCBP coverage, the former spouse is entitled, on request, to medical care until the date that is 36 months after (1) the date on which the final decree of divorce,

one-year extension of dependency under 10 USC 1072(2)(H) (for 20/20/15 spouses with divorce decrees on or after April 1, 1985) expires, whichever is later. 10 USC 1078a(g)(1) (C).

For further information regarding CHCBP coverage and benefits, one can use a search engine to look for "CHCBP," contact a military medical treatment facility health benefits advisor, or contact the CHCBP Administrator, P.O. Box 740072, Louisville, KY 40201-7472 (800-444-5445). As of this writing, the URL for CHCBP is ([click here to view](#)).

Certain unremarried former spouses who cannot satisfy the 20/20/20 or 20/20/15 rules may nevertheless be

medical care (such as the entry of a judgment of divorce), the spouse may purchase a conversion health care policy under the DoD's Continued Health Care Benefit Program (CHCBP). 10 USC 1086(a).

dissolution, or annulment occurs, or (2) the date the

eligible for indefinite medical coverage through the CHCBP (under 10 USC 1078a and 32 CFR 199.20).

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Judge Anne Lamkin Durward

February 1, 1969 - May 27, 2023

In Loving Memory of an Outstanding Leader

The Officers, Board of Directors, and Friends of the AAML Foundation mourn the loss of Judge Anne Lamkin Durward. She passed away unexpectedly on May 27, 2023 at home with her husband John and their dogs Duke and Laney. We express our deep sorrow and condolences to John and Anne's family.

Committed to the field of matrimonial law, Judge Durward served as a Judicial Fellow of both the International Academy of Family Lawyers (IAFL) and the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers (AAML). Judge Durward has served on multiple committees of the AAML and as President of the Alabama Chapter. Since 2021, she has served as President of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers Foundation. Judge Durward and her husband John were known for traveling the globe with these organizations with dear friends and colleagues from across the country. Judge Durward is a Fellow of the Alabama Law Foundation; a Life Fellow and past President of the Board of Directors of the Birmingham Bar Foundation; an active member in the Birmingham Bar Association and its Family Law and Women Lawyers Sections; and a member of the Magic City Bar Association. Judge Durward twice served as President of the Legal Aid Society of Birmingham and was a member of the Board of Directors for the Birmingham Bar Volunteer Lawyers Program. Judge Durward was recognized by the Birmingham Bar Foundation with the 2018 Excellence Award. She has served as a speaker for multiple continuing legal education seminars for the Alabama State Bar, the American Bar Association, and other national and international organizations.



2023 Annual Billable Hour Campaign

Please help us make the 2023 Annual Billable Hour Campaign our most successful fundraising campaign. Thanks to your past generosity, the AAML Foundation was able to provide grants to 45 agencies and organizations serving children and families across the country this year. We hope you will continue with your generous support, and if you have not supported this campaign in the past, we hope that you will join us in our efforts.

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The billable hour donations that are collected from our Fellows go directly to funding grants awarded to service organizations and Non-Profit Organizations dedicated to helping families and children. Your donation of a billable hour has and will provide greatly needed financial support to programs that positively impact all of our communities.

Since its founding, the AAML Foundation has provided grants to over 140 charitable organizations in 35 states and the District of Columbia that now total more than \$2.1 million. This year, we were able to provide grant awards totaling \$225,000, all made possible through the support of our Fellows and friends.

Your gift of one billable hour of your time will enable the Foundation to continue to make a tremendous difference in the lives of families and children adversely affected by divorce across the country. The Foundation is very proud to have been able to provide such a tangible helping hand to so many in need through the years.

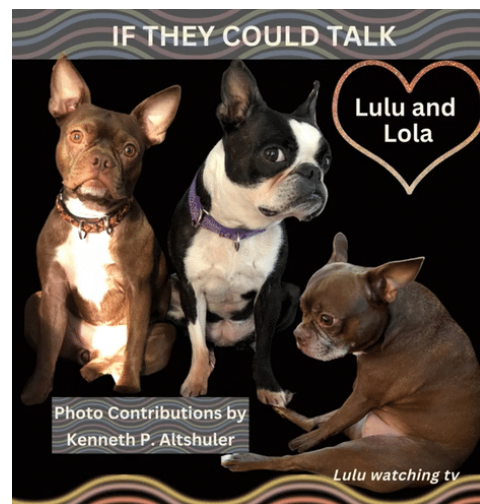
Just look at a few of the programs that were assisted by the Foundation in 2023:

- *FamilyKind in New York City.*

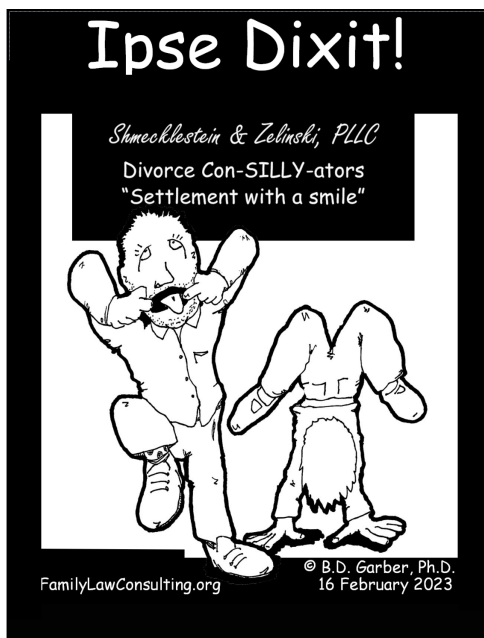
FamilyKind provides mediation, parent coordination, financial counseling and support to families going through a divorce.

[Click Here to Read More](#)

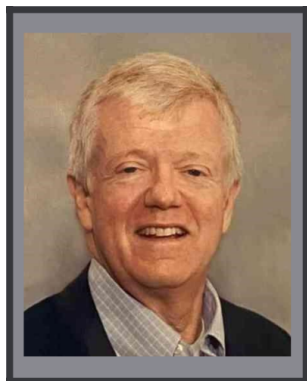
Ipse Dixit! is a monthly cartoon created by Co-conspirators: [Dana E. Prescott](#) and [Ben Garber, PhD](#). [Click to View Past Cartoon Creations](#) and have a laugh.



If They Could Talk is your animal companions section. [Have a Look at the Gallery](#) to see this month's and past



newsletter's submissions. Send us your furry and non-furry animal's photos! Please send to: mary@aaml.org



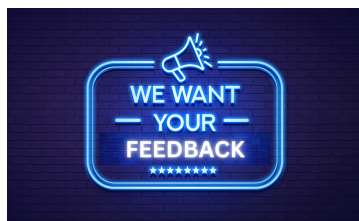
William Stokes Harris, Jr.

February 24, 2023

Fellow since 1993

Lexington, KY

[Obituary](#)



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