

American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers - November 2023*Monthly Newsletter*[Click to View in Your Browser](#)[PAST NEWSLETTERS](#) | [MEMBER RESOURCE CENTER](#) | [EVENTS](#) | [BOOKSTORE](#) | [JOURNAL](#)[Editor's Message \(Video\)](#)[Tech Tips](#)[Ipse Dixit!](#)[Fireside Chats \(Video\)](#)[Upcoming Events](#)[If They Could Talk](#)[Announcements](#)[Articles](#)**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Brent A. Cashatt
AAML President

If you want to make a year feel like a blink of an eye (See, Kenny Chesney's "Don't Blink"), have the pleasure of becoming the

incredible opportunity to champion the Academy's mission, meet Fellows from all over the country, and showcase the many benefits of membership of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers for family law practitioners.

Even as my time as President comes to an end, my commitment to advancing the Academy's work has only grown stronger. I've gained a deeper appreciation for what our organization provides to our members and the family law

my wife, Stacey, my Counsel, Anita Ventrelli, my Parliamentarian and Past President, Ken Altshuler, my Executive Committee, and our Executive Director, Jill Pena. I'm thankful for my team's willingness to champion our ideas and enable us to make meaningful contributions. I'm excited to continue supporting the Academy, albeit with a little less travel.

To my great friends, & concert-goers, Ben and Jenny Stevens, you are ready, and you have

Academy's President. It's hard to believe that just a year ago, I was sworn in as President by my mentor and dear friend (and Past President), John Slowiaczek. And, dressed in my great friend's real umpire's uniform (Love you, Mike Everitt – No. 57, but number 1 in my heart).

Over the past 12 months, I've had the

profession. We set the standard for what it means to be a successful family law attorney, and we must never lose sight of that.

I'm grateful for the incredible support system I've had over the past year, especially

“earned this” honor and privilege. Stacey and I will always be here for you, and we will see you at John Mellencamp in Des Moines.

Thank you for the honor of serving as President of the Academy. I'm grateful.



Click Above to view the
EDITOR'S MESSAGE

[Kiilu Davis](#)
[Natalia C. Wilson](#)



Click Above to view
November's Fireside Chat
Check all past FCs on YouTube!
[Fireside Chat Playlist](#)



We Welcome the Following New Fellows to the Academy!

[Jennifer Breen](#)
North Adams, MA

[Meghan M. Clary](#)
Fort Lauderdale, FL

[Matthew Dodd](#)
Bozeman, MT

[Morgan E. Honeycutt](#)
Santa Fe, NM

[Erik Moore](#)
San Diego, CA

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A Huge Thank you to our
Sponsors! Click on the Graphic
Below to Learn More About Them!

Social Media

Be sure to share your disco attire
and event-related photos!



2023 Annual Meeting



#23AAMLDisco

[Download the latest schedule from the registration page.](#)

We'll see you in Chicago!

Online Registration is now closed.

If you would still like to register,
please contact
office@aaml.org.



Robie House: A Modern Home

Guided Interior Tour - \$55

Friday, November 10th

8:30 am - 11:45 am

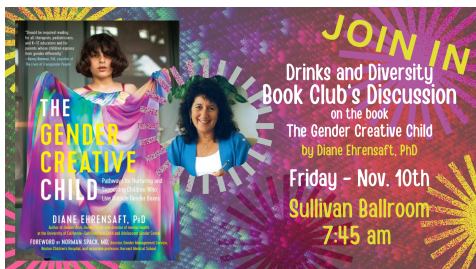
1 Day Left to Register!

REGISTER

Frank Lloyd Wright described this house as "a cornerstone of modern architecture". This guided tour takes in both the exterior and interior of the building. Inspired by the expansive landscape of the Midwest prairie houses. Completed in 1910, the Robie House is recognized today as one of the most important buildings of the 20th century. It is inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List.

Bus Transportation will be provided to and from the Robie House. Please email office@aaml.org with any inquiries.

Registration Deadline: 11/02/2023



The RERC Committee will be hosting a ***Drinks & Diversity Book Club*** at the Annual Meeting in Chicago on **Friday November 10th at 7:45 am** in the Sullivan Room. We will be discussing the book, "The Gender Creative Child" by Diane Ehrensaft. Diane is our Joanne Ross Wilder speaker on Saturday at 9:00 am.





**CLICK ABOVE
TO WATCH THE VIDEO**

Tech Tips Videos

The AAML Law Practice Management & Technology Committee's Tech Tip for November is brought to you by the Co-Chair of the Committee, [Lawrence C. Dotz](#). Lawrence shares a tip on fast and accurate transcript review. Check out this and all of the videos this committee has been providing you since 2021. [Click Here](#) for all Tech Tips to Date (Login Required to View All)



WEBINAR - 60 Mins CLE

Open to ALL

Watch Live or On-Demand

The Untapped Potential of Arbitration

Nov. 29, 2023 - 12:00pm-1:00pm (CT)

REGISTER - Login for Fellow Rate

Join us for a thought-provoking session as Speakers, [Carolyn N. Daly](#), [Heather Q. Hostetter](#) and [Carolyn M. Zack](#), along with Moderators, [Ryan P. Nowlin](#) and [Jared B. Pinkus](#), explore the untapped potential of arbitration in our practice areas, dispel common misconceptions surrounding this valuable dispute resolution method and share best practice tips to enhance your family law practice.

During this webinar, we will discuss the benefits of arbitration, showcasing how it can provide a more efficient, cost-effective, and tailored approach to resolving family law disputes. From complex financial matters to sensitive child custody arrangements in certain circumstances, arbitration offers flexibility and confidentiality while preserving the parties' autonomy.

Our panel of experts will share their insights, strategies, and best practices, helping you navigate the intricacies of arbitration and leverage its advantages to better serve your clients. You will gain practical tips on drafting effective arbitration agreements, managing client expectations, and advocating for favorable outcomes.

This webinar is an excellent opportunity to enhance your skills, broaden your knowledge, and strengthen your family law practice. Don't miss out on this invaluable chance to engage with fellow professionals and expand your expertise in the evolving landscape of arbitration.





Webinar - Complimentary to ALL

3 Secrets to Successfully Leading Change Within Your Law Practice: Getting the Buy In

December 12, 2023

12:00pm-1:00pm Central

[REGISTER](#)

Implementing new and better ways of working within your practice requires accepting the reality that change is difficult for many people. Join us as [Speaker, Terry Kozlowski](#) and [Moderator, Nancy Chausow Shafer](#) present this session which includes three secrets to help you manage the emotional responses that may arise with your people when faced with the request to change. Change includes new or different processes, launching new software or making any other tactical improvements for better client service, upgraded efficiency, or increased profitability. If you are asking or plan to ask people to operate differently from their current comfort zones, you will benefit from this session.



Zoom Meeting

Complimentary to AAML Fellows

Drinks and Diversity

December 13, 2023

7:00pm-8:30pm (CT)

[REGISTER - Login Required](#)

Moderators, AAML Fellows [Cassie Chin](#) and [Natalia Wilson](#) will lead an open discussion with members of the judiciary from Northeastern states. Join us as [Hon. Rossie D. Alston, Jr.](#), [Hon. Tamra Walker](#), and [Hon. Steven M. Wellner](#) speak about how cultural competencies impact their rulings. We are offering a peek behind the robe to gain more insight on what jurists consider when they rule, if they consider the impact of their rulings on those who hear them when rendered, and if the public at large plays a role in the consideration of cultural nuances that are present in the appointment of professionals.



UPCOMING NATIONAL EVENTS/MEETINGS

[2023 AAML Annual Meeting](#)

[November 8 - 11, 2023](#)

[Chicago, IL](#)

[Webinar - The Untapped Potential of Arbitration](#)

[November 29, 2023](#)

[12:00pm - 1:00pm CT](#)

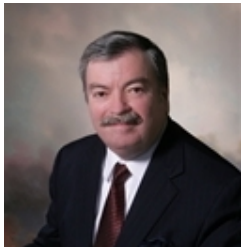
UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS/MEETINGS

[AAML-SoCal 32nd Annual Institute of Trial Advocacy](#)

[Santa Monica, CA](#)

[January 12-15, 2024](#)

[AAML-VA - Dangerous Intersections with
Family Law](#)

[Webinar - 3 Secrets to Successfully Leading Change Within](#)[Your Law Practice: Getting the Buy In](#)[December 12, 2023](#)[12:00pm - 1:00pm CT](#)[Drinks and Diversity](#)[December 13, 2023](#)[7:00pm - 8:30pm CT](#)[Click to View More](#)[Richmond, VA](#)[January 16, 2024](#)[AAML-FL 2024 Marital & Family Law Review Course](#)[Bonnet Creek, Orlando](#)[January 26-27, 2024](#)[Click to View More](#)**Four Deadly Mistakes:****Scott v. Tran**by [Mark E. Sullivan](#)Author of the *The Military Divorce Handbook*

In the opening scene of "The Music Man," the assembled salesmen all agree that "you've got to know the territory." The same saying is true in the legal world. While knowing the facts is important, knowing the law and having a good lawyer are even higher priorities.

The recent case, *Scott v. Tran*, 2021 U.S. App. Vet. Claims LEXIS 127, shows the importance of teaming up with a good advocate, knowing what you're asking for, and where to request it. Or, to change the metaphor slightly, "If you're knocking on the wrong door, don't be surprised if nobody answers."

The Facts

Sheila Scott, representing herself, filed an appeal to the 2019 decision of the Board of Veterans' Appeals which determined that she was not a surviving spouse of Billy Scott, and thus

she was not entitled to VA death pension benefits as a result of his death.

Long on patience and kindness, Judge Grant C. Jacquith (a retired Army JAG colonel) gently reminded Ms. Scott of the importance of knowing what you're looking for and where you should go to find it.

Sheila married Billy in 1973. They were divorced in 2010. The only statement regarding Billy's military service was this: "Mr. Scott served on active duty from

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Journal of the American Academy of
Matrimonial Lawyers AAML

The issue also contains submissions on a number of timely topics, including those

Our issue editors are Christine Albano and Julie Auerbach. Christy Albano is an established

[Steven N. Peskind](#) and
[Dana E. Prescott](#), Co-Chairs

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.

About The Latest Journal Volume 36-1

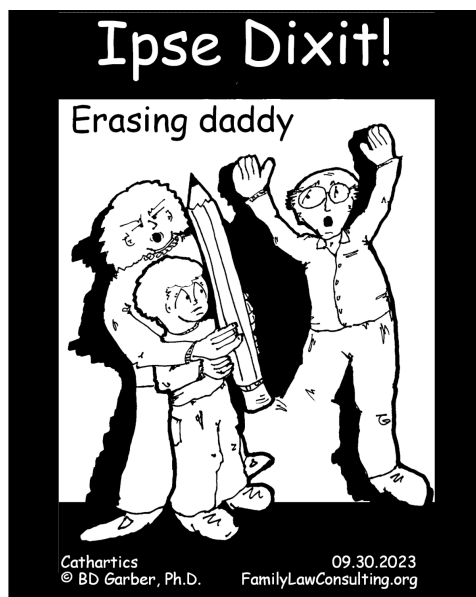
This volume of the journal is devoted to real property issues in family law. We have two excellent articles on the topic as well as an extensive bibliography.

related to the division of military pensions, The Uniform Cohabitants Economic Remedies Act and a review of safe haven legislation throughout the country. It also includes an excellent piece, of interest to many experienced family law attorneys, on the ethical risk of relying too much on that experience. The issue concludes with four well researched comments by our student editors.

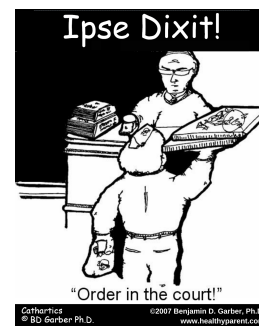
Texas Board Certified Family law attorney and a graduate of UMKC School of Law. She has been published in several national publications and received numerous awards for her commitment to the community and the profession.

[Click to Read More](#)

[Click here](#) to view all past Journal Volumes.



Check out last month's cartoon [HERE](#).



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.



This month, Rebekah Frye's *Spike the "Catnip Slayer"* is up to his kitten activities.

Have a [Look at the Gallery](#) to see this and past newsletter submissions.

Send us your furry and non-furry animal's photos and we will post them in an upcoming edition of the monthly newsletter! Please send to: mary@aaml.org



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[Natalia C. Wilson](#)

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