

AAML



THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF
MATRIMONIAL LAWYERS PRESENTS:

THE NATIONAL FAMILY LAW CONFERENCE

ACCELERATE YOUR PRACTICE



MAY 16-18, 2024

EMBASSY SUITES BY HILTON
DOWNTOWN NASHVILLE
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE



SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

Thursday, May 16, 2024

5:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. | Registration and Exhibits Open

5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. | Dinner

5:45 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. | CLE Sessions

- Retirement Riddles: Unraveling IRA, 401(k), QDROs and More in Divorce
- Hot Tips to Elevate Your Family Law Practice

8:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. | Networking and Desserts

Friday, May 17, 2024

7:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. | Registration and Exhibits Open

7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. | Networking Breakfast

8:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. | CLE Sessions

- Keynote: Client-First Advocacy: Shaping the Future of Family Law Firms
- Business, Bucks and Breakups: Mastering Business Valuations and Leveraging Your BV Expert in Divorce
- The Ethics Equation: Balancing Advocacy and Responsibility in Family Law

12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. | Lunch and Exhibitor Networking

1:15 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. | CLE Sessions

- Presenting a Champagne Case on a Beer Budget
- Shifting Sands: Understanding the Changes and Erosion of the UCCJEA in a Mobile Society
- Crypto, Cash and Concealment: Finding and Tracing Hidden Assets in Divorce
- Game of Trials: Mastering the Courtroom in the Age of Modern Family Law

6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. | Dine Arouns (*separate signup coming soon*)

Saturday, May 18, 2024

7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. | Registration and Exhibits Open

7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. | Networking Breakfast

8:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. | CLE Sessions

- The Art of Attraction: Drawing Clients and Referrals to Your Family Law Practice
- Psychological Warfare: Understanding and Utilizing Mental Health Evaluations in Litigation
- Navigating the Modern Family Landscape: Dealing with Clients/Parents and Children in an Evolving Society
- Money Matters: Navigating Tax and Financial Landmines in High Net Worth Divorces

12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. | Lunch and Exhibitor Networking

1:15 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. | CLE Sessions

- The Drunk Elephant in the Room: Managing and Litigating Alcohol Abuse Issues in Divorce and Child Custody Cases
- Keynote: Commanding the Courtroom: Mastering Oral Arguments in Family Law

**These sessions are eligible for CLE credit, pending state approval.*

PROGRAM DETAIL

THURSDAY



6:00 - 7:00 p.m. - Retirement Riddles: Unraveling IRA, 401(k), QDROs & More in Divorce

Panel: Maureen Glackin, Esq.

Reinstein, Glackin & Herriott, LLC, Annapolis, MD

Emily W. McBurney, Esq.

Emily W. McBurney, PC, Atlanta, GA

Prepare to decode the complexities of retirement assets in divorce cases. This enlightening session will navigate the labyrinth of retirement assets, including IRAs, 401(k)s, and the interplay between alimony and retirement as well as mandatory withdrawals and their effects on benefits. Uncover the strategic nuances of QDROs (Qualified Domestic Relations Orders) and master the art of achieving equitable distributions. We will unravel the retirement riddles that often confound divorce proceedings and equip you with the knowledge and skills needed to secure your clients' financial futures.



7:00 - 8:00 p.m. - Hot Tips to Elevate Your Family Law Practice

Panel: Maureen Glackin, Esq.

Reinstein, Glackin & Herriott, LLC, Annapolis, MD

Scott M. Mann, Esq.

Mann Tucker Muir Gordon, LLC, Leawood, KS

Thomas J. Sasser, Esq.

Sasser, Cestero & Roy, P.A., West Palm Beach, FL

J. Benjamin Stevens, Esq.

The Stevens Law Group, LLC, Spartanburg, SC

Brian C. Vertz, Esq.

Pollock Begg, Pittsburgh, PA



This engaging session is designed to equip family law attorneys with actionable insights to thrive in today's legal landscape. A panel of nationally renowned AAML Fellows will provide tips and tools to empower you to excel in the ever-evolving field of family law. Whether you're seeking to enhance your client relationships, streamline your processes, or boost your professional growth, this presentation has you covered.

PROGRAM DETAIL

FRIDAY

**8:30 - 9:30 a.m. - Keynote: Client-First Advocacy:
Shaping the Future of Family Law Firms**

Speaker: Jack Newton

Author of *The Client-Centered Law Firm: How to Succeed
in an Experience-Driven World*

The AAML is proud to announce its inaugural National Conference for family law attorneys, kicking off with a keynote presentation by Jack Newton, the pioneering mind behind Clio Practice Management System. Newton is a leader in cloud-based legal technology. He is not only an expert in cloud security, ethics, and efficiency for lawyers, but also a visionary who has been shaping the future of law for over a decade and inspired thousands of lawyers to embrace the power of cloud technology and client-centered design. This session is designed for the ambitious family law attorney poised to transcend the ordinary and achieve the extraordinary.

Newton will share invaluable insights into constructing a practice where client experience is not just a priority, but the cornerstone of success. Learn from the architect of the client-centered model that has redefined legal services and take home strategies to build a reputation that resonates with distinction and excellence.

Each attendee of this groundbreaking event will receive a copy of Newton's best-selling book, *The Client-Centered Law Firm*.



PROGRAM DETAIL

FRIDAY

9:30 - 11:00 a.m. - Business, Bucks & Breakups: Mastering Business Valuations & Leveraging Your BV Expert in Divorce

Panel: **Neil Beaton, CPA/ABV, CFA, ASA**

Alvarez & Marsal Valuation Services, Managing Director

Scott M. Mann, Esq.

Mann Tucker Muir Gordon, LLC, Leawood, KS

Chris Mercer, FASA, CFA, ABAR

Mercer Capital

Amanda S. Trigg, Esq.

Cohn Lifland Pearlman Herrmann & Knopf, Saddle Brook, NJ

This session will demystify the intricacies of business valuations and empower you to harness their full potential in family law cases. Discover the art of selecting, collaborating with, and deposing business valuation experts to strengthen your legal arsenal. Also, uncover insights on leveraging these experts as consultants in complex scenarios to help gain an edge in complex family law cases.

11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. - The Ethics Equation: Balancing Advocacy & Responsibility in Family Law

Panel: **Brent A. Cashatt, Esq.**

CashattWarren Family Law, Des Moines, IA

Steven N. Peskind, Esq.

Peskind Law Firm, St. Charles, IL

Lisa T. Spencer, Esq.

Henson & Efron, PA, Minneapolis, MN

This thought-provoking presentation will delve into advanced ethics topics, including the AAML's Bounds of Advocacy, as we explore the intricate balance between zealous representation and ethical responsibility. Discover the strategies and insights that will not only elevate your practice but also ensure you uphold the highest ethical standards in every case and empower you to navigate the moral complexities of family law with confidence and integrity.

1:15 - 2:15 p.m. - Presenting a Champagne Case on a Beer Budget

Panel: **Stacey N. Warren, Esq.**

CashattWarren Family Law, Des Moines, IA

Cassandra M. Chin, Esq.

Nichols Zauzig, Woodbridge, VA

Amanda S. Trigg, Esq.

Cohn Lifland Pearlman Herrmann & Knopf, Saddle Brook, NJ

How do you manage and litigate a complex case without breaking the bank? Learn ways to maximize the impact of discovery while staying within budget constraints. Discover the strategic advantages of engaging experts on a limited scope basis. This eye-opening session that will equip you with the tools and strategies to present a top-tier case without the financial strain.



PROGRAM DETAIL

FRIDAY

2:15 - 3:15 p.m. - Shifting Sands: Understanding the Changes & Erosion of the UCCJEA in a Mobile Society

Panel: **Laura C. Belleau, Esq.**

Karp & Weiss, Tucson, AZ

Stacey N. Warren, Esq.

CashattWarren Family Law, Des Moines, IA

In a world where families are constantly on the move, understanding the ever-shifting landscape of child custody jurisdiction is more important than ever. This session will address the intricate web of the UCCJEA, shedding light on its evolving jurisdictional standards for establishing, modifying, and enforcing child custody determinations. In an era where jurisdictional disputes can lead to costly delays, having the knowledge and insights needed to effectively navigate these complex cases will help ensure the best outcomes for your clients in our increasingly mobile society.

3:30 - 4:30 p.m. - Crypto, Cash and Concealment: Finding and Tracking Hidden Assets in Divorce

Panel: **Neil Beaton, CPA/ABV, CFA, ASA**

Alvarez & Marsal Valuation Services, Managing Director

Alex Krasnomowitz, CPA

Smolin Lupin, NJ

Thomas J. Sasser, Esq.

Sasser Cestero & Roy, P.A., West Palm Beach, FL

In an age where digital currencies, offshore accounts, and complex financial instruments can be used to conceal assets, this session will unveil advanced techniques to uncover and unlock the secrets of financial discovery in divorce cases. Join us as we delve into the world of forensic accounting, digital forensics, and legal strategies to unearth hidden wealth. This session will equip you with the tools and knowledge necessary to protect your clients' interests and ensure that equitable divisions are truly fair and just, even when assets are cleverly concealed.

4:30 - 5:30 p.m. - Game of Trials: Mastering the Courtroom in the Age of Modern Family Law

Panel: **Jason Naimi, Esq.**

Naimi Family Law Group, Las Vegas, NV

Anita M. Ventrelli, Esq.

Schiller DuCanto & Fleck, LLP, Chicago, IL

This must-attend presentation will provide a riveting look at modern family law trials and prepare you to conquer the courtroom like never before. Our skilled presenters will help unravel the intricacies of direct and cross-examination techniques, demystify the rules of evidence, and address the art of exhibit selection and presentation, to provide you with the strategic insights needed to navigate the courtroom with confidence and precision.



PROGRAM DETAIL

SATURDAY

8:00 - 9:00 a.m. - The Art of Attraction: Drawing Clients, Referrals & Profits to Your Family Law Practice

Panel: **Christopher C. Melcher, Esq.**

Walzer Melcher & Yoda, LLP, Woodland Hills, CA

Jim Mueller, Esq.

Verner Brumley Mueller Parker, Dallas, TX

Darrin Sennott

Scorpion, Valencia, CA

Unlock the secrets of client attraction and watch your family law practice flourish. From harnessing the power of compelling storytelling to building a robust online presence and nurturing lasting client relationships, you'll discover techniques to revolutionize the way you approach your family law practice, ultimately leading to increased client acquisition, heightened reputation, and impressive financial gains.

9:00 - 10:00 a.m. - Psychological Warfare: Understanding and Utilizing Mental Health Evaluations in Litigation

Panel: **Bradley Freeman, M.D.**

Vanderbilt Psychiatric Hospital, Nashville, TN

Marlene Eskind Moses, Esq.

GSRM Law, Nashville, TN

Delve into the world of mental health experts and evaluations as we demystify the different types, their strengths, and limitations. This session will equip you with the strategic knowledge and insights to work with mental health experts and navigate the complexities of psychological evaluations, allowing you to advocate for your clients with unmatched precision in family law litigation. Don't miss this opportunity to master the psychological battlefield of the courtroom.

10:15 - 11:15 a.m. - Navigating the Modern Family Landscape: Dealing with Clients/Parents and Children in an Evolving Society

Panel: **Deborah O. Day, Psy.D.**

Psychological Affiliates, Winter Park, FL

Elisha D. Roy, Esq.

Sasser, Cestero & Roy, West Palm Beach, FL

In today's ever-evolving society, the concept of family is undergoing profound transformation. This presentation will delve into the intricacies of the developmental stages of children, mental health issues with clients and children, and how those issues interplay with the everchanging society with social media, remote work and education, relocation, technology and how lawyers can advise clients and draft Parenting Plans to address same.



PROGRAM DETAIL

SATURDAY

11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. - Money Matters: Navigating Tax and Financial Landmines in High Net Worth Divorces

Panel: **Michelle Gallagher, CPA, ABV, CFF**

Adamy Valuation, East Lansing, MI

Brian C. Vertz, Esq, MBA

Pollock Begg, Pittsburgh, PA

Join us for an insightful session covering key financial aspects in family law cases. Our speakers will guide you in identifying and managing assets with built-in taxable gains, addressing the nuances of net value negotiation and in-kind distributions. Explore the concept of double dipping in income streams from rental real estate, retirement annuities, and businesses, and learn how to make strategic decisions early in your case. Finally, delve into the timing, taxation, and valuation of equity compensation, including restricted stock, options, and appreciation rights, while considering the impact of client risk tolerance. Don't miss this opportunity to sharpen your financial acumen.

1:15 - 1:45 p.m. - The Drunk Elephant in the Room: Managing & Litigating Alcohol Abuse Issues in Divorce and Child Custody Cases

Panel: **Mike Fonseca**

Soberlink, National Sales Manager, Huntington Beach, CA

Elisha D. Roy, Esq.

Sasser, Cestero & Roy, West Palm Beach, FL

Confront the challenging issue of alcohol abuse in divorce and child custody cases in this presentation. Join us as we navigate the complexities of addressing substance abuse within family dynamics, offering practical insights on when and how to tackle this sensitive issue in your cases. Learn strategies to proactively set up families for success beyond litigation and discover the power of tools like Soberlink to substantiate substance abuse claims and present compelling evidence at trial. Don't miss this opportunity to gain the knowledge and tools needed to ensure the safety and well-being of families affected by alcohol abuse.

PROGRAM DETAIL

SATURDAY

1:45 - 2:45 p.m. - Closing Keynote: Commanding the Courtroom: Mastering Oral Arguments in Family Law

Speaker: Steven N. Peskind

Author of *The Divorce Trial Manual: From Initial Interview to Closing Argument (2nd ed.)*

Join the esteemed Steven Peskind, renowned author of the “Divorce Trial Manual,” for an immersive masterclass in the dynamics of courtroom persuasion specifically tailored for family law. This program is not just a lecture—it’s an interactive journey into the strategic depths of persuasion through oral advocacy.

Unlock the secrets to holding the court’s attention, swaying the undecided factfinder, and leaving an indelible impression that will be hard for your opponent to overcome. Elevate your courtroom performance into an art form with Peskind as your guide.

Each attendee of this ground-breaking event will receive a copy of Peskind’s best-selling book, *The Divorce Trial Manual: From Initial Interview to Closing Argument*.



