



The Quattro Firm About Town

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Welcome to The Quattro Firm

At the Quattro firm, we believe in viewing our client as a whole person as opposed to just a set of legal issues. We believe that in order to be a successful advocate, we must be able to understand the full needs of our clients, not just the legal needs. By using this full understanding, we advocate with compassion.

more on **2**

Meet The Quattro Firm



Nicole McNamara Quattrocchi is the founding member of the Quattro Firm. She is a 2008 Southern Methodist University Law School graduate and a 2004 Wake Forest University Graduate. Nicole is a licensed Texas attorney where her practice involved mostly civil and commercial litigation. Nicole has been licensed in Florida since 2014 and has centered most of her practice on domestic relations law.

Nicole has spent a lot of time volunteering in her legal career whether it be through pro bono cases or through assisting at the Hurricane Katrina Relief Clinic in law school. Nicole believes in viewing the client as a whole person and not just a specific legal issue and therefore has, thus far, taken every case that the firm can handle, regardless of inability to pay. She is a passionate and compassionate attorney who looks forward to working with people across the spectrum of life with all of their legal needs.



Robert J. Fraxedas specializes in Estate and Tax Planning, as well as Estate Administration and Litigation. He is a 2015 University of Miami graduate (LL.M. – Estate Planning) and a 2005 University of Florida graduate (J.D.). Robert has been licensed in Florida since 2006, and currently lives in Boca Raton.

Robert regularly presents seminars on estate planning and probate matters throughout the state of Florida. A former president of Citrus Civitan, Robert believes in donating time and hands-on effort to the less fortunate. He has organized fundraising events for people with congenital disabilities, mentors underprivileged school-age children, and volunteers at homeless shelters. He strongly believes in providing all clients the best legal counsel possible, from highly compensated executives to impoverished individuals.



Melanie Bruchet is a 2012 graduate of Mercer University's Walter F. George School of Law in Macon, Georgia, where she received her J.D. and a Certificate in Advanced Legal Writing, Research, and Drafting from Mercer's top rated legal writing program. Melanie served on the Board of Directors for the Stonewall Bar Association of Georgia as well as completed internships at CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) for Children and the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of New Jersey.

Melanie has presented nationally on the subjects of human trafficking and LGBT youth in the juvenile court system. She also co-authored an amicus brief to the Georgia Supreme Court on the issue of post-separation custodial rights and the emotional effect on children of divorced parents. Melanie maintains an active bar license in Georgia and is sworn in to both the Georgia Court of Appeals and the Georgia Supreme Court. A South Florida native, she currently lives in Asheville, North Carolina.



Maria Kontos obtained her Bachelor of Arts from Florida Atlantic University in 1995. Ms. Kontos has over 16 years of experience working on complex and voluminous civil, criminal and family law cases which involve organizing thousands of documents, discovery and file organization.

Ms. Kontos is intricately involved in the defense of all of the firm's clients' cases and takes great pride in assisting and working toward a favorable outcome in each case.

Read more about The Quattro Firm at www.thequattrofirm.com

Meet The Quattro Firm



Sarah Kontos has been working professionally in accounting since 2005. Her experience includes conducting, supervising, and reviewing annual audits, bookkeeping and payroll, and compilations and examinations of the financial records of a wide range of businesses including non-profits, law firms, restaurants, 401(k) plans, and other service industries.

Sarah attended Florida Atlantic University earning her degree in Mathematics and attending an additional two years of studies in Accounting and Business Administration. She is originally from West Palm Beach, FL. She is a supporting member of Compass Lake Worth, United Way and Farm Sanctuary, and she volunteers at various fundraising events for local charities.



Jennifer Mondone is the office manager of the Quattro Firm. Jennifer grew up in upstate New York. She is a graduate of the Ohio State University where she studied financial management and business administration. Since graduating she's lived in North Carolina and settled in Florida for the last 13 years. This is her first job at a law firm but has previously dabbled in the insurance and mortgage industry, most recently in management for restaurants, from start ups to corporate chains and sales.

Jennifer also assisted in co-creating 2 humans which for the last 6 years has been her main focus and accomplishment. She enjoys spending her time with the family, paddle boarding, volunteering at the kids school, movie nights and anything involving wine or mimosas.



Alexandra Perez is a twenty year old who just completed her junior year as an undergraduate at the University of Central Florida. She attended Suncoast High School in Rivera Beach where she graduated with her International Baccalaureate Degree. Throughout her college years Alexandra has gained a passion for international human rights law through her active participation in International Medical Outreach and Phi Alpha Delta pre-law society.

After her undergraduate graduation, Alexandra plans to participate in the Peace Corps for two years until she attends law school in either Washington D.C. or New York. After law school, Alexandra hopes to practice human rights law domestically or internationally.



Victoria Hurtado is a nineteen year old freshman at the University of Central Florida. She graduated from Keys Gate Charter High School in Homestead, Florida. While in high school, Victoria volunteered at the local homeless shelter which ignited her passion for family law. Victoria would like to attend law school in New York, and plans to participate in a family law clinic there. After law school, Victoria would like to work as a Guardian ad Litem attorney.

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The Quattro Firm About Town



Nicole Quattrocchi and her husband celebrate at Pioneer Linen's first Trivia Night along with Sienna the dog.



Nicole and her family attend Cartoon Night of Safari Nights at the Palm Beach Zoo



+ Our Practice Areas

- Family Law & Domestic Relations
 - Marital Contracts
 - Civil Litigation
- Commercial Litigation
- Corporate Matters
- Business Formation
- Contract Drafting & Review
- Family Law Mediation
- General Litigation
- LGBT Issues & Custody
- Estate Planning
- Wills & Trusts
- Probate Litigation
- Probate Administration

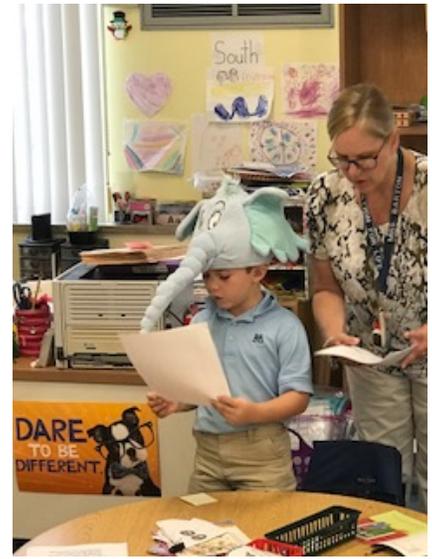
Nicole Quattrocchi, Alexandra Perez, Jennifer Mondone and Victoria Hurtado enjoy a working lunch at the Grilled Chees Gallery.



The Quattro Firm About Town



Nicole volunteered to teach children of both Rosarian Academy and Bright Child Academy all about the law in Horton The Elephant themed Mock Trial. The kids learned a lot about courtrooms and lawyers and they had fun while learning.



July Promotion:

This month we honor the heat in Florida and ask that you post pictures of what you do to “beat the heat.” Please upload your favorite pictures to our Facebook page and use our hashtag #theQuattroFirm to win discounts of 10% off your monthly invoice or flat rate fees.





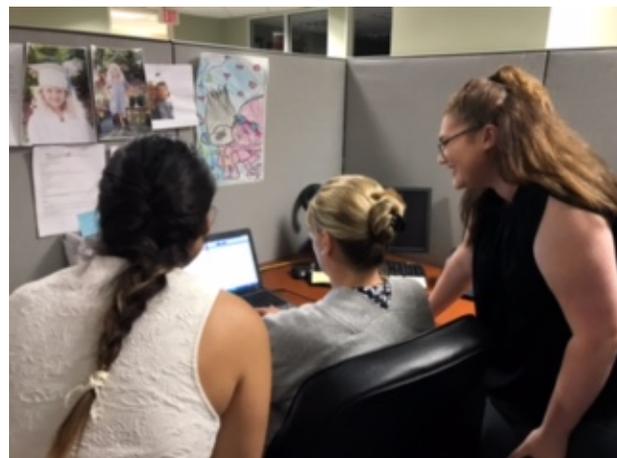
The Quattro Firm happily sponsored the Spring Dance Recital for Lisa's Dance and Exercise.



The Quattrocchi children and the Mondone children dressed up to go to see Despicable Me 3 with their families and support local movie theatres.



Jennifer Mondone teaches interns Alexa and Victoria all about e-filing and how to electronically serve the opposing party.



Misconceptions about Divorce and Child Custody

By Alexandra Perez

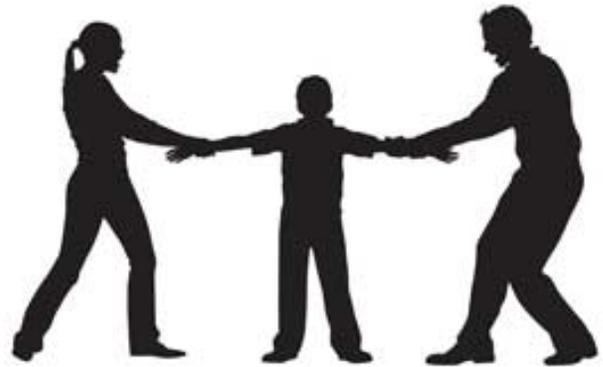
Divorce is no easy process. The constant stress of losing a spouse, expensive fees associated with separation, and the impact it can have for your children can make a divorce a difficult time in one's life.

One nightly debate with my father sparked our thoughts on divorce. Growing up as someone affected by



separated parents and having a father who has gone through the process, our

thoughts on the topic could not have been more different. As a child who is well experienced in field of divorced parents, as well as interning at the Quattro Firm, I had a much different input than that of my father. He thinks, like many other men, that the entire process is unjust because women are more heavily favored than men.



With 48 percent of marriages dissolving within 20 years, the chances a married couple may seek divorce is rather high. Additionally, the number of couples that have children and seek divorce is just as high. Therefore, it is important to remember not to put stress on them during the process. Mediation can be a method used which can be beneficial for emotional satisfaction, spousal relationships, and children's needs. Children often experience more problems when parents remain in high-conflict marriages instead of splitting up. Staying together for the sake of one's family may not be the best option in the long-term. Divorce is a breeding ground for conflict, however, it is imperative that the conflict does not interfere with children as some consequences may be irreversible.

Although divorce is not always the most appealing option, spending thousands of dollars on attorney fees, the realization that your family will no longer be the same, and the fear of change after separation, the long-term aspects may be the more profitable than staying in a marriage.



" There's something so special about a woman who dominates in a man's world. It takes a certain grace, strength, intelligence, fearlessness, and the nerve to never take no for an answer. "

—Rihanna

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The longer the marriage lasts the more of a liability develops when a couple seeks divorce. The length of the

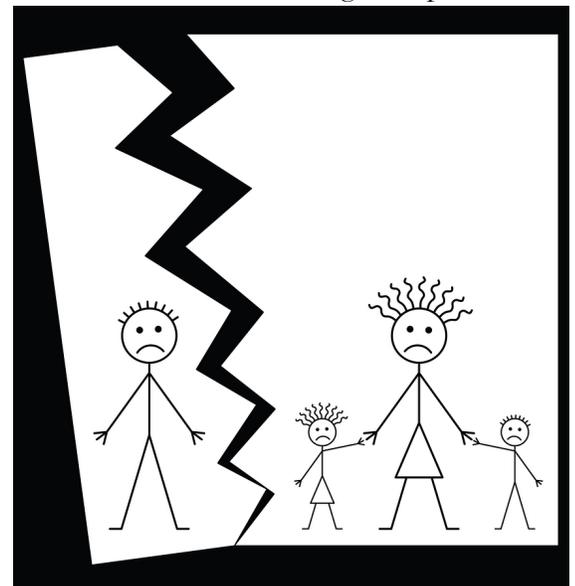


marriage determines the amount of a spouse’s potential award in Florida. Under Florida Law, one’s spouse could be entitled to half of what was accumulated in the retirement fund during the length of marriage. Additionally, the chance of paying spousal support or alimony increases when a marriage lasts seven or more

years. To combat the odds, Things prenuptial agreement before marriage or a post-nuptial agreement after the marriage can deal with the division of assets and alimony.

As mentioned, the financial burden that can potentially arise from divorce does not appease the process. And unlike alimony and retirement funds, child support cannot be waived in a prenuptial agreement. Child support is determined by the income of both spouses, the needs of the child, as well as how much timesharing each parent has with the child. Uncontested proceedings are an option for those looking to agree on basic terms of asset division, alimony and timesharing, but many people do not know that this is an option. Also, “uncontested” is not always possible with the degree of conflict between the parties.

When going through a custody battle, the judge is required to look at what the “child’s best interest[s]” are. Therefore, to determine custody, a judge cannot discriminate based on gender but rather come to the decision of who would provide better for the child based on their needs. Parents who necessarily “bring home the bacon”, are not favored by the judge any more than a stay-at-home parent would be. In fact, if one is able to provide a strong case for the child’s best interest, one may have a decent chance of being awarded physical custody or more timesharing. Children’s best interests include financial needs, emotional needs, stability of the parent, school districts, and much more.



As mentioned before, divorce is a breeding ground for conflict. Although things may begin amicably, situations are likely to change for the worse the more involved the couple gets in the process. Therefore, the “I don’t need a lawyer mentality” can be detrimental during separation to one’s assets and overall well-being. The consequences of saving a couple of thousands from attorney’s fees will become apparent when one does not have the proper representation for protection of one’s rights and perspective.

Misconceptions about Divorce and Child Custody

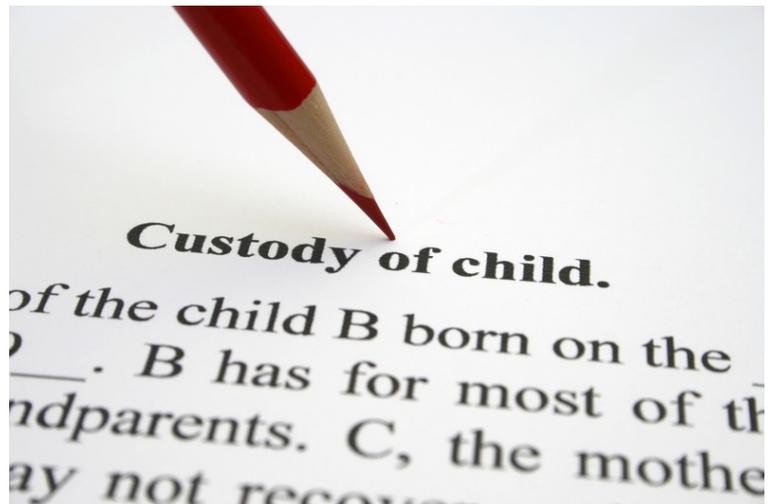
By Alexandra Perez

Therefore, I believe that when my father referred to women being more entitled to compensation from divorce, he failed to realize that hiring an attorney to represent you even in something as common as divorce, can drastically change the outcome. Most to all cases he presented were all scenarios in which only one spouse acquired an attorney, while the other did not.



Furthermore, societal norms are continuing to change, altering the course of divorces. Retrospectively, it may seem that women would have been awarded more than their fair share during the divorce, entitlement to half of their spouse’s pension and even

alimony. Before the number of stay-at-home dads increased, women traditionally took on the role of homemaker. In most cases, women who are stay-at-home parents do not earn a livable income nor seek higher education. Due to this, it is understandable as to why a false preconceived notion about men getting the short end of the stick may have developed. However, now that the number of fathers staying home with their children has doubled in the past two decades, it may be more apparent that rewards of divorce are not gender specific.



“Culturally now, most parents do a little of both,” meaning men and women are expected to do more untraditional roles. Women can seek higher education and a more professional job and men can stay-at-home without being judged. Therefore, it will not be as uncommon for women to be paying men for child support as well as women paying alimony.



Personally, I believe misconceptions about divorce are created due to traditionalistic roles of the household. It would only make sense for a stay-at-home parent to be granted more timesharing with his/her children rather than the parent, who has a full-time job and is not present in his/her children’s everyday lives. It would only make sense for a woman to receive alimony from her former husband if she has not worked for ten plus years because he was providing for them. However, with gender roles changing in America, I also hope that misconceptions about divorce will change as well.

A Note From The Quattro Firm

While you prepare for warm weather and summer vacations, please consider contacting us for your legal needs. We look forward to working with you.

Thank you.



The Quattro Firm

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