



The Quattro Firm About Town

Page **4**



Contents

**Welcome to The
Quattro Firm**
Page 1

**Meet The Quattro
Firm** Page 2-3

**The Quattro Firm
About Town**
Page 4-5

**Is Uncontested
Dissolution Possible?
By: Nicole McNamara
Quattrocchi**
Page 6-8

**A Note From The
Quattro Firm**
Page 9



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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, Esq. 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.



Melanie Bruchet, Esq. 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. Melanie has been with the Quattro Firm for three years.



Monique L'Italien, Esq. is a civil and commercial litigator and appellate attorney who has practiced in Florida since 2001. She has broad experience at the trial and appellate levels in federal and state court. Her practice areas include bankruptcy, contract disputes, family law, real property and some criminal. Prior to entering private practice, Ms. L'Italien was an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Florida, handling criminal appeals and civil litigation matters.

Ms. L'Italien earned her B.A., cum laude, from Trinity College in Washington D.C and her J.D. from Vermont Law School. Ms. L'Italien enjoys traveling, running, spending time with her animals including her horse Dancer, an off track thoroughbred rescue, and doing other animal welfare work. Monique has been with the Quattro Firm for almost 2 years.



Shavonne M. Pierre is a new member of the Quattro Firm. She is a graduate of South University where she studied and received her Bachelor Degree in Legal Studies. She has over 18 years experience in the legal field working for several prestigious firms in the Palm Beach County area. Her previous work experience has been in Insurance Defense, Civil Litigation, Securities & Arbitration, Commercial Litigation, Worker's Compensation, Family Law and Personal Injury. Shavonne has 4 children that are her main focus as well as her budding legal career.

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

Meet The Quattro Firm



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. Maria has been working with the Quattro Firm for 3 years.



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. Sarah has been working with the Quattro Firm for 3 years.



Carol Goldberg is the File Clerk and Paralegal Assistant at the Quattro Firm. She is a lifelong resident of Palm Beach County. She received her BA Degree in Social Work and her Paralegal Certification from Florida Atlantic University. She is an advocate for the elderly and disabled. She has worked extensively for Elder Law firms processing Nursing Home Medicaid and Estate Planning. She also worked for many years at DCF, processing Medicaid for the Disabled. She believes in the strength of family, and a good cup of coffee!

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

The Quattro Firm About Town



Left: The Quattro Firm happily participated in Boo at the Zoo.

Below: Shavonne Pierre, Nicole Quattrocchi and Kimberlyn Watson pose in Pandora during the Food and Wine festival in Epcot.

Further Below: Nicole, Shavonne and Carol celebrate Shavonne's birthday with a special lunch.

+ Our Practice Areas

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



The Quattro Firm About Town:



Left: Shavonne Pierre poses at Disney World. It was Shavonne's first trip to Disney.

Below: Shavonne, Carol and Nicole celebrate Carol's birthday at the Embassy Suites below the office.

Fall Promotion:

Calling all Disney Superfans! We are giving fellow Disney Superfans discounts, mention the newsletter and we will give you 10% off!

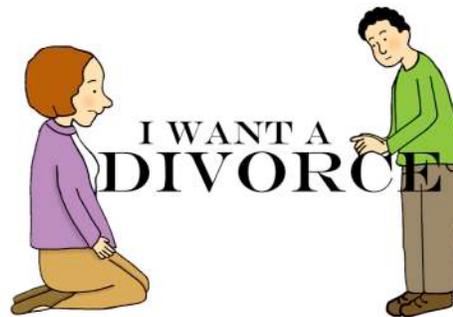
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Is Uncontested Dissolution Possible?

By: Nicole McNamara Quattrocchi

When you think of divorce, rarely does anyone think that it could be possible that spouses could agree and the process can be uncontested. An uncontested dissolution is a divorce where the parties have agreed to the terms of the divorce and they have signed a marital settlement agreement that includes all assets, debts, child support, parenting plans, alimony and any other matter to be resolved in the divorce. Generally speaking an uncontested dissolution is relatively inexpensive and can be a pretty quick procedure.



Is it possible to agree with your spouse and proceed uncontested? The answer isn't as simple as litigants often hope. When meeting with an attorney to discuss divorce, potential clients are generally warned that the more litigious or argumentative the parties are in this process, the longer and more expensive the process will be. Often attorneys will charge flat fees for uncontested procedures and require bigger retainers for the contested and litigious cases.



"My coach said I run like a girl. And I said if he ran a little faster he could too."

—Mia Hamm

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Clients are also at an advantage in front of the judges if they have managed to proceed uncontested or

settled their matters out of court. Judge's dockets are filled with contested procedures and most judges will warn litigants that it's best to agree rather than having an impartial third party decide the most intimate aspects of their lives, such as who gets to spend how much time with the minor children.



Uncontested dissolutions do not always mean that the parties agree completely at the outset. Sometimes the parties need a little help and some light negotiations in order to get to that middle ground. Some uncontested dissolutions may be filed as contested in order to show the other side that the party

seeking the divorce is serious and truly wants the marriage to end. Once served or once the party receiving the divorce has accepted service, he/she might then contact the attorney who filed the case and attempt to reach an amicable resolution.

A contested dissolution can also become uncontested in mediation. Some parties need a little more help reaching a solution and an unbiased mediator can often help. Even the most contested dissolutions can usually be resolved in mediation. Mediators and attorneys may need to use some creativity in order to help the litigants to resolve all issues (including those which cannot be filed in court and generally involve apologies or other methods of assisting with hurt feelings). Once a marital settlement agreement is signed, the final hearing can proceed as an uncontested final hearing where a judge simply approves the agreement and ensures that all things necessary are included in the agreement including, alimony, child support, parental responsibility, allocation of debts and assets and any required name changes. Each case will be different as each case will involve different needs in terms of the items to be included in the marital settlement agreement.



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In some cases, it's simply not possible to proceed uncontested. In some cases, one party will be reasonable, but the other simply wants the fight and wants to drag the process on in order to "punish" the other party. In the end, the ones who are really punished are the children whose lives are intricately tied to their parents' divorce. Children are often seen as tools and pawns in a divorce. If mom wants more child support, she may claim that dad is a bad guy and she needs sole parental responsibility and/or majority timesharing. If dad wants to hurt mom, he may refuse to allow timesharing and claim that mom is the bad party and he needs majority timesharing. Unfortunately these "games" waste judicial time, increase attorney's fees and hurt the children who are being shuffled back and forth and told that their other parent is a bad guy/girl. Some children never fully recover from the disparagement and pain from a contested divorce and/or custody battle.



The standard in Florida for the purpose of determining parental responsibility and timesharing is the best interest of the children. Most people would say that the best interest of the children is to have two parents who are able to put aside their feelings for each other and make the best choices for their children. This should include being able to not disparage their former spouse in front of the children and having the ability to co-parent peacefully.

When facing a divorce, a party should sit down and weigh his/her options. While hurt feelings will inevitably play a part in the process, he/she should decide what will be the best decision for the family as a whole and for him/her individually. Is it best to drag out a divorce and attempt to destroy the other party's relationship with your child? Probably not. Can you learn to work through your feelings so that you can learn to peacefully co-parent with the other party? Are you willing to try? Do you want to save time and money? If so, then consider an uncontested dissolution.

If you are considering a divorce and would like some more information about what to do, please contact the Quattro Firm. We'd be happy to help.

A Note From The Quattro Firm

As the holidays approach, make sure your family and businesses are well protected. Thank you again for all of your support. We look forward to working with you.

Thank you.



The Quattro Firm

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