



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.

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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.



Jacqueline Lavoie Spence has been a practicing Florida Attorney for 5 years. She was born and raised in Queens, New York and moved to Florida in 2009.

She obtained her law degree from Nova Southeastern University and has a diverse background in many areas of law, but primarily focuses on Family law.



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.

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.



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 shes lived in North Carolina and settled in Florida for the last 13 years. This is her first lob 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.



Kristin Fitzpatrick was born in New York, but raised in Florida. Her background is Early Childhood and as much as she loves her field, she also loves learning new things and being a well-rounded person. Her ultimate goal is to finish college where she is currently studying to be a speech-pathologist for children who have special needs.

Kristin is conversational- fluent in American Sign Language, and some Spanish. She enjoys cooking, reading, helping others and traveling. She also loves watching criminal cases/law shows. Kristin cannot wait to learn more about the law and enjoy all of the experience that the Quattro Firm has to give her.

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

The Quattro Firm About Town



Nicole and Rob participated this month in Lawyers for Literacy where lawyers speak to adults seeking more education.

+ 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 and Maria take a break from the busy day.

Check Out Rob's New Blog
Visit our website to learn more about estate planning and changes in the law

The Quattro Firm About Town



Nicole and Rob take a meeting in the conference room to discuss case strategy.



Sarah and Nicole grab a quick lunch.

October Promotion

In honor of our favorite holiday, Halloween, we invite you to participate in our Halloween-themed promotion “trick your lawyer.”

Rules: Take a Halloween themed picture and post it to our Facebook site, you must use the hashtags #trickyourlawyer and #TheQuattroFirm.

The contest starts October 1st and runs through October 31st. Applicants must “like” The Quattro Facebook Page and post the above-described picture.

Prize: The 3 top “liked” photos on our Facebook page by October 31st will win!

1st place: ½ price Estate Plan

2nd place: \$50 off bill

3rd place: Free consultation

We look forward to seeing your interpretation!



Nicole's children have been very successful at Small Fish Big Fish and have each received various “Swimplomas” for their achievements.

The Quattro Firm Believes In Female Empowerment

Melissa Taylor: Entrepreneur, Wife, Swimmer, Mother, and Survivor.

This month we had the distinct pleasure of sitting down with Melissa Taylor, the owner and founder of Small Fish Big Fish Swim School. Melissa passionately told us the story of her creation of her swim school and the amazing journey she has gone through to become the successful business owner and cancer survivor that she is today.

In 2009, Melissa worked in sales for luxury vehicles. Once she gave birth to her second child and after the disaster of the Bernie Madoff scandal, she found herself out of work with a family to help support. After a brief stint in the sales of private jets, Melissa decided to go back to her roots and do what she loved: swim.

Melissa describes the water as a freeing experience. The weight of the world is literally off of you when you're in the water. Melissa began swimming competitively when she was 5 and now seemed as good a time as any to go back to what she enjoyed. Melissa re-trained in water safety and began advertising to teach children to swim in their own backyards. In order to protect herself, Melissa attended a conference in San Diego to secure insurance.

After the conference, Melissa was inspired and decided that she could and should create her own school. Her

private lessons had increased in popularity and after trying to rent an indoor pool, a school seemed like a much better idea. At her core, Melissa believed that swim lessons save lives.

After several months of negotiating and finding the perfect space, Melissa designed her space, created a design for custom paint and

arranged for the pool to be installed. It took almost five months to open the space, but it was well worth the wait. At the same time, Melissa learned that she had breast cancer and would need to undergo aggressive therapy in



order to survive. This would include multiple surgeries, chemotherapy and radiation therapy.

When Small Fish Big Fish officially opened in



2012, there were only 10 students. Small Fish Big Fish now teaches more than 629 children per week to swim. While battling for her life, the opportunity to swim and to love what she was building for her family was important.

The Quattro Firm Believes In Female Empowerment



When we asked about her competitors, Melissa said that it's her passion and vision that sets school apart. She has their mission statement ("To teach self confidence, discipline, and well being through the lifelong sport of swimming") printed on the wall of the school as well as on each instructor's shirt. She lives with her goal and she follows it. She wants to ensure that the children are developing, learning and progressing. Additionally, Melissa believes that having a good staff develops good kids and this will develop leaders.

Melissa feels that her passion is the key to her success as a woman in business. She strives to always do the right thing. This is something that she looks for when she hires as well. She believes that having good people will create good business.

She laughed when we discussed her outright confidence in any situation and said "fake it until you make it."

As far as Melissa's favorite aspect of teaching children to swim, she says that it makes her feel phenomenal. If she ever feels bad, then she gets in the water and feels great. For the children, swimming comes so naturally and Melissa loves to watch them succeed.

However, Melissa's journey was not always easy. Aside from her cancer that put a monkey wrench in her business plan, her ability to raise her children and a general roadblock in her life, Melissa faced initial adversity from the men during the planning and design phase of her swim school. The engineers and builders did not think that she could possibly be in charge. When she met with the health department, she felt that they all looked at her as this little blonde person who couldn't possibly know what she was doing. This all just inspired Melissa to prove them all wrong. She was creating something important and it would be done her way, without regard to what they thought.

With regard to Melissa's favorite part of being a woman in business, she says that she loves to see other women succeed. After so many years in a male-dominated industry, she loves to see how other women are succeeding, how other people are generating success in their swim schools, and she likes to learn from them so that she may improve her own business. She also notices how you can touch someone's life and touch on his or her emotions. Watching a child learn to swim, teaching an adult to swim or helping someone with cognitive or physical impairments succeed in the water is an emotional and transcendent experience.

Melissa knows that being a woman running a swim school has its advantages. First of all, she is a mother and she's often helping with the babies. Other parents can talk to her about their fears with regards to their children and their



"The most courageous act is still to think for yourself. Aloud." —Coco Chanel

The Quattro Firm Believes In Female Empowerment

concerns with the water. Additionally, as a cancer survivor, Melissa is an open book. She helped women by allowing them to feel what a cancerous tumor felt like. She feels that if she can help women to detect cancer early, then she saves a life and saves a child from growing up without a mother.

At Small Fish Big Fish, Melissa also works with a lot of special needs children and adults. Through her own survival and her own limitations through her cancer treatments, Melissa has a unique compassion for helping these special needs children and adults. She understands first hand what it feels like to have limitations and she celebrates the lack of gravity on these people in the pool. For some, this is the first success they have on their road to recovery or in some cases learning to overcome their own obstacles.

Melissa's favorite groups to swim with are the special needs kids and adults and the infants. She feels that the success with the infants is particularly special because this is a group that not everyone can teach and she can teach them and do it well. It also helps that she gets the opportunity to cuddle with the new babies and see their first reactions to swimming.

Small Fish Big Fish holds many events throughout the year. Melissa particularly loves the charity events because they are her opportunity to give back. Each year Small Fish Big Fish participates in the World's Largest Swim Lesson that breaks the annual Guinness record. Melissa realizes that her work saves lives, particularly in Florida where we are surrounded by water. As a cancer survivor, Melissa loves to use her story to bring awareness and help others to detect early and survive better. She loves to touch and influence lives.

Melissa advises other entrepreneurial women to trust their gut. It has certainly worked for Melissa. Not only is Small Fish Big Fish a success, but Melissa works with her husband of 16 years and one will often see her two children at the swim school as well. The family atmosphere is one of the reasons that families come to Small Fish Big Fish. Once you're in, you've become a part of the family.

We were truly inspired by Melissa's personal story through leaving a career to focus on family and finally realizing her dream. All throughout her awe-inspiring story, Melissa remains optimistic and happy. Not many people could discuss something as heart wrenching as cancer with a smile on her face. Yet, Melissa sheds no tears for herself. She's still here and she's fighting for others. She just believes in the good in the world and

that has clearly made her both a survivor and a success.

Thank you to Melissa Taylor of Small Fish Big Fish for her amazing story and her wonderful advice. We are in awe of your personal strength and passion for your business and life. We look forward to continuing to observe you swimming to victory.



A Note From The Quattro Firm

With all the tricks and treats celebrating the month of October, make sure you and your family are well protected. Let us know if we can help.

Thank you.



The Quattro Firm

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