

Judge Grace G. Dickler graduated from Northwestern University School of Law in 1978. She worked for the Cook County Legal Assistance Foundation, was in private practice and worked as a supervising attorney with Travelers and Immigrants Aid. Judge Dickler's 33 year judicial career started in 1982 when she became an Administrative Law judge for the Illinois Human Rights Commission. In 1986, she became a Federal Immigration Judge, and in 1988 she was appointed as an associate judge in Cook County. In 1991, she was assigned to the Domestic Relations Division, and in 1999 she was assigned to initiate the Domestic Relations Calendar in the Second Municipal District located in Skokie, Illinois. In 2006, Judge Dickler was elected as a circuit court judge in the 12<sup>th</sup> Judicial Sub-circuit.

In January, 2010, Chief Judge Timothy C. Evans appointed Judge Dickler to be the first presiding judge of the newly formed Domestic Violence Division, and in 2011 she was appointed the presiding judge of the Domestic Relations Division.

Judge Dickler serves on the Board of the Illinois Judge's Association and was co-editor of the Association's newsletter, *The Gavel*, for many years. She has been the recipient of numerous awards including the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers Samuel S. Berger Award, the Illinois Judges Association Presidential Service Award, the Henry Horner Good Government Award, the City of Chicago Commission on Human Relations Sage Award, the Northwest Suburban Bar Association Public Service Award, the North Suburban Bar Association Judge of the Year Award, the Jewish Judge's Association Lifetime Achievement Award, the Between Friends Friend of the Year Award, the Collaborative Law Institute's first award for work in alternate dispute resolution, the North Suburban Bar Association's Sanford Blustin award for significant contributions to the legal community, the Cook County State's Attorney's El Humanitario Award, the Honorary Fellow of the Illinois Bar Foundation award, Certificate of Appreciation for service to the legal profession and community by the Decalogue Society of Lawyers and the President's Award of the Advocate Society.

Judge Dickler is married with two adult children both of whom are attorneys in Chicago.

**P. ANDRÉ KATZ** is co-principal of the law firm Katz & Stefani, LLC, where he practices exclusively in the area of family law. Previously, he was a partner in the litigation department of McDermott Will & Emery. Admitted to the Illinois State Bar in 1989, Mr. Katz has served on the ISBA's Family Law Committee and as co-chair of the CBA's Young Lawyers Division of the Family Law Committee. He also participated in the expedited child-support program in the Circuit Court of Cook County. Mr. Katz was appointed chair of the Illinois Family Law Study Committee, enacted by House Resolution 1101, which was created for the purpose of studying and recommending changes to the Illinois Marriage and Dissolution of Marriage Act. In his capacity as chairman of the Committee, Mr. Katz led the public review and proposed revision of Illinois' divorce and child custody laws and was responsible for submitting the Committee's final report to the governor and the Illinois House of Representatives. In addition to lecturing nationally to groups such as the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, the ISBA, the CBA, and the National Business Institute, he has authored an article on dissipation for the book **TAX AND FINANCIAL PLANNING STRATEGIES IN DIVORCE** and co-authored an article entitled *When Your Elderly Clients Marry: Prenuptial Agreements and Other Considerations* in the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers Journal. A graduate of the University of Wisconsin and the Loyola University of Chicago School of Law, where he served as senior member of the Loyola Law Journal, Mr. Katz was named one of the "40 Illinois Attorneys Under Age Forty to Watch" by the Law Bulletin Publishing Company in July 2000 and has been selected by the Leading Lawyers and Super Lawyer Networks as a top family law practitioner in Illinois. Mr. Katz was also named a "Best Lawyer" by U.S. News & World Report, and Katz & Stefani, LLC is ranked by U.S. News-Best Law Firms as a Tier One Firm in Chicago for Family Law.

**ERIN B. BODENDORFER** is an Associate at Katz & Stefani, LLC, where she practices exclusively in the area of family law. In addition to her practice, Ms. Bodendorfer has been actively involved in the process regarding the rewrite of the Illinois Marriage and Dissolution of Marriage Act, and she has previously lectured on the topic. Most recently, she began serving on the Cook County Circuit Court's Domestic Relations Division's Rules and Forms Committee. Ms. Bodendorfer is admitted to practice in Illinois, and is a member of the Women's Bar Association of Illinois, the American Bar Association, the Illinois State Bar Association, and the Chicago Bar Association. She is also an active member of the Chicago Public Library Foundation's Junior Board and the Women Everywhere Project Planning Committee. In 2015, she was named a "Rising Star" attorney by Illinois Super Lawyers. Ms. Bodendorfer received her Juris Doctor and Certificate in Tax Law from Loyola University Chicago School of Law. Ms. Bodendorfer received her Bachelors of Arts, *cum laude*, in Sociology and Political Science and with a minor in Business Administration from Loyola University Chicago.



David H. Levy is a founding partner and the former managing partner of Berger Schatz. Mr. Levy is a recognized authority in all areas of family and matrimonial law. An experienced litigator, he regularly represents individuals in trials and appeals. Mr. Levy is a member of the American Bar Association (Family Law Section) and the Illinois State Bar Association (Family Law Section Council). Mr. Levy also served on several Special Task Forces including for the Attorney General of Illinois and the Presiding Judge of the Domestic Relations Division of Cook County. Further, he has held a number of leadership positions within the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers at both the national and state levels. In addition to being a frequently-published author and speaker, he is also the recipient of several prestigious, professional awards including, most recently, the Samuel J. Berger Award presented by the Illinois Chapter of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers. For a complete list of David H. Levy's accomplishments, please visit [www.bergerschatz.com](http://www.bergerschatz.com).

Steven N. Peskind is the principle of the Peskind Law Firm based in St. Charles, Illinois. His firm concentrates in family law matters throughout the State of Illinois.

He graduated from Tulane University and DePaul College of Law. He is a fellow of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers and is an elected member of the American Law Institute and the American Bar Foundation. He recently served on the Illinois Family Law Study Committee working to improve Illinois family laws.

Mr. Peskind is a faculty member of the Family Law Trial Advocacy Institute presented annually in Boulder, Colorado by the ABA Family Law Section in conjunction with the National Institute of Trial Advocacy. In addition, he serves as Co-chair of the Publication Board of the ABA Family Law Section. Mr. Peskind also serves on the faculty of the Oklahoma State Bar Family Law Section Trial Institute.

Mr. Peskind speaks nationally on a variety of family law topics. He has been the keynote speaker for several state family law presentations and has spoken on such diverse topics as evidence, trial techniques practice management and divorce taxation.

Mr. Peskind has written four books: "The Family Law Trial Evidence Handbook" published by the American Bar Association; "Divorce In Illinois," published by Addicus Press; "100 Days Before Trial" will be published by the American Bar Association in October 2015; and "The Changing Face of Illinois Family Law: 2016 Marriage and Dissolution of Marriage Act Overhaul," will be published by the Illinois Institute of Continuing Education in October 2015.

Mr. Peskind has also written numerous chapters and articles, including three academic law review articles. The law review articles examined redefining parentage in the age of assisted reproductive technology and the origin and utility of the best interest standard in determining child custody. A law review article published in 2013 focused on hearsay evidence in child custody proceedings. In 2005 he was inducted into Scribes, a legal writing honor society.

Mr. Peskind has been recognized as one of the *Best Lawyers in America*. The Leading Lawyers Network has designated Mr. Peskind a Leading Lawyer since 2003 and the Super Lawyers has recognized him as a Super Lawyer since 2008. In 2015 Best Lawyers honored him with the award of Family Lawyer of the year in Chicago.

Deanna R. Blair is a founding member in the firm, Blair | Caravelli | Irmen Law, LLC where she practices domestic relations law, including cases involving divorce, custody, visitation, child support, and paternity. Blair is active in local bar associations, including the Women's Bar Association of Illinois (WBAI), and the Chicago Bar Association. Blair serves on the WBAI Board of Directors and also serves as co-chair of the Judicial Evaluation Committee and Domestic Relations Roundtable. Blair received a Bachelor of Arts from The Evergreen State College in 1996 and earned her JD, *cum laude*, from Lewis & Clark Law School, in Portland, Oregon, in 2001. Following her graduation from law school, Blair practiced at Legal Aid Services of Oregon, providing free legal services to low-income individuals, including survivors of domestic violence. She was twice honored with the Lewis & Clark's Pro Bono Honors Award. From 2008–2012, Blair was also named an Illinois Super Lawyer "Rising Star." In 2012, she was recognized by Chicago Magazine as one of the "Top Attorneys, The State's Outstanding Young Lawyers" in the category of Family Law. She was recently named an Illinois Super Lawyer in the area of Family Law.

Hon. Mark J. Lopez was appointed as an Associate Judge for the Circuit Court of Cook County in 1999. He was assigned to Juvenile Court- Child Protection Division hearing abuse and neglect cases until his transfer to the Domestic Relations Division in August of 2002 where he has served for thirteen years. Judge Lopez began his legal career as a prosecutor for the Office of the Cook County State's Attorney's Office and also served as an Assistant Illinois Attorney General. He was also engaged in private practice in Chicago's Pilsen community as a partner with the Law firm of Honoratus Lopez and Associates. He is a member of the Circuit Court of Cook County's Domestic Relations Division's Policy and Procedures Committee. He is formerly a member of the Illinois Family Law Study Committee and the Illinois State Bar Association's Family Law Section. Judge Lopez is a 1983 graduate of Northern Illinois University College of Law married with two adult daughters.

## Janice L. Boback, Esq.

Anderson & Boback  
115 South La Salle Street  
26<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Chicago, Illinois 60603  
312-715-0870

Janice L. Boback is a managing partner of the law firm of Anderson & Boback, a Chicago law firm which specializes in domestic relations handling such matters as divorce, custody, support, abduction, orders of protection, paternity, pre-nuptial agreements, qualified domestic relations orders, and numerous post decree matters.

Janice is a graduate of the University Of Illinois College Of Commerce and Business Administration with a degree in finance and through her practice has developed skills in assessing complicated financial property division as well as extensive knowledge in the special procedures associated with domestic law involving a member of the United States Military. Janice also serves as a court appointed child representative.

### Admitted to Practice Law:

Illinois, 1998

United State Federal Court, 1998

United States Supreme Court, 2007

United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, 2011

### Law School:

The John Marshall Law School, J.D. 1998

### Member:

Illinois State Bar Associations

Section Counsel for Attorney Regulation and Disciplinary Committee

Section Counsel for Military Affairs

Women in the Law Committee

Bar Services

Chicago Bar Association

Women's Bar Association

Alumni Mentor, John Marshall Law School

American Trial Lawyers Association

American Bar Association

Family Law Committee

Military Law Committee



**RICHARD W. ZUCKERMAN**, of the Law Offices of Richard W. Zuckerman, is a sole practitioner in Peoria, Illinois concentrating his practice in the areas of family law, mediation and appellate practice. He has served as President of the Illinois Chapter of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers (2004-2006) and has been a Fellow of the AAML since 1993. He is a 1973 graduate of Bradley University (B.A.) and a 1976 graduate of The John Marshall Law School (JD). He was admitted to practice in Illinois in 1976. He has been in private practice since 1980 and a Mediator since he obtained his certification from Aurora University in 1999. He was Chair of the Illinois State Bar Association Family Law Section Council (1998-1999) and has served on that Council in various capacities from 1985 to the present. He has held numerous positions with the ISBA since 1981 including service on the Board of Governors from 2000-2006 and as Treasurer (2005-2006). Among his present ISBA positions he Chairs the ISBA *Amicus* Committee. He was a member of the Board of Directors of the Illinois Bar Foundation from 2004 to 2012. He is presently a member of the Peoria County Bar Association Board of Directors and was elected Treasurer in 2015. He was an original member of the General Assembly-appointed Family Law Study Committee and is a long time member of the DHFS' Child Support Advisory and Quadrennial Review Committees. He was the appellate attorney for Amy Langman and argued for her in the Illinois Supreme Court case of *Wickham v. Byrne/Langman v. Langman* in which the Illinois Supreme Court declared the then existing statute on grandparent visitation unconstitutional. He is a Hearing Panel Chair for the ARDC sitting in Springfield. He lectures annually on new legislation and writes and lectures frequently on child support, ethics and other areas of family law. He has been listed in both Illinois' Leading Lawyers and Illinois' Super Lawyers since their inception and is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell.

# Margaret A. Bennett

## Bennett Law Firm, LLC

*Providing Comprehensive Divorce and Family Law Legal Services  
in DuPage, Will, Kane and Cook Counties for over 25 years*



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**E-mail:** [info@lawbennett.com](mailto:info@lawbennett.com)

**Website:** [www.lawbennett.com](http://www.lawbennett.com)

Margaret Bennett has more than 25 years of family law and divorce litigation experience. Ms. Bennett practices in DuPage, Cook, Kane and Will Counties.

Margaret Bennett received legislative appointment to serve on the Illinois Family Law Study Committee in 2008. The Illinois House of Representatives formed the committee to study and revise statutory provisions relating to parentage, child support, spousal maintenance, the allocation of assets and child custody. Ms. Bennett is an appointed member of the Illinois Child Support Advisory Committee. This committee is charged with reviewing child support guidelines and making recommendations to the State legislature. Ms. Bennett proposes the adoption of the income sharing approach to determine child support, an approach currently used by 39 other states and the District of Columbia.

Margaret Bennett serves on the Family Law Section Council of the Illinois State Bar Association (2009 to present). She is a Co-Chair of the Parentage Subcommittee of the Family Law Section Council for the term 2015/2016 term. The Parentage Subcommittee, in conjunction with the Illinois Family Law Study Committee, drafted the Parentage Act of 2015. Recently, Ms. Bennett testified before the Judiciary Committees of the Illinois State Senate and Illinois House of Representatives in favor of the Parentage Act. The Parentage Act was signed by Governor Rauner on July 21, 2015 and will become effective January 1, 2016. Additionally, Ms. Bennett is a Co-Chair of the Child Support Subcommittee of the Family Law Section Council. The Child Support Subcommittee in collaboration with the Child Support Advisory Committee drafted House Bill 3982, which would align Illinois' child support laws with the majority of states. Ms. Bennett recently co-authored an article on multiple family issues and child support for the Illinois State Bar Association Family Law Newsletter.

Margaret Bennett is the recipient of numerous honors and awards including recognition as an Illinois Super Lawyer (2012-2015). Super Lawyers is a rating service of outstanding lawyers who have attained a high degree of peer recognition and professional achievement. Ms. Bennett has also been named to the Top 100 Super Lawyers list (2012-2015) and the Top 50 Women Super Lawyers list (2013-2015) in the State of Illinois by Super Lawyers, as published in Super Lawyers Magazine and Chicago Magazine. Ms. Bennett currently serves as a Family Court Mediator and Guardian ad Litem for the DuPage County court system. Ms. Bennett served as chair of the DuPage County Bar Association Family Law and Practice Committee for the terms 1997/1998 and 2011/2012.

Margaret Bennett has been rated AV Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell® since 1998, which is the highest rating available, and has also been named to the Martindale-Hubbell Bar Register of Preeminent Women Lawyers (2011 to present). Ms. Bennett received this highest recognition by her peers, bestowed only upon lawyers with the utmost legal ability and adherence to professional standards of conduct, ethics, reliability and diligence.

# Margaret A. Bennett

## Bennett Law Firm, LLC CURRICULUM VITAE

### Education:

- Loyola University of Chicago School of Law, J.D., Doctor of Jurisprudence
- QLTT, College of Law, London, Solicitor of England & Wales
- University of California at Berkeley, B.A., Political Science, with honors

### Bar Admissions:

- United States: Admitted to the Bar in Illinois and Colorado
- U.S. Supreme Court
- U.S. District Court of the Northern District of Illinois
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit
- United Kingdom: Admitted to the Rolls of Solicitors of England and Wales

### Legal Experience:

- 1982- Present: Principal, Bennett Law Firm, LLC, Oak Brook, Illinois. Practice concentrated in Family Law.

### Professional Memberships:

- Illinois State Bar Association
- DuPage County Bar Association
- West Suburban Bar Association
- DuPage Association of Women Lawyers
- Woman's Bar Association of Illinois

### Bar Associations and Appointments:

- Appointment to the State of Illinois Child Support Advisory Committee, *2010 to present*
- Appointment to the Family Law Study Committee by the Illinois House of Representatives, *2008 to present*
- International Academy of Collaborative Professionals, member, *2006 to 2010, 2012 to present*
- Collaborative Law Institute of Illinois, fellow, *2006 to 2010, 2012 to present*
- Society of English and American Lawyers, United Kingdom, *2005 to present*
- The Law Society, United Kingdom, *2004 to present*
- Northern Illinois Real Estate Law Committee, chair, *1994 to 1997*

### Illinois State Bar Association:

- Appointment to the Family Law Section Council, *2009 to present*
- Appointment to Standing Committee on Judicial Evaluations Outside Cook County, *1997 to present*
- Appointment to Real Property Section Council, *1996 to 2002*
- Elected to Illinois State Bar Association Assembly (governing body), *1994 to 2000*

### DuPage County Bar Association:

- Chairman of the Family Law and Practice Committee, *1997 to 1998 and 2011 to 2012*
- Appointment to Child Custody Evaluation Committee, *2007 to 2008*
- Appointment to the DuPage County Family Court Task Force, *1997 to 2001*
- Appointment to Family Law Mediation Rules Committee, *1996 to 1999*
- Appointment to Family Law Fee Arbitration Committee, *1997 to 1999*, and drafted Local Court Rules for Mandatory Fee Arbitration Program
- Chairman of the Professional Responsibility Committee, *1996 to 1997*
- Chairman of the Real Estate Law and Practice Committee, *1994 to 1995*

### Professional Honorariums:

- Named to Super Lawyers list as an Illinois Super Lawyer in area of family law, *2012 to 2015*

- Named to the Top 100 Super Lawyers in Illinois, 2013 to 2015
- Named to the Top 50 Women Super Lawyers in Illinois, 2012 to 2015
- Martindale-Hubbell AV Preeminent Rating in Legal Ability and Ethical Standards, 1998 to present
- Named to the Martindale-Hubbell Bar Register of Preeminent Women Lawyers, 2011 to present
- Who's Who in American Law, 2010
- DuPage County Circuit Court Certificate of Appreciation, 2009
- Leading American Attorney, 2008
- Woman of the Year Award bestowed by The International Biographical Centre, Cambridge, England, 2008 to 2010
- DuPage County Bar Association Certificate of Appreciation, 1998
- Illinois State Bar Association Board of Directors Award, 1990
- DuPage County Bar Association Legal Aid Program Certificate of Appreciation, 1989

#### Lectures and Publications:

##### Lectures:

- Speaker, "Why Illinois Should Adopt Income Shares to Determine Child Support", Illinois State Bar Association Family Law Section Council, *January 10, 2015*.
- Speaker, "New Paternity Rule Highlights", AAML Illinois Chapter Seminar, *October 14, 2013*.
- Speaker, "A New Parentage Act for Illinois", Kane County Bar Association Family Law Committee, *September 11, 2013*.
- Featured speaker, "Income Sharing Approach to Determine Child Support", Kane County Bar Association Annual Family Law Seminar, *May 30, 2013*.
- Speaker, "The Future of Child Support Calculations in Illinois: Income Shares vs. Percentage of Income", Chicago Bar Association Domestic Relations Committee, *January 28, 2013*.
- Featured speaker, "Income Shares and Calculation of Child Support – Net Income", Illinois Child Support Advisory Committee, *July 23, 2012*.
- Co-presenter of the Divorce University Financial Presentation sponsored by The Lilac Tree, *May 6, 2012 and October 22, 2011*.
- Featured speaker, "Why Illinois Should Retain the Net Income Approach When Determining Child Support", Illinois Child Support Advisory Committee, *October 19, 2011*.
- Co-presenter of Team 5 of American Inns of Court, "How Far Can the Government Go Under the 4th Amendment in Using Modern Technology to Investigate and Track Suspects Without a Warrant?", American Inns of Court meeting, *April 25, 2012*.
- Featured speaker, "Real Estate Law for Divorce Attorneys", Illinois State Bar Association Family Law Section Council's Mid-Year Seminar, *2001*.
- Featured speaker, "Real Estate Pitfalls Affecting the Divorce Practitioner", Illinois State Bar Association Family Law Section Council's Annual Seminar, *2001*.
- Featured speaker, "How to Avoid the Nightmare", Illinois State Bar Association Real Property Section Council's Annual Seminar, *1999*.
- Featured speaker, "What Every Real Estate Attorney Should Know About Divorce Law and What Every Divorce Attorney Should Know About Real Estate Law", Illinois State Bar Association Real Property Section Council's Annual Seminar, *1998*.
- Featured speaker, "The Allocation of Stock Options Upon Dissolution of Marriage", Seminar on Financial, Business Valuation & Divorce Taxation Issues, *1998*.

##### Publications:

- "The legal and ethical conundrum of child support in multi-partnered families" *Illinois State Bar Association Family Law Newsletter, January, 2015*.
- "House Bill 6191 – The Illinois Parentage Act", *Illinois State Bar Association Section Council Newsletter, December, 2012*.
- "A Summary of Illinois House Bill 6191", *Illinois State Bar Association Section Council Newsletter, November, 2011*.
- "Legal Practice Tips", *Illinois Bar Journal, Volume 88, December 2000*.
- "The Real Estate Lawyer's Divorce Primer (and the Divorce Lawyer's Guide to Real Estate)", *Illinois Bar Journal, Volume 86 (Copyright assigned to West Law), September 1998*.
- "Mandatory Matrimonial Fee Arbitration", *DuPage County Bar Brief, November 1997*.

- "Another View of House Bill 365 (Leveling the Playing Field in Matrimonial Law)", *Illinois Family Law Report*, April 1997.
- "The Allocation of Stock Options Upon Dissolution of Marriage", *Illinois Family Law Report*, October 1996.
- "Penny Wise and Pound Foolish", *Illinois State Bar Association Real Property Newsletter*, July 1995.
- "Real Estate for the Penny Wise", *Illinois State Bar Association Bar News*, September 15, 1995.

**Representative clients:**

- McDonald's Corporation, Oak Brook, Illinois (real estate/legal matters)
- DuPage County Storm Water Management Committee (land acquisition/real estate)
- DuPage County Fair and Exposition Authority (interpreted statutes and provided legal opinions to the Authority)
- DuPage Department of Transportation (right-of-way acquisitions)

**Professional and Charitable Affiliations:**

Current:

- Board of Directors, First Folio Theatre, Oak Brook, Illinois
- University of California Alumni Association
- Berkeley in Britain Alumni Association
- Society of English and American Lawyers
- Supporter of the Association for Individual Development (AID) which provides services to individuals who have developmental, physical and/or mental disabilities

Past:

- Resources for Retarded and Autistic Adults, Lombard, Illinois  
Board of Directors
- DuPage County Blue Ribbon Committee on People with Disabilities, Wheaton, Illinois  
Member
- Evangelical Health Foundation, Board of Sponsors, Oak Brook, Illinois  
Member
- Good Samaritan Hospital Development Counsel, Downers Grove, Illinois  
Member