

Agenda

Spousal Support, Child Support and Custody Issues *T. Sossei*

Establishing and modifying spousal support
Child support guidelines: working with child support formulas
Treatment of collage contributions
Handling high-conflict custody and parenting issues

Preparing Pleadings and Assisting with Motion Practice *S. Ragosta*

Initial pleadings – service methods, jurisdictional differences and required forms
Temporary relief pleadings and practice
Preparing for the temporary/pendente lite matters hearing
Preparing orders

Obtaining and Evaluating Financial Information *J. Seiden*

Identifying relevant information on assets, debts, income and expenses
Obtaining financial information
Using financial information questionnaires
Using interrogatories, requests for production, deposition testimony, private investigators
Valuing assets
Evaluating the information you have obtained
Working with accountants and financial experts
Preparing financial statements

Assisting with Child Custody and Visitation Issues *J.K. Farmer*

Basic overview of custody law in Virginia
Obtaining relevant information
Client interview, custody questionnaires, authorizations for disclosure, using formal discovery
Non-party players
Involvement of guardian-ad-litem
Involvement of experts
Drafting and reviewing parenting plans

Assisting with Alternative Dispute Resolution *M. Friend*

Assisting in family law mediation, negotiation, and settlement conferences
Assisting in the collaborative divorce process

Handling Ethical Issues in Family Law Practice *D. DeBoer*

Complying with rules of professional responsibility and ethics guidelines for attorneys and paralegals
Avoiding conflicts of interest
Maintaining client confidentiality
Avoiding the unauthorized practice of law
Working with the secretive or dishonest client
Handling allegations of abuse or neglect
Zealous (vs. over-zealous) representation
Fee agreements, retainers, and collection of unpaid fees

Family Law Practice for Paralegals
Richmond, VA - Friday, February 2, 2018

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Learning Objectives

You'll be able to:

- Understand** how spousal support is established and modified.
- Assist** in the process of preparing financial statements.
- Explore** child custody and visitation issues.
- Get** tips on working with guardians-ad-litem and expert witnesses.
- Learn** the benefits of assisting in the collaborative divorce process.
- Examine** ethical issues, including the importance of maintaining client confidentiality and avoiding the unauthorized practice of law.



Family Law Practice for Paralegals

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Learn how to handle high-conflict child custody and visitation issues

Examine the process of preparing pleadings and explore jurisdictional differences

Identify relevant information on assets and learn to use financial information questionnaires

Study Virginia custody law, and learn about drafting and reviewing parenting plans

Comply with the rules of professional responsibility and ethics for attorneys and paralegals

Continuing Education Credits

This seminar offers paralegals 6.5 CLE hours, including 1.0 ethics hour, that have been approved by NALA and NFPA.



Faculty

Tammy L. Sossei *Attorney with Coates & Davenport in Richmond*
Ms. Sossei has a general practice, but her primary areas include family law, bankruptcy, and criminal defense. She handles divorces (both uncontested/no-fault and contested divorces), custody, child and spousal support matters, preparation of property settlement agreements, and adoptions. Ms. Sossei also handles complex family law matters including contested custody cases; equitable distribution involving complicated assets; post-decree enforcement; support modification; show causes; and protective orders. She handles family law matters for civilians and military service members and their families. Ms. Sossei is an active member in the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association, serving on their Board of Governors for the past four years. She currently co-chairs their Pro Bono Committee, as well as serving on their Membership and Diversity Committees. Ms. Sossei has been a Super Lawyer Rising Star for 2016-2017.

Seth J. Ragosta *Attorney with Lenhart Pettit in Charlottesville*
Mr. Ragosta focuses his practice on family law and complex commercial litigation including general business matters, employment law, real property issues and criminal concerns. His work in family law includes all issues related to separation or divorce matters, in particular those dealing with the division of assets and spousal support. Mr. Ragosta has represented individuals as well as public and private companies in a wide variety of civil matters before state and federal courts at both the trial and appellate levels. His practice has involved many family law matters under Virginia law, including complex equitable distribution and spousal support cases at both the trial and appellate levels. He served as a special assistant district attorney

for Middlesex County in Massachusetts for a six-month rotation during which he prosecuted 11 jury and bench trials to verdict.

Jason P. Seiden *Attorney with MichieHamlett Attorneys at Law in Charlottesville*
Mr. Seiden practices in family law and general litigation at the trial and appellate levels. He graduated from the Virginia Commonwealth University and the University of Richmond School of Law, both *cum laude*. Mr. Seiden is a regular contributor to the bar, serving as vice-chair of the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association's Family Law Section, an active member of the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association's CLE Committee, and CLE chair of the Charlottesville-Albemarle Bar Association. In these roles, Mr. Seiden regularly presents on topics ranging from ethics in conducting an equitable distribution hearing to the use of surreptitious audio recordings. He believes behind every good lawyer there is great group of support staff.

J. Kyle Farmer *Partner in Raynor & Farmer, PC in Charlottesville*
Mr. Farmer's practice is devoted exclusively to family law, including divorce, equitable distribution, custody, support, protective orders, and adoptions. Mr. Farmer is a member of the Family Law Section of the Virginia State Bar and the Family Law Committee of the American Bar Association, and he is chair of the Family Law Section of the Charlottesville Albermarle Bar Association. Through his firm, he maintains www.vadivorcelaw.net, a website providing family law resources for practitioners and the general public. Mr. Farmer received a B.A. degree in Economics from the University of Virginia and a J.D. degree, *cum laude*, from the University of Richmond.

Melanie A. Friend *Partner at CowanGates in Richmond*
Ms. Friend focuses her practice entirely on family law, including divorce, spousal and child support, child custody and visitation, adoption, and prenuptial agreements. She is qualified as a guardian ad litem for children and is trained in collaborative divorce. Ms. Friend serves on the board of the Richmond Bar Association; the Metro Richmond Family Law Bar Association; the Lewis F. Powell, Jr., American Inn of Court; the Greater Richmond Bar Foundation and the Collaborative Professionals of Richmond. *Virginia Lawyers Weekly* named her one of Virginia's "Up & Coming Lawyers of 2016." *Virginia Business Magazine* has named her to their list of Legal Elite in the area of family law 2013-2016, and Virginia Super Lawyers named her as a Rising Star 2010-2014 and a Super Lawyer in the area of family law 2015-2017.

Dawn B. DeBoer *Attorney with the Law Offices of Deanna D. Cook, PC in Richmond*
Ms. DeBoer has devoted the last 30 years to the practice of family law and all related issues. She represents her clients on matters regarding divorce, custody, visitation, child and spousal support, health insurance coverage, equitable distribution of marital property and debt, and family violence and family abuse. She was on the Board of Directors for the Central Virginia Legal Aid Society from 1994 to 2012; she is a member of the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association and the Metropolitan Richmond Family Law Bar Association. Ms. DeBoer is a member of the Domestic Relations Section of the Virginia State Bar. She has been named by the *Virginia Business Magazine* as a Legal Elite for 11 years in the area of family law and has been named as a Virginia Super Lawyer. Ms. DeBoer has been appointed by the Henrico County Circuit Court Judges as a Commissioner-in-Chancery.

Additional Learning

Eighth Annual Advanced Nonprofit Law Institute

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Seminar Information

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Tuition

\$279 for individual registration
\$259 for three or more registrations.

Each registration includes a complimentary continental breakfast and printed seminar manual.

Receive a reduced tuition rate of \$101 by registering to be our on-site coordinator for the day. For availability and job description, please visit www.halfmoonseminars.org.

How to Register
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• Call customer service at 715-835-5900

Cancellations: Cancel at least 48 hours before the start of the seminar, and receive a full tuition refund, minus a \$39 service charge for each registrant. Cancellations within 48 hours will receive a credit toward another seminar or the CD/manual package. You may also send another person to take your place.

Continuing Education Credit Information

This seminar is open to the public and offers 6.5 CLE hours, including 1.0 ethics hour, to paralegals. The National Association of Legal Assistants and the National Federation of Paralegal Associations have each approved this seminar.

Attendance will be monitored, and attendance certificates will be available after the seminar for most individuals who complete the entire event. Attendance certificates not available at the seminar will be mailed to participants within fifteen business days.

Can't Attend? Order the CD/Manual Package:
An audio recording of this seminar is available for \$289 (including shipping). Allow five weeks from the seminar date for delivery. Please refer to specific state licensing rules or certification requirements to determine if this learning method is eligible for continuing education credit.

Registration

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How to Register		Registrant Information Name: _____ Company/Firm: _____ Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____ Occupation: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____ Additional Registrants: Name: _____ Occupation: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____ Name: _____ Occupation: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____ Email address is required for credit card receipt, program changes, and notification of upcoming seminars and products. Your email will not be sold or transferred. () I need special accommodations. Please contact me.
Online: www.halfmoonseminars.org		
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Complete the entire form. Attach duplicates if necessary.		

Tuition

() **I will be attending the live seminar.** Single Registrant - **\$279.00**. Three or more registrants from the same company registering at the same time - **\$259.00** each.

() **I am not attending.** Please send me the CD manual package for **\$289.00**. (S&H included. Please allow five weeks from seminar date for delivery)

Checks: Make payable to HalfMoon Education Inc.

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