

## About the Authors

### **David L. Ladov, Esquire, Editor**

Mr. Ladov is a partner and co-chair of the Family Law Practice Group at Obermayer Rebmann Maxwell & Hippel, LLP, in West Conshohocken, concentrating his practice in family law. He is a fellow and past president of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers (Pennsylvania Chapter), where he has presented at their annual meetings. Mr. Ladov is a past chair of the Family Law Section of the Pennsylvania Bar Association, and is the case notes editor of the *Pennsylvania Family Lawyer*. He served as chair of the Montgomery County Family Law Committee and is a member of the Joint State Government Commission on Domestic Relations Law and the vice chair of the Supreme Court Domestic Relations Procedural Rules Committee. Additionally, Mr. Ladov is a course planner for the Pennsylvania Bar Institute and serves on their Family Law Advisory Committee. He is a frequent lecturer and participant for various Pennsylvania Bar Institute and PBA Family Law Section programs. He received his B.S. from the Pennsylvania State University and his J.D. from Emory University School of Law.

### **Lester Barenbaum, Ph.D.**

Dr. Barenbaum is a managing director at Financial Research Associates. He has extensive experience in valuing closely held firms for purposes of equitable distribution, estate tax, and economic damages, determining the value of employee stock options, and determining income for support purposes. Dr. Barenbaum is a full professor at LaSalle University, where he was the former chair of the Finance Department, and teaches courses at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. He has authored many articles for fi-

nancial, business, and legal publications, and has addressed numerous professional organizations on valuation of businesses, professional practices, and intangible assets. Dr. Barenbaum received his M.A. and Ph.D. in economics from Rutgers University, and his B.B.A. in economics from Bernard M. Baruch College—City University of New York. Recent publications include “The Family Lawyer’s Guide to Stock Options,” published by the ABA in 2007, and “Blockage Discounts,” appearing in *Valuation Strategies* published in 2009.

### **Melissa M. Boyd, Esquire**

Ms. Boyd is a partner in the Norristown law firm of High Swartz LLP, concentrating in the area of domestic relations. She is a member of the bars in Pennsylvania, Maryland, and New Jersey. Additionally, she is a member of the Montgomery, Philadelphia, and American bar associations, and the Doris Jonas Freed American Inn of Court for family law. In 2012, Ms. Boyd was elected to a three-year term on the board of directors for the Montgomery County Bar Association (MBA) and currently serves on the Executive Committee to the President of the MBA. She serves as the treasurer of the MBA Family Law Section and is the vice chair of the Community Outreach Committee of the MBA. Ms. Boyd is serving the second year of her three-year term on the MBA Law Reporter Committee. She is a member of the MBA Women in Law Committee as well as the MBA Diversity Committee. Ms. Boyd volunteers her services to the MBA Legal Access Project and is trained as a volunteer lawyer for the Montgomery Child Advocacy Project. She served on the council for the Family Law Section of the Pennsylvania Bar Association from 2007 to 2010 and is currently serving another term to expire in 2014. Ms. Boyd has been named a “Rising Star” Pennsylvania Super Lawyer by *Philadelphia* magazine in 2008, 2010, 2011, and 2012. She has also been named to the 2011 Lawyers on the Fast Track in the *Legal Intelligencer*. Prior to joining High Swartz LLP, Ms. Boyd spent two and a half years practicing with Mattioni, Ltd., in

Philadelphia, as a general practitioner, where she concentrated her practice on domestic relations. Ms. Boyd also clerked for two years for the Honorable Stuart R. Berger in the Circuit Court for Baltimore City in Maryland. Additionally, she served as the interim director of School House Legal Services for Advocates for Children and Youth in Baltimore, Maryland, a program committed to providing legal services for children who had been expelled, suspended, or, for other reasons, had lost instruction time from school. Ms. Boyd received her B.A., cum laude, from Washington College in Chestertown, Maryland, and her J.D., cum laude, from the University of Baltimore School of Law.

### **Kerri Lee Cappella, Esquire**

Ms. Cappella is a principal with the Pittsburgh law firm of Gentile, Horoho & Avalli, P.C., where she concentrates her practice in the area of matrimonial law. She is a fellow in the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers and is an active member of the Family Law sections of the American, Pennsylvania, and Allegheny County bar associations, currently serving as a member of the nominating committee of the ACBA Family Law Section. Ms. Cappella has served as a lecturer for the Pennsylvania Bar Association and the Allegheny County Bar Association in a number of areas, including family law, appellate procedure, ethics, and technology. Ms. Cappella is a charter member of the Allegheny County Chapter of the Matrimonial American Inn of Court CCLXXII. She has also served as a council member of the ACBA Family Law Section. Ms. Cappella was honored as a Pennsylvania Super Lawyer from 2009 to 2012 and was honored in *Best Lawyers in America* in 2011 and 2012. She was also honored as one of *Philadelphia* magazine's top 50 women attorneys in Pennsylvania in 2012, and is also an Allegheny County Bar Foundation fellow. Ms. Cappella received her J.D. from the University of Pittsburgh and her B.A. from the Pennsylvania State University.

### **David J. Draganosky, Esquire**

Mr. Draganosky is a partner with Shemtob Law, PC, a boutique firm in Blue Bell, Pennsylvania, practicing exclusively in the area of family law. Prior to joining Shemtob Law in June 2008, Mr. Draganosky was a partner in the family law department of a large, Philadelphia-based law firm. He began practicing family law upon his admission to the bar in 1990. He received his B.A. in 1986 from LaSalle University and his J.D. (cum laude) in 1990 from Temple University School of Law. While in law school, he served on the staff of the *Temple Law Review*, an honor for which he was chosen based upon his performance in a research and writing competition. Mr. Draganosky is admitted to practice before all state and federal courts in Pennsylvania. He is the author of “Ruling from PA Superior Court Determines When Stock Options Constitute Marital Property,” “PA Supreme Court Creates a *Per Se* Rule for the Expungement of Certain Protection from Abuse Orders,” “I Do (Unless Things Don’t Work Out and the Marriage is Officiated by an Internet-Ordained Minister),” “The Parenting Coordinator Cometh,” and “Getting *Sirious*,” and the co-author of “The Third Circuit Decides the Role of Custody Evaluators.” He has also lectured on, blogged about, and been interviewed by the press regarding various family law topics. Mr. Draganosky is a member of the Pennsylvania and Montgomery County bar associations and their respective Family Law sections.

### **Rochelle B. Grossman, Esquire**

Ms. Grossman is a Family Court master in Chester County. She received a B.A., cum laude, from Brandeis University in 1988, and her J.D. from Temple University School of Law in 1991. She is a past chair of the Montgomery Bar Association Family Law Section and served as a council member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association Family Law Section. She has been a frequent author and lecturer for the Pennsylvania Bar Institute and Pennsylvania Bar Association continuing legal education programs in all areas of family law.

### **Darren J. Holst, Esquire**

Mr. Holst is a partner at the Harrisburg firm of Howett, Kissinger & Holst, P.C., a firm limiting its practice to matrimonial law. He received his B.A., magna cum laude, from West Virginia University in 1995 and his J.D. from the Dickinson School of Law of the Pennsylvania State University in 1998. Mr. Holst is a member of the Family Law sections of the Dauphin County and Pennsylvania bar associations and has written and lectured on family law topics for various continuing legal education seminars. He is a current council member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association Family Law Section and a member of both the Executive and Legislative Committees of the section. Mr. Holst is also past co-chair of the Programming Committee of the Pennsylvania Bar Association Family Law Section, past chair of the Dauphin County Bar Association Family Law Section, and a former member of the Dauphin County Bar Association's board of directors. In addition to his private practice, Mr. Holst is an adjunct professor in the paralegal studies program at the Harrisburg Area Community College, where he has taught several subjects, including legal ethics, legal research and writing, and the program's introductory class that provides a broad overview of the American legal system, court structure, and substantive areas of law. In 2008, 2010, 2011, and 2012, Mr. Holst was honored as a "Rising Star" Pennsylvania Super Lawyer by *Philadelphia* magazine.

### **Margaret Klaw, Esquire**

Ms. Klaw is a partner with the Philadelphia firm of Berner Klaw & Watson, LLP, which concentrates its practice in all aspects of family law, including divorce and custody mediation, and in the representation of plaintiffs in personal injury cases arising from domestic violence, sexual assault, and child abuse. Ms. Klaw, a 1984 graduate of Northeastern University Law School, was former litigation coordinator at the Women Against Abuse Legal Center in Philadelphia. She has held numerous positions within the Philadelphia Bar Association, including chair of the Family Law Section, member

of the Board of Governors, member of the Commission on Judicial Selection and Retention, co-chair of the Women's Rights Committee, member of the Family Law Section Executive Committee, co-chair of the Committee on the Legal Rights of Unmarried Cohabitants, and co-chair of the Domestic Violence Committee. Ms. Klaw currently serves on the legal advisory board for Mazzoni Center Legal Services and on the board of Settlement Music School, Germantown Branch. She was a past board member and officer of Equality Advocates Pennsylvania, past president of the board of the National Clearinghouse for the Defense of Battered Women, and past member of the board of First Person Arts. Ms. Klaw has been a consultant in both litigation and policy matters to the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence, and writes and lectures extensively on a variety of family law topics.

### **Hillary J. Moonay, Esquire**

Ms. Moonay is of counsel at the Doylestown firm of Williams & Hand, P.C. She received her B.A. from the University of Maryland, cum laude, and her J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School. Ms. Moonay practices exclusively in the area of family law, where she handles all phases of the negotiation and litigation of domestic relations cases, including divorce, custody, support, alimony, property distribution, adoption, premarital agreements, and related issues. She is a certified mediator, and, as a trained collaborative lawyer, is also a member of the Bucks County Collaborative Law Group. Ms. Moonay was named by *Philadelphia* magazine and *Law and Politics* magazine as a Pennsylvania Super Lawyer Rising Star for the years 2006 to 2010. She has served as a case notes contributor to the *Pennsylvania Family Lawyer*. Ms. Moonay is currently a member of council of the Family Law Section of the Pennsylvania Bar Association Council. She is also a member of the Doris Jonas Freed American Inn of Court, as well as the Pennsylvania, Bucks County, and Philadelphia bar associations. Previously, Ms. Moonay served on the Family Law Section Executive Com-

mittee of the Philadelphia Bar Association and was the chair of the Philadelphia Bar Association's Program and Events Committee.

### **Sophia P. Paul, Esquire**

Ms. Paul is a senior associate at the Pittsburgh law firm of Bunde, Gillotti, Mulroy & Shultz, P.C. She is former counsel to the Domestic Relations Procedural Rules Committee of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. From 1991 to 1996, Ms. Paul clerked for the Honorable Lawrence W. Kaplan of Allegheny County. Ms. Paul is a fellow of the Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, has served as a council member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association Family Law Section, and currently serves as a council member of the Allegheny County Bar Association Family Law Section. She received her B.A. in 1982 from Georgetown University, Washington D.C., and her J.D. in 1987 from the University of Cincinnati College of Law. She has written and lectured for the Pennsylvania Family Law Section, the Pennsylvania Bar Institute, and the Allegheny County Bar Association on family law subjects.

### **Alita A. Rovito, Esquire**

Ms. Rovito is a sole practitioner in West Chester. In January 2009, she opened Rovito Law LLC and concentrates her practice in all aspects of family law. Ms. Rovito is a certified mediator, a Chester County approved parent coordinator, and has acted as an arbitrator in various family court disputes. Prior to opening her own practice, Ms. Rovito served as a Family Court master in Chester County for almost 15 years. She presided over thousands of custody conciliations and record support, divorce, and complex equitable distribution hearings. Ms. Rovito has also acted as the juvenile master in both dependency and delinquency matters. She graduated from the Pennsylvania State University in 1984 and from the Dickinson School of Law of the Pennsylvania State University in 1987. After a brief period of time as in-house counsel for a Fort Washington business, Ms. Rovito joined the Chester County District Attorney's Office in 1988, where

she assisted with the establishment of the Child Abuse Unit and was the managing attorney of the unit until she left in 1994 to join the Masters' Unit. She is a member of the Chester County and Pennsylvania bar associations.

**David C. Schanbacher, Esquire**

Mr. Schanbacher is a partner at the York firm of Hoffmeyer & Semmelman, LLP. He received his B.S. from Shippensburg State College and his J.D. from Duquesne University School of Law in 1986. He is also a graduate of the FBI Academy and served as a special agent with the FBI from 1986 to 1991. Mr. Schanbacher concentrates his practice in family law, divorce, custody, support, prenuptial agreements, and adoptions. He is a member of the York County and Pennsylvania bar associations, as well as a member of the Family Law and Criminal Law sections of the Pennsylvania Bar Association. Additionally, he is a member of the Family Law Section of the York County Bar Association. Mr. Schanbacher currently is a council member of the PBA Family Law Section and has served as co-chair of the PBA Family Law Section Rules Committee. He has lectured at numerous public service seminars in the York County area on family law topics. Mr. Schanbacher is a member of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America and was included in the National Register's *Who's Who in Executives and Professionals*, 2001–2002 Edition, as well as the Strathmore's *Who's Who* 2005–2006 Edition and the 2009 and 2010 editions of *Who's Who in America*. He contributes case notes for the *Pennsylvania Family Lawyer* and has lectured for PBA at the Family Law Section Meetings. In 2006, he also authored the materials on Rules of Evidence for the Family Law Section Meeting in Toronto. Mr. Schanbacher is the author of "ERISA/REA Landmines in Waiver of Survivor Benefits," published in 2004 by the Pennsylvania Bar Institute.



### **Gerald L. Shoemaker, Jr., Esquire**

Mr. Shoemaker is an associate in the Norristown office of Hangley Aronchick Segal & Pudlin, P.C. He received his B.A. in 1997 from Duquesne University and his J.D. in 2000 from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, where he was elected by the faculty to the Order of the Barristers. Mr. Shoemaker is a member of the American, Pennsylvania, and Montgomery County bar associations and is a member of each association's Family Law Section. He is a past member of the PBA Family Law Section's Council and served as chair of its Public Relations Committee. Mr. Shoemaker frequently serves as a panelist at the Pennsylvania Bar Association Family Law Section's Winter and Summer Meetings. He has also written for the *Pennsylvania Family Lawyer*, authoring the various case notes. Mr. Shoemaker is currently the editor of the *Sidebar* column in the *Pennsylvania Family Lawyer*. He has lectured frequently for both the Pennsylvania Bar Institute and the Pennsylvania Bar Association Family Law Section. Mr. Shoemaker is a previous member of the Doris Jonas Freed Inn of Court and a past president. He is a member of the Nicholas A. Cipriani Family Law Inn of Court.

### **Brian C. Vertz, Esquire**

Mr. Vertz is a partner of Pollock Begg Komar Glasser & Vertz LLC, a Pittsburgh law firm devoted to family law litigation, settlement, and appeals. He has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* every year since 2010 for family law. Mr. Vertz was elected as a fellow of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers in 2003. He has been included as an AV-Preeminent Lawyer by Martindale-Hubbell and a Pennsylvania Super Lawyer each year since 2005. He holds credentials as an accredited valuation analyst, denoting proficiency in business valuation theory and practice. Mr. Vertz has served on the governing bodies and standing committees of the Pennsylvania Bar Association and Allegheny County Bar Association Family Law sections. He was a founding member of the Pittsburgh Matrimonial Chapter of the Ameri-

can Inns of Court. He is the founder of the ACBA Toastmasters, a chapter for members of the Allegheny County Bar Association. Mr. Vertz is an author of *Valuing the Small Business in Divorce* (PBI 2009), *Tax Consequences and Estate Issues in Divorce: Avoiding the Pitfalls* (PBI 2012), and *Drafting Marital Settlement Agreements* (PBI 2003, 2008), as well as *Fundamentals of Family Law* (PBI 1994–2011). Mr. Vertz publishes a legal blog devoted to complex financial issues in divorce at [www.familylawyerspittsburgh.com](http://www.familylawyerspittsburgh.com). He was educated at the University of Michigan (B.A. 1988), the University of Pittsburgh School of Law (J.D. 1992), and the Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business (M.B.A. 1991). He is admitted to practice law in the State Bar of Georgia, the state and federal courts of Pennsylvania, and the Supreme Court of the United States.

### **Stephanie H. Winegrad, Esquire**

Ms. Winegrad is a partner in the Family Law Practice Group at Obermayer Rebmann Maxwell & Hippel, LLP, in West Conshohocken. She has been active in the Pennsylvania Bar Association Family Law Section, having served on council and the program committee and will chair the program committee this upcoming year. Ms. Winegrad has authored materials and lectured for the Pennsylvania Bar Association and Pennsylvania Bar Institute on various family law topics. She is a member of a lawyer/psychologist group in Ardmore and was formerly the executive director of the Doris Jonas Freed American Inns of Court. Ms. Winegrad is a member of the Montgomery Bar Association, having been a former chair of the Younger Lawyer's Division and is active in the Family Law Section. She was selected in 2006, 2007, 2008, and 2009/2010 as a Pennsylvania Super Lawyer "Rising Star" by *Philadelphia* magazine. Ms. Winegrad received her B.A. from the University of Pittsburgh and her J.D. from Villanova University.