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**Background:**

**Joel R. Brandes is the author of the treatise Law and the Family New York, 2024-2025 Edition (12 volumes) (Thomson Reuters), Law and the Family New York Forms, 2024 Edition (5 volumes) (Thomson Reuters), and all of their prior editions, and the New York Matrimonial Trial Handbook, 2d Edition (Bookbaby, 2024) (also in electronic and pdf editions). His "Law and the Family" column is a regular feature in the New York Law Journal.**

**Joel R. Brandes concentrates his statewide practice on appeals in divorce, equitable distribution, custody, and family law cases, as well as in post-judgment enforcement and modification proceedings. He also serves as counsel to attorneys with all levels of experience assisting them with their difficult appeals and litigated matters. He has been recognized by the New York Appellate Division as a "noted authority and expert on New York family law and divorce."**

**He has represented clients in numerous appeals to the New York Court of Appeals and the Appellate Divisions and has drafted briefs for and acted as a consultant to attorneys in many international child abduction cases, including cases in the United States Court of Appeals, and the United States Supreme Court. Mr. Brandes was counsel in the landmark New York Court of Appeals cases of *Morone v Morone*, *Tucker v Tucker* and *McSparron v McSparron* and has more than 125 reported New York trial or appellate decisions. He earned his J.D. at Brooklyn Law School and his LL.M. at New York University.**

**He is the author of the *Digest of Equitable Distribution Cases*, and *Equitable Distribution Case Law*, both published by the New York State Bar Association and has been a contributor to several law books. Mr. Brandes has written and lectured extensively on family law and international child abduction. He has authored more than six hundred published articles that have appeared in legal journals. For many years he co-chaired the Continuing Legal Education Committee of the New York State Bar**

Association, Family Law Section. In that capacity he moderated and participated in more than 150 seminars. He wrote a quarterly column, entitled Recent Decisions, Trends and Legislation, in the New York State Bar Association, Family Law Review. Since 2003 he writes and publishes Bits and Bytes, ™ a bi-monthly electronic newsletter for the New York divorce and family law bench and bar, two websites, New York Divorce and Family Law ([www.nysdivorce.com](http://www.nysdivorce.com)), the Trial of a New York Divorce and Custody Case ([www.nysdivorce.net](http://www.nysdivorce.net)) and two blogs, “New York Divorce and Family Law” (<https://brandeslaw.blogspot.com/>) and “A Child is Missing: The International Child Abduction Blog”(<https://joelbrandes.blogspot.com/>).



### Recent Articles by Joel R. Brandes from his New York Law Journal "Law and the Family" column

"Law of the Case in Matrimonial Actions", March 28, 2025.

"Nuptial Agreements and Open Court Stipulations - The Differences", February 27, 2025.

"Joint Custody Awards in New York – The Current Rule", January 22, 2025.

"Review of Ex-Parte Orders by the Appellate Division", November 25, 2024.

"The Lincoln Hearing and In-Camera Interview of the Child: Is there a Difference?", October 16, 2024.

"The Child's Preference in Custody Determinations", September 16, 2024.

"Sanctions for Spoliation of Evidence in Matrimonial Actions", September 5, 2024.

"In Limine Motions: What they are and How do they affect divorce?", July 31, 2024.

"Service of Process by email", June 17, 2024.

"Punishment for Civil Contempt", May 6, 2024.

**"Recusal in Matrimonial and Family Court Actions", March 25, 2024.**

**"Enforcement of Religious Marriage Contracts", February 23, 2024.**

**"The Parenting Coordinator," January 22, 2023.**

**"The Respect for Marriage Act," November 20, 2023.**

**"The Fundamental Right to a Fair Trial," September 18, 2023.**

**"Criminal Contempt in Matrimonial Actions, " August 14, 2023**

**"Contempt of Court - A Remedy of First Resort", June 30, 2023.**

**"Taking an Appeal in an E-filed Matrimonial Action", May 8, 2023.**

**"Public Access to Matrimonial and Family Court Proceedings", March 27, 2023.**

**"Forensic Evaluations in Custody Cases", February 23, 2023.**

**"Filling in the Gaps in Marital Agreements", January 18, 2023.**

**"Electronic Attorney - Client Communications", November 24, 2022.**

**"Limits on Interrogatories in Matrimonial Actions", November 15, 2022.**

**"Child Support Awards in Shared Custody Cases", October 20, 2022.**

**"Indirect Appreciation of Separate Property", September 29, 2022.**

**"Who decides, Client or Attorney?", August 18, 2022 (written with Chris McDonough, Esq.).**

**"Impeaching Credibility in Matrimonial Actions", August 8, 2022.**

**"New Rules Governing Matrimonial Actions – The Good News and the Bad", July 14, 2022.**

**"Counsel Fee Awards in Enforcement Proceedings", July 5, 2022.**

**"Post-Divorce Maintenance Awards Under the Current Law", June 17, 2022.**

**"Parental Alienation in Custody Disputes, May 11, 2022.**

**"Child Support Awards Over the Income Cap", " April 11, 2022.**

**"Downward Modification of Court Ordered Support Obligations, March 14, 2022.**

**"Imputed Income in Matrimonial Actions," February 24, 2022.**

**"Unacknowledged Nuptial Agreements, January 10, 2022.**

**"Ethical Considerations in Client Communications," December 11, 2021.**

**"Enforcement of Support Orders by Contempt of Court," October 21, 2021.**

**"Subject Matter Jurisdiction of Supreme Court and Family Court ", September 20, 2021.**

**"Appeals from Family Court Orders", September 1, 2021.**

**"Res Judicata and Collateral Estoppel in Divorce Actions, August 18, 2021,**

**"Flat Fee Retainers in Domestic Relations Matters, July 27, 2021 (written with Chris McDonough, Esq.)**

**"Appellate Review of Non-Final Orders in Matrimonial Actions," July 7, 2021.**

**"Standards for Modification of Child Support: Did Boden Survive?", June 29, 2021.**

**"Email and Ex Parte Communications, June 17, 2021 (written with Chris McDonough, Esq.)**

**"Preserving the Right to Appeal", May 10, 2021.**

**"The New Motion Practice Rules", March 8, 2021.**

**"Trial by Combat", February 18, 2021 (written with Chris McDonough, Esq.)**

**"Efiling Primer for Matrimonial Attorneys", January 7, 2021.**

**"Understanding the Support Magistrate Objection Process", November 3, 2020.**

**"Ethical Obligations of Lawyers as Witnesses in Matrimonial Actions", October 7, 2020 (With Chris McDonough, Esq.) [Click here to read the article](#)**

**"The Demise of 'O'Brien': Student/Working Spouse Equitable Distribution", September 16, 2020.**

**"Is there a Domestic Relations Exception to Diversity Jurisdiction", August 5, 2020  
(Written with Hon. George B. Daniels)**

**"Sanctions and Discipline for Frivolous Conduct in Matrimonial Actions," July 9, 2020.**

**"Limiting the Scope of Representation in Family Court Proceedings, July 2, 2020.  
(Written with Chris McDonough, Esq.)**

**"The Resurrection of Marital Fault". May 18, 2020.**

**"Primer on the Enhanced Scrutiny in the Ethical Rules Impacting Domestic Relations Practitioners", April 24, 2020 (Written with Chris McDonough, Esq.)**

**"Custody Rights of Non-Biological Parents," March 12, 2020.**

**"When Your Client Goes Missing, " February 20, 2020 (written with Chris McDonough, Esq.)**

**"The Burden of Proof and Presumptions in Matrimonial Actions", January 2, 2020.**

**"The Right to an Interpreter or Facilitator at Trial" , December 11, 2019.**

**"Standards of Appellate Review in Matrimonial Actions", November 8, 2019.**

**"Protecting Native American Children." September 20, 2019.**

**"Clarifying the Concepts of Transmutation and Commingling." August 22, 2019.**

**"Inchoate Rights to Marital Property." July 29, 2019. [Click here to read the article](#)**

**"Enforcing Counsel Fee, Support and Distributive Awards by Execution of Judgment." July 18, 2019.**

**"What is the Status of the Child in a Custody Case? July 8, 2019.**

**"Who is the Less Monied Spouse?" June 14, 2019.**

**"Conduct in litigation and counsel fee awards." May 17, 2019.**

## **Other Recent Articles by Joel R. Brandes**

**“Matrimonial Trial Practice: Frequently Asked Questions”** appears in the New York State Bar Association Family Law Review, 2024, Vol. 56, No. 3.

**“New York Tribal Courts of Civil Jurisdiction in Divorce and Family Law Matters”,** written with Vanessa Gabriele, Esq. appears in the New York State Bar Association Family Law Review, Winter 2024, Vol. 56, No. 2.

**“E-filing for Matrimonial Attorneys”,** appears in the New York State Bar Association Family Law Review, 2023, Vol. 55, Number 3

**“Navigating the Matrimonial Preliminary Conference So You Don’t Sink the Ship, Revisited - Part II ”** appears in the New York State Bar Association Family Law Review, 2023, Vol. 55, No. 1.

**“Navigating the Matrimonial Preliminary Conference So You Don’t Sink the Ship, Revisited – Part I ”** appears in the New York State Bar Association Family Law Review, 2022, Vol. 54, No. 3.

**“New Rules Governing Matrimonial Actions”** appears in the New York State Bar Association Family Law Review, August 2022, Vol. 54, No. 2.

**“Stare Decisis, Precedent and Dicta** appears in the March 2020 issue of the New York State Bar Journal, Vol. 92, No. 2 at page 36.

**“Navigating the Matrimonial Preliminary Conference So You Don’t Sink the Ship”** appears in the New York State Bar Association Family Law Review, Winter 2020, Vol. 52, No. 1.

**“Maintenance and Spousal Support, Then and Now: Are They the Same? ”** appears in the New York State Bar Association Family Law Review, 2021, Vol. 53, No. 2.

## **Recent Books Published:**

**Author of the New York Matrimonial Trial Handbook, (Bookbaby, 2024)**

**Author of Law and the Family New York, 2024-2025 Edition (12 volumes) (Thomson Reuters)**

**Author of Law and the Family New York Forms, 2024 Edition (5 volumes) (Thomson Reuters)**

**Author of The New York Matrimonial Trial Handbook: 2023 Update (paperback) (Amazon\_\_March 2023).**

**Author of The New York Matrimonial Trial Handbook Courtroom Edition (paperback) (Amazon December 2020).**

**Author of The New York Matrimonial Trial Handbook: 2020 Update (paperback) (Amazon December 2020).**

**Author of the New York Matrimonial Trial Handbook (Bookbaby August 2017)**

**Author of Law and the Family New York Forms 2020 Edition (5 volumes) (Thomson Reuters).**

**Author of Law and the Family New York Forms 2019 Edition (Thomson Reuters) (5 volumes)**

**Author of Law and the Family New York Forms, 2d (Thomson Reuters) (5 volumes)**

**Author of Law and the Family New York Forms (Thomson Reuters) (4 volumes),**

**Author of Law and The Family New York, 2d (9 volumes) (Thomson Reuters)**

**Publisher of “New York Divorce and Family Law” website at [www.nysdivorce.com](http://www.nysdivorce.com)**

**Publisher of “The Trial of a Matrimonial Action and Custody Case” website at [www.nysdivorce.net](http://www.nysdivorce.net)**

**Publisher of “Bits and Bytes”, bi-monthly electronic newsletter since 2003 devoted to New York Divorce and Family Law distributed to the New York bench and Bar.**

**Publisher of “New York Divorce and Family Law” blog (<https://brandeslaw.blogspot.com/>)**

**Publisher of “A Child is Missing: The International Child Abduction Blog”( <https://joelbrandes.blogspot.com/> ).**

**Member, Scribes, The American Society of Writers on Legal Subjects**

Author:

Foster, Freed, and Brandes, Law and the Family New York, Revised, 1986 annual cumulative supplement (Lawyers Cooperative Publishing Co., Rochester, New York)

Foster, Freed & Brandes, Law and the Family New York, 2d Edition  
Volume 1, 1987, (Lawyers Cooperative Publishing Co., Rochester, New York)

Volume 2, 1988, (Lawyers Cooperative Publishing Co., Rochester, New York)  
Volume 3, 1993, (Lawyers Cooperative Publishing Co., Rochester, New York)  
Volume 4, 1993, (Lawyers Cooperative Publishing Co., Rochester, New York)

Freed, Brandes & Weidman, Law and the Family New York, 2d Edition, Revised  
Volume 3, 1993, (Lawyers Cooperative Publishing Co., Rochester, New York)  
Volume 3A, 1993, (Lawyers Cooperative Publishing Co., Rochester, New York)  
Volume 3B, 1993, (Lawyers Cooperative Publishing Co., Rochester, New York)

Freed & Brandes, Law and the Family New York, 2d Edition  
Volume 5, \_\_\_\_\_ (Lawyers Cooperative Publishing Co., Rochester, New York)  
Volume 6, \_\_\_\_\_ (Lawyers Cooperative Publishing Co., Rochester, New York)

Brandes, Law and the Family New York, 2d Edition, Revised  
Volume 4, 1997, (Westgroup, Rochester, New York)  
Volume 4A, 1997, (Westgroup, Rochester, New York)  
Volume 5, 1998, (Westgroup, Rochester, New York)  
Volume 6, 1998, (Westgroup, Rochester, New York)

Brandes & Weidman, Law and the Family, New York Forms [4 volumes] (1993, Lawyers Cooperative Publishing, Rochester, New York)

Brandes, Law and the Family, New York Forms 2d [5 volumes] (2008, Thomson Reuters, Rochester, New York]

Digest of Equitable Distribution Cases, 1981, New York State Bar Association  
A Comprehensive Analysis of All Reported Equitable Distribution Cases to Date, 1982, New York State Bar Association

Equitable Distribution Case Law, 1983, New York State Bar Association



Contributor:

A Practical Guide to the New York Equitable Distribution Law, 1980, Harcourt Brace Jovanovich

New York State Bar Association Pamphlet, Divorce and Separation in New York State

Contemporary Matrimonial Law Issues, 1986, Harcourt Brace Jovanovich (Contributor)

Encyclopedia of Matrimonial Practice, 1991, Prentice Hall Law and Business (Contributor)

1988 - 2002. Author of Law and The Family, monthly column in the New York Law Journal

Academic Appointments and Publications of Joel R. Brandes

Educational:

Instructor in Matrimonial Law, Adelphi University,  
1976-1981

Continuing Legal Education Faculty, New York State Bar Association, 1979-1992

Visiting Lecturer, Hofstra University, School of Law, Advanced Practice Institute, 1981

Public Service:

Member, State of Florida, 11<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Guardian Ad Litem Panel 2010-Present  
Served as guardian ad litem for non-verbal autistic child from 2010-2013

Articles Published in New York Law Journal Column, "Law and the Family"

Freed and Brandes, "Family Law Takes a Back Seat Again," N.Y.L.J., 7-8-88, P. 3, Col. 1

Freed and Brandes, "No More Messin With Hessen," N.Y.L.J., 8-17-88, P. 3, Col. 1

Freed and Brandes, "Joint Custody: The Choices," N.Y.L.J., 9-27-88, P. 3, Col. 3

Freed and Brandes, "Dump the Dum Casta Law," N.Y.L.J., 10-25-88, P. 3, Col. 3

Freed and Brandes, "The Cases of Mindy Sue Schwartz," N.Y.L.J., 11-29-88, P. 3, Col. 1

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Freed and Brandes, "Equitable Distribution: Academic Degrees and Other Things of Value," N.Y.L.J., 124-89, P. 3, Col. 1

Freed and Brandes, "Child Support Guidelines -- The Final Chapter?" N.Y.L.J., 228-89, P. 3,

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Freed and Brandes, "The Ethics of Getting Paid," N.Y.L.J., 7-31-90, P. 3, Col. 1

Freed, Brandes and Weidman, "Merger of Professional Licenses," N.Y.L.J., 8-31-90, P. 3, Col. 1

Freed, Brandes and Weidman, "Agreements to Divorce," N.Y.L.J., 9-25-90, P. 3, Col. 1

Freed, Brandes and Weidman, "What is the Value of Your Law Practice?" N.Y.L.J., 11-15-90, P. 3, Col. 1

Freed, Brandes and Weidman, "What is Separate Property?" N.Y.L.J., 1-30-91, P. 3, Col. 1

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Freed, Brandes and Weidman, "The Valuation Date," N.Y.L.J., 4-23-91, P. 3, Col. 1

Freed, Brandes and Weidman, "Convenience Bank Accounts," N.Y.L.J., 5-29-91, P. 3, Col. 1

Freed, Brandes and Weidman, "Attorneys Liens," N.Y.L.J., 6-25-91, P. 3, Col. 1

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Freed, Brandes and Weidman, "Whose Child is It? -- Habeas Corpus Proceedings," N.Y.L.J., 10-23-91, P.3 Col. 1

Freed, Brandes and Weidman, "Abandonment: When is Sexual Refusal Justified," N.Y.L.J., 11-26-91, P. 3, Col. 1

Freed, Brandes and Weidman, "Relocation: A Child's Dilemma," N.Y.L.J., 12-31-91, P. 3, Col. 1

Freed, Brandes and Weidman, "Constructive Trusts," N.Y.L.J., 1-28-92, P. 3, Col. 3

Freed, Brandes and Weidman, "Custody, Experts, Evaluations and Reports," N.Y.L.J., 3-12-92, P. 3, Col.

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Weidman, "Electronic Surveillance of Family Conversations," N.Y.L.J., 1-26-93, P. 3, Col. 1

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94, P.3 Col.1

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N.Y.L.J., 1-24-95,

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3-28-95, P.3

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Brandes and Weidman, "The Changes in Calculating Child Support," N.Y.L.J., 523-95, P.3

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Brandes and Weidman," 'Hartog' and 'Price': The 'Price' Is Right," N.Y.L.J., 6-2795, P.3 Col.3

Brandes and Weidman," Social Security, Disability Benefits and Child Support,"N.Y.L.J., 7-25-95, P.3 Col.1

Brandes and Weidman," Full Faith and Credit to Child-Support Orders," N.Y.L.J., 8-22-95, P.3 Col.1

Brandes and Weidman," Where the Buck Stops for Law Guardians," N.Y.L.J., 926-95, P.3 Col.1

Brandes and Weidman," Privacy: Whose Right Is It Anyway," N.Y.L.J., 10-24-95, P.3 Col.1

Brandes and Weidman," The Child's Best Interests in Adoption Cases," N.Y.L.J., 11-28-95, P.3 Col.3

Brandes and Weidman," McSparron': The Demise of the `Merger' Fiction," N.Y.L.J., 12-26-95, P.3 Col.3

Brandes and Weidman," New Efforts to Eliminate Domestic Violence," N.Y.L.J., 123-96, P.3 Col.3

Brandes and Weidman," An Abused Child's Emergency Removal from Home," N.Y.L.J., 2-27-96, P.3 Col.3

Brandes and Weidman," Social Security, and Child Support Revisited," N.Y.L.J., 3-26-96, P.3 Col.1

Brandes and Weidman," Relocation Resolved," N.Y.L.J., 4-23-96, P.3 Col.1

Brandes and Weidman," The Rights of Unwed Fathers," N.Y.L.J., 5-28-96, P.3, Col.1

Brandes and Weidman," Failure to Pay Support and the Suspension of Licenses,"N.Y.L.J., 6-25-96, P.3 Col.1

Brandes and Weidman," Collection of Support Arrears Without a Money Judgment," N.Y.L.J., 7-2396, P.3 Col.1

Brandes and Weidman" Looking Out for The Children of Domestic Violence," N.Y.L.J., 8-27-96, P.3 Col.1

Brandes and Weidman "Wiping Out Domestic Violence," N.Y.L.J., 9-24-96, P.3, Col.1

Brandes and Weidman "Automatic Enforcement and Modification of Support Awards," N.Y.L.J., 102296, P.3, Col.1

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Brandes and Weidman "Valuation of a Professional License," N.Y.L.J., 12-24-96, P.3, Col.1

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Lectures and Seminars:

March 1976 New York State Assembly Subcommittee on Revision of the Domestic Relations Law  
October 15, 1977 Nassau County Bar Association, Family Court Subcommittee  
"Respondent's Position in Enforcement and Modification Proceedings"  
June 10, 1978 Nassau County Bar Association, Matrimonial Law Committee  
"Disclosure in Matrimonial Actions"  
March 28, 1979 New York State Trial Lawyers  
"Matrimonial Appellate Practice"  
April, 1979 New York State Bar Association, Family Law Seminar  
"Enforcement and Modification"  
April 25, 1979 Westchester County Bar Association  
"Child Support Under Boden"  
September 19, 1979 Richmond County Bar Association  
"Recent Developments in Matrimonial Law; An Update"  
November 19, 1979 Suffolk County Bar Association  
"The Child Support Obligation"  
March 3-5, 1980 Nassau County Bar Association  
"Matrimonial Trial Practice"  
March 4, 1980 New York State Trial Lawyers  
"New Criteria for Alimony and Child Support"  
April 14, 1980 New York Bar Association  
"Trial Practice"  
April 23, 1980 New York State Bar Association  
Seminar entitled "Administering and Managing and Equitable Distribution Case" Topic: "Recent Decisions"  
May 16, 1980 Suffolk County Bar Association  
"The Equitable Distribution Bill"

September 23, 1980 New York State Bar Association  
 "Equitable Distribution"

September 24, 1980 Richmond County Bar Association  
 "Equitable Distribution in a Nutshell"

October 1, 1980 Nassau County Bar Association  
 "Agreements Under the Equitable Distribution Law"

October 18, 1980 New York State Trial Lawyers  
 "Retroactive and Prospective Application of Equitable Distribution"

October 24-25, 1980 Federation of Bar Associations of the 4th Judicial District

October 28, 1980 Nassau County Bar Association Committee of Accountants - CPA's  
 "Role of the Attorney and the Accountant Under Equitable Distribution"

November 3, 1980 Queens County Bar Association  
 "Recent Developments in Modification of Custody Orders and Decrees"

January 1981 Nassau County Bar Association  
 "Recent Developments in Modification and Enforcement"

March 30, 1981 The American Orthopsychiatric Association  
 "Mock Custody Trial"

April 3, 1981 New York State Bar Association, Family Court Practice Seminar "Modification and Enforcement Proceedings Regarding Separation Agreements and Decrees"

April 6, 1981 Hofstra University, School of Law, Advanced Practice Institute  
 "Child Custody and Recent Changes in Law"

June 22, 1981 Nassau County Bar Association, 1981 Seminar on Tricks of the Trade  
 "Trial Techniques"

September 10, 1981 New York State Bar Association  
 Seminar entitled "Equitable Distribution One Year Later"  
 Topic: "Decisional Law Since July 19, 1980"

October 5, 1981 Queens County Bar Association  
 Seminar on How to Handle a Divorce Case Under Equitable Distribution  
 Topic: "Disclosure Under Equitable Distribution"

November 18, 1981 New York State Bar Association Seminar on Practical Skills in Family Law Practice  
 Topic: "Trial Practice: Domestic Relations"

November 19, 1981 Richmond County Bar Association  
 Topic: "Equitable Distribution: A Review of Decisions Since July 19, 1980"

April 23, 1981 New York State Bar Association

May 5, 1982 Association of the Bar of the City of New York  
 Topic: "Financial Disclosure Under Equitable Distribution Law"

May 14, 1982 Seminar entitled "Administering and Managing and Equitable Distribution Cases"

June 11, 1982 Topic: "Recent Decisions"

July 10, 1982 New York State Bar Association  
 Seminar entitled "A Comprehensive Analysis of All Reported Equitable

## Distribution Cases to Date"

July 21, 1982 Law Journal Seminars-Press Seminar entitled "Central Issues in Equitable Distribution"

Topics: "Financial Disclosure Under the Equitable Distribution Law"

"Techniques in the Use of Disclosure Devices"

September 24, 1982,

October 22, 1982,

November 5, 1982,

December 5, 1982: New York State Bar Association Seminar entitled "Trial of an Equitable Distribution Case: A Practical Approach"

October 5, 1982 New York State Trial Lawyers Association

Seminar entitled "Essential Elements of a Winning Case, Equitable Distribution Today"

Topic: "Update '82 - Recent Decisions Under Equitable Distribution"

October 6, 1982 Queens County Bar Association

Seminar entitled "How to Handle a Divorce Case Under Equitable Distribution"

Topic: "Disclosure"

October 12, 1982 Brooklyn Law School

Topic: "Enforcement and Modification of Decrees and Agreements"

November 10, 1982 Nassau County Bar Association

November 13, 1982 Seminar entitled "Matrimonial Law, Update '82"

Topic: "Evaluation and Distribution of Pensions"

November 23, 1982 New York County Lawyers Association, Matrimonial Practice Program

Topic: "Enforcement and Modification of Matrimonial Decrees"

January 12, 1983 New York City Legal Secretaries Association

Topic: "Marital Fault - Do the Courts Care?"

March 4, 1983,

April 8, 1983: New York State Bar Association: Moderator of Seminar entitled

"Negotiating and Drafting of Marital

Agreements" Topic: "Recent Decisions"

March 5, 1983 New York State Trial Lawyers

Seminar entitled "New Direction in Matrimonial Practice Under Equitable Distribution"

Topic: "Update - 1983"

May 3, 1983 Richmond County Bar Association

Topic: "Almost Everything You Wanted to Know About Matrimonial Law Since Last Time"

June 24-25, 1983 Nassau County Bar Association

Moderator of Annual Seminar on Matrimonial Law (Montauk Yacht Club)

August 26, 1983 New York State Bar Association

Moderator of Seminar entitled "Selected Valuation

Problems in Equitable Distribution Cases" (New York

City) Topic: "Recent Decisions and Comments"

September 23, 1983 (Albany), October 14, 1983

(N.Y.C.): New York State Bar Association

Moderator of Seminar entitled "Child Custody and Visitation"

Topic: "The Contested Custody Case from the Lawyers Perspective"  
October 26, 1983 New York State Trial Lawyers Seminar  
Topic "Disclosure Under the Equitable Distribution Law"  
October 31, 1983 Brooklyn Bar Association Seminar  
Topic: "Enforcement and Modification of Agreements and Decrees"  
November 29, 1983 New York State Bar Association  
Moderator of Program on Family Court Practice  
Topic: "Trial Practice, Strategy and Counsel Fees"  
January 1984 Nassau County Bar Association, Academy of Law  
Moderator of Seminar entitled "Matrimonial Practice: A Practical Skills Course"  
March 7, 1984 Brooklyn Law School, Guest Lecturer  
Topic: "Enforcement and Modification"  
March 13, 1984 New York State Trial Lawyers Association  
Topic: "How to Compel or Resist Financial Disclosure"  
April 13, 1984,  
May 4, 1984,  
June 8, 1984: New York State Bar Association  
Moderator of program entitled "Matrimonial and Family Law Update '84"  
April 28, 1984 Nassau County Bar Association, Academy of Law, Volunteer  
Lawyers Program  
Topic: "Initial Client Intake"  
May 12, 1984 Staten Island Women's Bar Association  
Topic: "Recent Decisions Under Equitable Distribution"  
May 27, 1984 Brooklyn Law School Homecoming Lecture  
Topic: "Matrimonial Update"  
July 13-14, 1984 New York State Bar Association  
Moderator of Program entitled "Recent Decisions Under the Equitable  
Distribution Law"  
Topic: "Disclosure"  
September 25, 1984 Nassau County Bar Association, Academy of Law  
Program entitled "Matrimonial Update"  
Topic: "Disclosure"  
October 16, 1984 New York State Bar Association  
Moderator of the Basic Matrimonial Practice Program  
Topic: "Overall and General Survey of the Equitable Distribution Law"  
October 17, 1984 Brooklyn Bar Association  
Topic: "The Domestic Relations Tax Reform Act of 1984"  
October 18, 1984 New York Law Journal  
Seminars entitled "The Nuts and Bolts of Equitable Distribution"  
Topic: "Disclosure, Maintenance and Child Support"  
October 24, 1984 Brooklyn Law School  
Topic: "Enforcement and Modification"  
November 9, 1984,



November 30, 1984,  
 December 7, 1984,  
 December 14, 1984: New York State Bar Association  
 Moderator of Program entitled "New York Equitable Distribution Practice"  
 Topics: "Recent Decisions and Developing Trends"  
 "Direct Examination of an Expert Witness."  
 January 10, 1985 New York State Trial Lawyers Association  
 Topic: "Financial Disclosure"  
 January 22, 1985 American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, New Jersey Chapter  
 Topic: "Matrimonial Discovery: Advanced Litigation Techniques"  
 April 17, 1985 Westchester County Bar Association, Family Law Section  
 Topic: "Enforcement and Modification of Agreements and Judgments"  
 May 3, 1985 New York State Bar Association  
 Moderator of Program entitled "Successful Motion Practice in Matrimonial Cases"  
 Topic: "Recent Decisions and Developing Trends"  
 May 22, 1985 Nassau County Bar Association, Academy of Law  
 Topic: "Real Estate Appraisals and Valuation of Real Estate"  
 May 23, 1985 New York State Bar Association  
 Moderator of Program entitled "Successful Motion Practice in Matrimonial Cases"  
 Topic: "Recent Decisions and Developing Trends"  
 October 3, 1985 Law Journal Seminars Press  
 Seminar entitled "The Nuts and Bolts of Equitable  
 Distribution and Matrimonial Tax"  
 Topic: "Disclosure Under the Equitable Distribution Law"  
 October 11, 1985 Brooklyn Law School  
 Topic: "Preparation for and Trial of a Matrimonial Action"  
 October 24-27, 1985 New York State Bar Association, Family Law Section  
 Fall Meeting, Bolton Landing, New York, Co-Chairman  
 "New Developments in Matrimonial Law"  
 Topic: "Recent Decisions"  
 October 29-30, 1985 New York State Bar Association, Family Law Section,  
 Practical Skills Course  
 Chairman - New York City  
 Topic: "Techniques of Practice in Family Court"  
 November 15, 1985,  
 December 12, 1985: New York State Bar Association, Family Law Section  
 Co-Chairman of Seminar entitled "Negotiating and Drafting Marital  
 Agreements under Equitable Distribution"  
 Topic: "Recent Decisions"  
 May 2, 1986,  
 June 13, 1986: New York State Bar Association, Family Law Section  
 Moderator and Speaker  
 Seminar entitled "New York Matrimonial Practice"

May 22, 1986 Richmond County Bar Association  
Topic: "Recent Developments in Matrimonial Law"  
July 17-20, 1986 New York State Bar Association, Family Law Section  
Summer meeting, moderator and speaker  
Seminar entitled "Recent Developments in Matrimonial Practice"  
August 12, 1986 American Bar Association, Family Law Section  
Seminar entitled "Family Law in the Fifty States"  
August 12, 1986 American Bar Association, Litigation Section  
Seminar entitled "Anatomy of a Matrimonial Trial"  
September 18, 1986 New York State Trial Lawyers, Matrimonial Practice  
Seminar Topic: "Discovery A-Z"  
November 5-6, 1986 New York State Bar Association, Family Law Section  
Overall Planning Chairperson, Fall 1986  
Practical Skills Course: "Basic Matrimonial Practice", Westbury, New York November 14,  
1986,  
December 12, 1986: New York State Bar Association, Family Law Section  
Co-Chairman of Seminar entitled "Trial of an Equitable Distribution Action"  
Topic: "Recent Decisions and Review of Developing Trends in Matrimonial Law"  
March 10, 1987 The Nassau Academy of Law  
Participant in Seminar entitled "Anatomy of a Matrimonial Case"  
Topic: "Financial Disclosure"  
March 31, 1987 The Suffolk Academy of Law  
Topic: "Recent Decisions in Matrimonial Law"  
May 15, 1987,  
June 12, 1987: New York State Bar Association, Family Law Section  
Co-Chairman of Seminar entitled "Matrimonial and Family Law 1987 -  
Valuation Taxes, Pensions and Post Litigation Problems"  
Topic: "Recent Decisions and Developing Trends"  
October 9-12, 1987 New York State Bar Association, Family Law Section  
Fall Meeting, Program Co-Chairman  
"Developments in Child Custody, Child Support Guidelines and Surrogate  
Parenting"  
October 28-29, 1987 The Nassau Academy of Law  
November 10, 1987 Seminar entitled "The Art of Cross-Examination"  
Topic: "Techniques for Cross-Examination of Expert  
Witnesses: Economic Witnesses and Actuaries"  
November 13, 1987,  
December 4, 1987,  
December 11, 1987: New York State Bar Association, Family Law Section  
Co-Chairman and Speaker of Seminar entitled "Matrimonial and Family Law Update"  
Topics: "Disclosure Motions, Pendente Lite Maintenance and Child Support" "Injunctions  
and Exclusive Occupancy of the Marital Home  
Pendente Lite" (Albany)

"Equitable Distribution Decisions and the Support Enforcement Act of 1987" (Uniondale and New York City)  
December 1, 1987 Richmond County Bar Association  
Topic: "Annual Update of Developments in Matrimonial Law"  
January 19, 1988 American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers  
Symposium on "Practical Aspects of Matrimonial Practice"  
Albany Law School, Albany, New York Topic: "Discovery"  
April 6, 1988,  
May 10, 1988,  
May 13, 1988: New York State Bar Association, Family Law Section  
Co-Chairman and Speaker of Seminar entitled: "Pensions, QDROS and Motion Practice - What the Matrimonial Practitioner Needs to Know"  
Topics: "Methods of Valuing a Retirement Plan and Direct Examination of a Pension Expert (Albany) "Substantive Motions" (Uniondale)  
July 21-24, 1988 New York State Bar Association, Family Law Section,  
Program Chair of Summer Meeting Program entitled "Recent Developments in Matrimonial and Family Law"  
Topic: "Pendente Lite Motions and Disclosure"  
October 12-13, 1988 New York State Bar Association, Family Law Section  
Overall Planning Co-Chairman and Moderator  
Fall 1988 Practical Skills Course: "Basic Matrimonial Practice"  
Westbury, New York  
October 20, 1988,  
December 2, 1988,  
December 9, 1988,  
December 16, 1988: New York State Bar Association  
Seminar entitled "Update 88"  
Topic: "Matrimonial Practice"  
New York State Bar Association, Family Law Section  
Co-Chair of Seminar entitled "The Anatomy of a Matrimonial Trial" Moderator (Albany)  
and Speaker (New York and Uniondale)  
Topic: "Direct Examination of the Real Estate Appraiser"  
January 14, 1989 Litigation Support Committee, Nassau Chapter  
New York State Society of Certified Public Accountants  
Seminar entitled "Role of the CPA as an Expert Witness" (Uniondale, NY)  
Topic: "Mock Trial - Cross Examination of Expert Witness"  
March 13, 1989 Brooklyn Bar Association/Appellate Division, Second Department Seminar entitled "Selected Topics and New Developments in Matrimonial Law, 1989"  
Topic: "Tax Consequences of Maintenance, Child Support and Property Transfers"  
April 15, 1989 Nassau County Bar Association, Bi-County Committee of Attorneys/Accountants

Participant in Matrimonial Mock Trial on "Valuation of a Master's Degree"  
May 11, 1989 Suffolk Academy of Law, Bi-County Committee of  
Attorneys/Accountants  
Participant in Matrimonial Mock Trial on "Valuation of a Master's Degree"  
May 12, 1989 (Albany),  
June 2, 1989 (N.Y.C.),  
June 16, 1989 (L.I.): New York State Bar Association, Family Law Section  
Co-Chairman of Seminar entitled "Thorny Valuation Problems in Equitable Distribution  
Litigation" Co-Moderator (Albany)  
Topic: "Direct Case on Valuation of a Business" (Albany)  
September 14-17, 1989 New York State Bar Association, Family Law Section  
Fall Meeting, Lake George, New York  
Program Co-Chair and Sponsor of Seminar entitled  
"Child Support Guidelines -- They're Here"  
Topic: "Miscellaneous Considerations"  
September 26-27, 1989 New York State Bar Association, Family Law Section  
Overall Program Chair and Moderator of Fall 1989  
Pretrial Skills Program entitled "Basic Matrimonial Practice"  
October 13, 1989 New York State Bar Association, Family Law Section (White  
Plains) Full  
Program, Planning Chair and Moderator "Child Support  
Guidelines -- They're Here!!  
December 2, 1989 (L.I.), December 9, 1989  
(Albany), December 18, 1989 (N.Y.C):  
Speaker on all Topics  
October 16, 1989 Litigation Support Committee, Nassau Chapter  
New York State Society of Certified Public Accountants  
Topic: "The Child Support Standards Act"  
October 21, 1989 Association of the Bar of the City of New York  
Program entitled "The Child Support Standards Act"  
October 26, 1989 New York State Bar Association, General Meeting  
White Plains, New York  
Topic: "The Child Support Standards Act"  
November 4, 1989 New York State Bar Association  
Seminar entitled "Update 89"  
Topic: "Matrimonial Practice"  
November 9, 1989 Nassau County Bar Association.  
Lecture on The Child Support Standards Act  
November 28, 1989 Brooklyn Bar Association  
Participation in Program on Custody  
Topic: "The Hague Convention"  
April 25, 1990 Westchester County Bar Association  
Topic: "Child Support Guidelines Update"

May 8, 1990 Brooklyn Law School, Annual Home Coming  
Participant in Program entitled "Prenuptial Agreements: How to Play  
The Trump Card"  
May 25, 1990 (Albany),  
June 1, 1990 (L.I.),  
June 15, 1990 (N.Y.C.), New York State Bar Association, Family Law Section  
Co-chair of Program entitled "Successfully Handling and Settling a Divorce Case" July 13-  
16, 1990 New  
York State Bar Association, Summer Meeting, Manchester, Vermont  
Program Co-Chair and Speaker at Seminar entitled "Happy 10th Birthday EDL"  
Topic: "Ethical Considerations Relating to Getting Paid"  
October 19, 1990 (L.I.),  
November 9, 1990 (Albany),  
November 30, 1990 (Syracuse), December 14, 1990  
(N.Y.C.):  
New York State Bar Association, Family Law Section Fall Program, Planning Chair and  
October 23-24, 1990 New York State Bar Association, Family Law  
Section Overall Program Chair and Moderator  
Program entitled "Basic Matrimonial Practice"  
November 2, 1990 New York State Bar Association, Continuing Legal Education  
Committee  
Seminar entitled "Update 90"  
Topic: "Matrimonial Law and Practice"  
December 6, 1990 Kiwanis Club, Merrick, New York  
Speaker  
Topic: "Equitable Distribution"  
April 18, 1991 New York State Bar Association, Family Law Section (Melville, L.I.)  
Overall Program Chair  
Program entitled "Family Court Practice"  
May 2, 1991 Suffolk Academy of Law  
Participant in program entitled "A Matrimonial Mock Trial"  
May 9, 1991 Nassau Academy of Law  
Participant in program entitled "The Evolution of an Equitable Distribution Case"  
Topic: "Discovery"  
May 24, 1991 New York State Bar Association, Family Law Section  
Overall Program Chair and Moderator  
Program entitled "The Trial of an Equitable Distribution Case"  
July 10-14, 1991 New York State Bar Association, Summer Meeting, Manchester, Vermont  
Program Co-Chair and Moderator at Seminar  
October 15-16, 1991 New York State Bar Association, Family Law Section  
Overall Planning Chair and Moderator, New York City  
Program entitled "Basic Matrimonial Practice"  
November 8, 1991 New York State Bar Association, Continuing Legal Education

## Committee

Seminar entitled "Update 91"

Topic: "Matrimonial Law and Practice"

November 22, 1991 (L.I.), December 6, 1991

(Albany), December 13, 1991 (N.Y.C.):

New York State Bar Association, Family Law Section

Overall Program Chair and Moderator,

Fall Program entitled "How to Handle a Custody Case"

May 1, 1992 (Albany),

May 8, 1992 (L.I.),

May 22, 1992 (Syracuse), May 29, 1992

(Newburgh) June 12, 1992 (N.Y.C.):

New York State Bar Association, Family Law Section

Overall Program Chair and Moderator,

Spring Program entitled "Matrimonial and Family Law Update"

September 22, 1992 New York State Bar Association, Family Law Section and 23, 1992

Overall Planning Chair and Moderator: New York City

Program entitled "Basic Matrimonial Practice"

November 6, 1992 (N.Y.C.) New York State Bar Association, Family Law Section

Program entitled: "Update 92". Topic: "Matrimonial Law."

October 30, 1992 (L.I.),

November 6, 1992 (Newburgh), November 20, 1992

(Albany), December 11, 1992 (N.Y.C.):

New York State Bar Association, Family Law Section

Program Chair and Coordinator, Program Entitled: "How to Handle New Developments in Matrimonial Law."

May 3, 1993 Brooklyn Bar Association - Matrimonial Law Seminar

Topic: Trial Techniques "How to Establish a Prima Facie case for Dissolution"

May 7, 1993 New York State Bar Association, Committee on Professional

Discipline, Statewide seminar, Moderator of "Divorce in the 90's: Lawyer Ethics, Client Relations and Legal Fees"

April 25, 1994 Dutchess County Bar Association Seminar, Lecture entitled "Recent Decisions"

November 16, 1994 Orange County Bar Association, Lecture entitled "Valuation of Professional Practices & Licenses."

May 31, 1995 Nassau County Bar Association, Matrimonial Law Committee

Topic: "Custody, Experts, Evaluation and Reports"

October 27, 1995 Staten Island Women's Bar Association

Topic: Full Faith and Credit to Child Support Orders

January 24, 1996 Nassau County Bar Association, Matrimonial Law

Committee Topic: McSparron v. McSparron

March 5, 1996 New York County Lawyer's Association, Matrimonial Law Section

Topic: Practical Effects of the Court of Appeals Decision of

McSparron v. McSparron on Valuation of Professional Licenses  
May 16, 1996 Nassau County Bar Association, Academy of Law  
Topic: The Evaluation and Distribution of a Professional License- Post McSparron  
"Evolution of the Present Law...O'Brien to McSparron"  
November, 1999 New York County Lawyers Association, Matrimonial Law  
Committee  
"McSparronizing Maintenance Awards"  
April 18, 2000 New York County Lawyers Association, Seminar Entitled "Update on  
Matrimonial Law" Topic: Equitable Distribution  
May 5, 2001 Marino Institute for Continuing Legal Education, Topic: Matrimonial  
Agreements  
June 20, 2001 New York County Lawyers Association, Seminar Entitled "Basic Matrimonial  
Law Practice in New York" Topic: Equitable Distribution

Miscellaneous:

Member of Panel, American Arbitration Association, 1974-1982  
Arbitrator, Civil Court of the City of New York, 1971-1977  
Guest, WINS News Conference, WINS Radio, June 5, 1980  
Guest, "THE BOB BARSHAY SHOW", Cablevision 12, June 5, 1982  
Guest, "THE JIM SAUNDERS SHOW", WGLI, November 3, 1982, and  
March 15, 1983  
Host of "ASK THE EXPERT", WGLI Radio, 1982-1983  
Listed in The Best Lawyers in America, Seeview/Putnam, New York, 1987-1998  
Guest, "Long Island Viewpoint", Group W Cable, September 12, 1983  
Guest, Island Exchange, Cablevision 27, July 10, 1984  
Guest, "Heart of the Matter", CBS, February 14, 1985  
Guest, WMCA Radio 1987; Guest, The Bob Grant Show, WABC Radio, November 28, 1988  
Guest, "Lawyers Live", Manhattan Cable, September 19, 1990  
Guest, "9 Broadcast Plaza", WWOR, Channel 9, Secaucus, New Jersey,  
September 25, 1990  
Member, Scribes, The American Society of Writers on Legal Subjects  
Columnist, New York Law Journal, "Law and The Family", 1988-present  
Guest Commentator, Courtroom Television Network, May 4, 1992  
Guest, Newstalk TV, September 5, 1996  
Guest, Fox News TV, January 28, 1997  
Author and Creator of New York Divorce and Family Law, at [www.brandeslaw.com](http://www.brandeslaw.com)  
Listed in the following publications:  
Who's Who in America - 2004, 58th Edition (pub. 2003)  
Who's Who in America - 2003, 57th Edition (pub. 2002)  
Who's Who in America - 2002, 56th Edition (pub. 2001)

Who's Who in America - 2001, 55th Edition (pub. 2000)  
Who's Who in American Law - 2003-2004, 13th Edition (pub. 2003)  
Who's Who in American Law - 2000-2001, 11th Edition (pub. 1999)  
Who's Who in American Law - 1996-1997, 9th Edition (pub. 1996)  
Who's Who in American Law - 1992-1993, 7th Edition (pub. 1991)  
Who's Who in American Law - 1990-1991, 6th Edition (pub. 1989)

### Bar Association Memberships and Committees

New York State Bar Association 1971-2002; 2019-  
Committee on Appellate Practice 1988 - 2002  
Committee on Child Custody, 1997- 2002  
Committee on Professional Discipline, 1992-1994

Family Law Section, 1975-2002; 2019- Secretary, 1992  
Financial Officer, 1990-1992  
Family Law Review Editorial Board, 1975-2002  
Secretary, Committee on Legislation, 1975-1977  
Committee on Continuing Legal Education, 1980-1992  
Chairman, Committee on Continuing Legal Education, 1982-1992  
General Practice Section, 1993-1997

### American Bar Association 1971-2002

Family Law Section  
Associate Editor, Family Law Newsletter, 1971-1978  
Litigation Section, Trial Evidence Committee, 1975-1977  
Executive Member, Child Custody Committee, 1982-1983  
Member of Panel, "Law in the Fifty States" 1986-1987  
Member of Custody Committee, 1993 - 2002  
Member of Federal Legislation and Procedures Committee, 1994-2002

### Nassau County Bar Association 1975-2002

Committee on Matrimonial and Family Law, 1975-2002  
Newsletter Subcommittee, 1976  
Chairman, Legislative Subcommittee, 1978-1980  
Chairman, Continuing Legal Education Subcommittee, 1980-1982  
Chairman, Committee on Matrimonial and Family Law, 1982-1984



American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers 1976-2002  
Committee on Continuing Legal Education 1994 - 2002  
New York Chapter Legal Education Committee, 1978  
New York Chapter Board of Managers 1979-1983  
New York Chapter Board of Examiners, 1979-1980  
New York Chapter Chairman, Legislation Committee, 1979-1980  
New York Chapter Committee on Legal Fees in Matrimonial Matters, 1980-1981  
New York Chapter Ad Hoc Committee on Revision of the Equitable Distribution Law,  
1980-1981

International Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, 1988-  
2002

American Judges Association 1974-1978

Brooklyn Bar Association 1974-1978  
Committee on Legal Education and Admission to the Bar, 1972-1974  
Family Law Committee, 1973-  
1978

Association of the Bar of the City of New York - 1972-1992; 2019-  
present  
Committee on Legal Education and Admission to the Bar, 1972-1974  
Family Law Committee, 1973-1978  
Committee on Women in the Courts, 1990 -  
1992

New York County Lawyers Association - 1972-1974  
Committee on the Family Court, 1974