# Agenda

#### **Working With Divorce Clients and Opposing Counsel**

Establishing and maintaining good communication with clients

- Methods of communication and contents of communications
- Guidelines for responding to client communications

Working with difficult clients

Working with the courts and opposing counsel

Maintaining professionalism

#### **Preparing Marital Settlement Agreements**

Assisting with different types of agreements

- Property agreements Child-related agreements
- Support agreements

#### **Obtaining and Evaluating Financial Information**

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

Recent developments in Georgia custody law Obtaining relevant information

Client interview, custody questionnaires,

authorizations for disclosure, formal discovery

Working with guardian-ad-litem

Working with experts

Drafting and reviewing parenting plans

#### **Assisting with Alternative Dispute Resolution**

Assisting in family law mediation

Understanding and assisting in divorce arbitration

Assisting in the collaborative divorce process

Assisting in modification actions

#### **Handling Ethical Issues in Family Law Practice**

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

C. Palmer

C. Palmer

S Fodor

J. Brown

D. Naggiar

G. Graham

# 2025

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National Federation of Paralegal Associations (NFPA)

6.5 CLE Credits (Incl. 1.0 Ethics Credit)

# **Georgia Family Law Practice for Paralegals**

#### Live, Interactive Webinar - Monday, March 24, 2025

This webinar teaches Georgia paralegals about communicating effectively with divorce clients, opposing counsel, and the courts while maintaining professionalism and managing difficult situations. It provides guidance on preparing marital settlement agreements, evaluating financial information, and handling child custody and visitation matters. Additionally, it explores alternative dispute resolution methods and key ethical considerations, such as confidentiality, conflicts of interest, and professional responsibility in family law practice.

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Online - Monday, March 24, 2025

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First Session Second Session

8:30 am - 12:00 pm EDT 12:30 - 4:00 pm EDT

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# **Faculty**

Christine M. Palmer Esq Partner at Oxendine Law, LLC in Suwanee, GA

Ms. Palmer earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Alabama then attended law school at Florida Coastal School of Law in Jacksonville, Florida. She previously worked as in-house counsel for a real estate investment company and was the managing attorney of a law firm in Midtown Atlanta. Ms. Palmer is a partner at Oxendine Law, LLC, practicing in all areas of domestic litigation, divorce, child custody, paternity and legitimation, and modification actions. She is a member of the State Bar of Georgia Family Law Section and the Gwinnett County Bar Association Family Law Section.

Ms. Salmeh Fodor, Esq. Founding member of KF Law, LLC, in Atlanta

Ms. Fodor is an experienced divorce attorney who has been practicing law since 1998. She provides compassionate, yet aggressive representation for clients facing divorce, as well as custody and child support disputes. Prior to becoming an attorney, Ms. Fodor was a stockbroker/financial advisor for Prudential Securities, Inc., and then Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. Her experience has helped her understand the complexities of finance and securities. In addition to divorce, child support and custody issues, she provides legal counsel to individuals and companies in such areas as business and securities law. Ms. Fodor is a member in good standing of the State Bar of Georgia and the State Bar of Arizona. In addition, the Supreme Court of Georgia appointed Ms. Fodor to serve as a mentor for beginning lawyers in Georgia. Ms. Fodor is also a Member of the Cobb County Bar Association, where she is involved in the Family Law Section. Ms. Fodor graduated from the University of Georgia School of Law in 1998. She excelled in academics, won trial competitions, and earned her degree with honors. She also wrote articles for the University bar journal and worked two internships her final vear: one for the Arizona Public Defender's Office and one for the Arizona Corporation Commission, Securities Division.

# **Credit Information**

This webinar is open to the public and is designed to qualify for 6.5 CLE hours, including 1.0 ethics hour, for paralegals in Georgia. Paralegal certification is not required to participate in this course.

The National Federation of Paralegal Associations (NFPA) has approved this course for 6.5 total CLE credits, which includes 5.5 general CLE credits and 1.0 ethics CLE credit.

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**Jenni Brown** Founding partner of Brown Dutton & Crider Law Firm in Marietta
Ms. Brown has been exclusively practicing family law since 2011 with experience specializing in divorce, modifications, custody cases and other family law-related matters. While attending law school she was awarded a certificate in Family Law. Ms. Brown has been nominated as a Georgia Super Lawyer every year since 2017, an accolade awarded to fewer than 2.5 percent of lawyers in the state. Additionally, she has also been nominated by Georgia's Trend Legal Elite every year since 2018. Ms. Brown is an active member of the Cobb Bar Association and State Bar of Georgia. She serves on numerous boards and is heavily involved in Kennesaw Business Association and the Kennesaw

Public Safety Foundation.

**Danny Naggiar** Founder and the managing partner of Naggiar & Sarif, LLC, in Atlanta Mr. Naggiar is a top rated attorney by Georgia legal leaders and has received the Client Distinction Award from Martindale-Hubble, an accolade bestowed on less than four percent of the 900,000 attorneys on Martindale-Hubble. Mr. Naggiar has an AV Preeminent rating, meaning that his peers have rated him at the highest level of excellence. In addition, he has earned the honor of being named to Superlawyers and the honored distinction of making the Superlawyers Top 100 in Georgia. Mr. Naggiar has also been named as one of Georgia Trend Magazine's Legal Elite. He represents clients in the full spectrum of family law cases, including contested child custody, drafting of prenuptial and postnuptial agreements, and modifications of custody, alimony and child support. Due to his entrepreneurial background and corporate work prior to practicing family law, his expertise is sought out specifically for high asset cases involving the division of businesses and complex financial assets. Mr. Naggiar graduated from Georgetown University Law Center in 2000. After working as a consultant in the commercial real estate and entertainment industries in California, Mr. Naggiar's desire for more meaningful and solidly ethical work spurred him to change course and became a Judge Advocate General (JAG) in the Army. He served as Special Assistant United States Attorney for the Northern District of Georgia and prosecuted cases for the Army in Federal Court. Mr. Naggiar served nearly four years on active duty before being honorably discharged at the rank of Captain. He then took over as Chief of Legal Assistance in the Department of the Army as a Civilian Attorney, serving over 30,000 service members, their family members, and retirees in all aspects of family law. During his tenure, the office won the Chief of Staff Legal Assistance award, and he was awarded the Superior Civilian Service Award. As a military officer and as a civilian attorney. Mr. Naggiar represented clients in thousands of family law, criminal law, and estate planning cases for both active duty and military retirees in the Atlanta area. With his military background and understanding of the unique issues that confront military personnel, his legal expertise is frequently sought by service members and retirees from all branches of the U.S. Armed Services, as well as their families. Mr. Naggiar continues to give back to the military community by volunteering his services for the Georgia State Veteran's Clinic and speaking at continuing legal education seminars regarding military/family law issues. Mr. Naggiar is admitted to the State Bar and State Supreme Court of both Georgia and California. He is also admitted to the U.S. District Court, Northern District of Georgia. He is also certified by the State of Georgia in both domestic and civil mediations.

Gary Graham Partner, Stern Edlin Graham Family Law, P.C., in Atlanta

Gary Graham is a partner with Stern Edlin Graham Family Law, P.C. His main areas of practice include high net worth divorce, complex custody cases and family law matters. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers and a member of the State Bar of Georgia.