

MIAMI LAW

University of Miami School of Law
Therapeutic Jurisprudence Center

And

THE COLLABORATIVE FAMILY LAW INSTITUTE

Present

COLLABORATIVE DIVORCE

FITTING THE PIECES TOGETHER:
A BASIC INTERDISCIPLINARY TRAINING

Friday, November 12th

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 13th

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

The BankUnited Center
Multipurpose Room
1245 Dauer Drive
Coral Gables, FL 33146



COLLABORATIVE DIVORCE

Fitting the Pieces Together: A Basic Interdisciplinary Training

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As professionals, we are accustomed to working with divorcing parties and their children. We are painfully aware of the traumatic, disruptive, emotional, social and financial consequences of a long, drawn-out, and hostile, litigated divorce.

Collaborative divorce offers an alternative – a non-litigated, non-adversarial process. It utilizes an interdisciplinary team of specially trained professionals. The team, made up of two “Collaboratively Trained” Attorneys, one “Neutral Mental Health Professional” and one “Neutral Financial Professional,” works together with the parties in a series of joint meetings. The parties voluntarily agree to abide by a non-litigated process: no depositions, subpoenas or opposing experts. The attorneys advocate for their clients, but they share in the common goal of facilitating mutual agreement between the parties. Financial costs are frequently lower and the emphasis is on cooperation and family privacy. Either party may “opt-out” and pursue traditional litigation, in which case the entire interdisciplinary team are disqualified from representing the parties in subsequent litigation.

The Collaborative Professionals guide the proceedings with the couple and all understand the paradigm shift necessary for this to occur. What results is an environment grounded in good faith, cooperation, integrity, honesty, transparency and professional ethics which allows the resolution of the divorce to proceed as directed by the parties. Through the collaborative process, the parties are empowered to determine their own unique resolution, collateral damage is significantly minimized and post-divorce familial relationships are enhanced relative to the traditional litigation divorce process.

Collaborative Family Law Institute Officers

Robert J. Merlin, Esq. – President
Lana M. Stern, Ph.D. – Vice President
Philip J. Shechter, CPA – Treasurer
Elaine King, CFP®, CDFATM – Secretary

Trainers and Collaborators

Rosemarie S. Roth, Esq. – Program Co-Chair
Lana M. Stern, Ph.D. – Program Co-Chair
Marta Alfonso, CPA, CFF, JD
Judith Hodor, Esq.
Elaine King, CFP®, CDFATM
Evan Marks, Esq.
Robert J. Merlin, Esq.
Elizabeth C. Ortega
Jerome H. Poliacoff, Ph.D.
Edward S. Sachs, CPA
Philip J. Shechter, CPA
Sammi Siegel, Ph.D.

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Marta Alfonso, CPA, P.A.



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GENERAL INFORMATION

COLLABORATIVE DIVORCE FITTING THE PIECES TOGETHER: A BASIC INTERDISCIPLINARY TRAINING

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Cancellation: Written cancellations received by noon, November 1, 2010 (via mail or fax), will be honored and registration fees refunded, less a \$25.00 administrative fee.

For Information and Special requirements:

Please call (305) 448-1555 or
Email: rmerlin@merlinlaw.com
Registration Fee Includes Lunch (Friday only),
Parking and Workshop Materials

CLE Credit is Pending with The Florida Bar
CEU Credits Available

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2010

- 8:00- 8:30AM Registration and Breakfast
- 8:30- 8:45AM Welcome, Acknowledgements, Introductions,
Historical Perspective and Overview of Program
Robert J. Merlin, Esq., President of CFLI
- 8:45- 9:30AM Demonstration
Initial meeting with clients
Robert J. Merlin, Esq. – Attorney for the Husband
Judith Hodor, Esq. – Attorney for the Wife, Member of CFLI
Evan Marks, Esq. – Role of the Husband, Member of CFLI
Sammi Siegel, Ph.D. – Role of the Wife, Member of CFLI
- 9:30-10:30AM Role of the Attorney in Collaborative Divorce
Rosemarie S. Roth, Esq. Founder and Past President of CFLI
- 10:30-10:45AM BREAK
- 10:45-11:00AM Narration: Rosemarie S. Roth, Esq.
- 11:00-Noon Role of the Mental Health Professional in Collaborative Divorce
Lana M. Stern, Ph.D., Vice-President of CFLI
- 12:00- 1:00PM LUNCHEON – Stu Webb, Esq., Collaborative Divorce Movement Founder
- 1:00 -1:30PM Demonstration
MHP Interview of Husband and Wife
Lana M. Stern, Ph.D.
- 1:30-1:45PM Demonstration
MHP Feedback to Attorneys/Plan Agenda
Robert J. Merlin, Esq. – Attorney for the Husband
Judith Hodor, Esq. – Attorney for the Wife
Lana M. Stern, Ph.D. – MHP
- 1:45-2:45PM Demonstration
First Team Meeting
Robert J. Merlin, Esq. – Attorney for the Husband
Judith Hodor, Esq. – Attorney for the Wife
Lana M. Stern, Ph.D. – MHP
Sammi Siegel, Ph.D. – Role of the Wife
Evan Marks, Esq. – Role of the Husband
- 2:45-3:00PM Demonstration
Debrief for the Professionals
- 3:00-3:15PM BREAK
- 3:15-4:15PM Role of the Neutral Financial Professional
Edward S. Sachs, CPA, Member of CFLI
- 4:15-4:45PM Role of the Neutral Financial Planner
Elaine King, CFP®, CDFATM, Secretary of CFLI
- 4:45-5:30PM Questions and Answers
Panel of Faculty and Players of CFLI
- 5:30-7:00PM COCKTAIL RECEPTION IN HONOR OF STU WEBB

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2010

- 8:00-8:30AM Breakfast and Networking
- 8:30-9:30AM Demonstration
Interview of Husband and Wife by Financial Professional
Philip J. Shechter, CPA, Treasurer of CFLI
Evan Marks, Esq.
Sammi Siegel, Ph. D.
- 9:30-9:35AM Narration: Rosemarie S. Roth, Esq.
- 9:35-10:35AM Demonstration
Second Team Meeting
Robert J. Merlin, Esq. – Attorney for Husband
Judith Hodor, Esq. – Attorney for Wife
Lana M. Stern, Ph.D. – MHP
Evan Marks, Esq. – Role of Husband
Sammi Siegel, Ph.D. – Role of Wife
Philip Shechter, CPA, NFP
Elaine King, CFP®, CDFATM
- 10:35-10:45AM Narration
- 10:45-11:15AM Demonstration
Final Team Meeting with Entire Team and Parties
- 11:15-NOON QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
Panel of Faculty and Players of CFLI

PROGRAM

For multiple registrations, please photocopy this form. Please return the completed form with payment to:

The Collaborative Family Law Institute
Melissa Goldberg, MBA
2525 Ponce de Leon Blvd, 5th Floor
Coral Gables, FL 33134

Phone: 786-268-6008 | E-mail: mgoldberg@berenfildllp.com

If paying by credit card, registrations may be sent by FAX to: 305-274-4601

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Name (Mr./Ms.) _____ Telephone _____

Firm _____

Fax _____ Email _____

Firm Mailing Address _____

City

State

Zip Code

Please Choose ONE of the following professions: Attorney Financial Mental Health Other _____

My enclosed check/charge in the amount of \$ _____ covers:

Registration Fees:

Professionals

Students

\$295

\$100

I cannot attend the workshop, but please accept my contribution of \$ _____

to the University of Miami School of Law Therapeutic Jurisprudence Center in memory of Professor Bruce Winick

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