



Levitt Law GROUP

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EMPLOYMENT

PRIVATE PRACTICE: Levitt Law Group, Chelmsford, Massachusetts (1983-present), Principal of the Levitt Law Group which concentrates in family law including collaborative practice, mediation, and litigation.

PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT

PRINCIPAL, CENTERLINE MEDIATION AND ARBITRATION, Lowell, MA (1996-2005)
Principal in alternative dispute resolution practice providing mediation, arbitration, and case evaluation services.

INSTRUCTOR, Boston University School of Law, Boston, Massachusetts (1986-1992)
Instructor of legal research and writing for first year law students.

LAW OFFICE, Lawrence, MA (1982-1983)
Associate in small general practice law firm. Primary areas of practice civil litigation, particularly personal injury and labor law.

EUNICE KENNEDY SHRIVER CENTER, Waltham, Massachusetts (1980-1982)
General counsel for charitable corporation. Directly responsible for representing and advising the corporation with respect to health law, guardianships, contracts, insurance, government regulations, and other legal matters.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Massachusetts Collaborative Law Council
Massachusetts Council on Family Mediation
Massachusetts Bar Association
Greater Lowell Bar Association
American Bar Association
Massachusetts Academy of Trial Attorneys
New Hampshire Bar Association
Collaborative Law Alliance of New Hampshire
MAGAL – Massachusetts Association of Guardian ad Litems
AFCC – an association of family, court and community professionals
ACR - Association of Conflict Resolution

PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS

International Association of Collaborative Professionals, Practice Group Development Committee (2009-2010)
Massachusetts Trial Court Standing Committee on Dispute Resolution (2005-present); Chair, Subcommittee on Education (2007 – present)
Massachusetts Collaborative Law Council (2000-present), Board of Directors (2001-present), President, (2007-2008), President Elect (2006-2007), Vice President of Education and Training (2004-2006), Chair, Training & Education Committee (2001-2003), Chair, Advisory Committee (2008-2009), Co-Chair, Special Projects Committee (2007 – present), Member , Advisory Committee (2009-2010), Member, Protocols Committee (2008 to present)
Massachusetts Council on Family Mediation, Board of Directors (2000-2005), Court Liaison (2001-2004), Nominating Committee (2001), Certification Committee (2000-present)
Massachusetts Bar Association ADR Committee (2006-present), Liaison to MBA Family Law Section (2009-present)
Massachusetts Bar Association Fee Arbitration Board (Committee member since 2001, arbitrator since 1996)
Massachusetts Bar Foundation: IOLTA 2003/2004, and 2004/2005 Grant Advisory Committee
Massachusetts Bar Association, Post-Goodrich Committee (2004-2006)
Massachusetts Bar Association, Judicial Administration Committee (2004-2006)
Massachusetts Bar Association Civil Litigation Alternative Dispute Resolution Practice Committee, (2000-2001)
Massachusetts Bar Association Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee (2000-2001)
Collaborative Law Alliance of New Hampshire (2000-present)
Mediator, Middlesex Probate Court Multi-door Mediation Program (1995-1999)
Alternative House for Battered Women, Board of Directors (1996-2000)
Renaissance Club, Board of Directors (1995-1998)
Massachusetts Bar Association, Family Law Section Subcommittee on ADR (1997-1998)
Massachusetts Bar Association, Committee on Crisis in the Probate Courts, Lawyers Projects Subcommittee (1996-1997)
Greater Lowell Bar Association (President 1993-1994, Vice-President 1992-1993, Secretary 1991-1992, Treasurer 1990-1991, District Court Committee 1993-1995, Education Committee 1988-1993, Chair of Education Committee 1999-2000, Legislative Committee 1989-1990)
City of Lowell Domestic Violence Task Force (1996)

Massachusetts Academy of Trial Attorneys Education Committee (1991-1993)
Legal Redress Committee, Merrimack Valley NAACP (1989-1990)
Advisory Board, Coalition for a Better Acre, Minority Day Care, Lowell, MA (1988-1989)
Advisory Board, Child Care Search, Lowell, MA (1984-1985)

OTHER

Collaborative Law Committee of the American Bar Association Section of Dispute Resolution
(2007-present)

BAR ADMISSIONS

Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts, 1980
United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts, 1981
United States Supreme Court, 1986
United States District Court for the District of New Hampshire, 1989
Supreme Court of New Hampshire, 1989

CERTIFICATIONS

Certified Divorce Mediator, Massachusetts Council on Family Mediation (1997-present)
Court Conciliator, Essex Probate and Family Court and Middlesex Probate and Family Court (1998-present)

LEGAL EDUCATION

BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, Boston, Massachusetts J.D. 1980

PRE-LEGAL EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER, Rochester, New York B.A. cum laude, 1977, with honors in history
BIRMINGHAM UNIVERSITY, Birmingham, England 1975-76

LECTURES/PRESENTATIONS/TRAININGS

Co-Panelist, Massachusetts Collaborative Law Council, compliance workshop “New Security Regulations Affecting All Collaborative Professionals”, February 26, 2009
Co-Presenter, Suffolk University School of Law, Center for Advanced Legal Studies, “Marketing and Building Your Collaborative Practice,” September 25-26, 2008
Co-Panelist, Massachusetts Collaborative Law Council Members’ Meeting, June 12, 2008, “How to Begin a Collaborative Case”
Faculty, Massachusetts Bar Association, Special Training Program, “Collaborative Law: Effective Business and Employment Dispute Resolution for Civil Practitioners and In-House Counsel”, April 10-11, 2008
Co-presenter with Lynda J. Robbins, Massachusetts Council for Family Mediation Members’ Meeting, April 9, 2008, “Collaborative Law and Mediation: A Symbiotic Relationship-ADR Professions Colliding or Converging?”

Guest Speaker, Senior Partners for Justice, Volunteer Lawyers Projects, January 29, 2008, "At the Cutting Edge: Resolving Family Law Disputes Respectfully Through Collaborative Practice"

Co-Presenter with Lynda J. Robbins, In Service training Elder Services of Merrimack Valley, January 15, 2008, "Mediation 101: Alternatives to Dispute Resolution" regarding collaborative practice and mediation and their application in elder services and probate law

Guest Lecturer, New England School of Law, "Collaborative Law and Mediation", Mediation classes, April _____, 2008; November 12 and 14, 2007

Panelist, Kids First Center's Education Series, November 2, 2007, Harraseeket, Maine, Guest Presenter with Rita S. Pollak on collaborative practice panel (in conjunction with a workshop presented by Stu Webb and Marsha Schechtman "A Team Approach to Collaborative Divorce: An Interdisciplinary Workshop Providing Strategies for Financial, Legal, and Mental Health Professionals")

Panelist, The Divorce Center, October 30, 2007, "How do I Navigate the Matrimonial Maze? What's the process and where do I begin? (Part 1 of 3)"

Co-Presenter, Suffolk University School of Law, Center for Advanced Legal Studies, "Resolving Conflict Without Litigation: Fundamentals of Collaborative Practice Skills," September 27-28, 2007, co-presenter with Douglas Reynolds "What is Collaborative Practice and How it Shifts"; co-presenter with Rita S. Pollak "Getting Started with Collaborative Practice"; co-facilitator with Rita S. Pollak a series of interactive role plays involving the attendees that demonstrated collaborative practice skills for attorneys and allied professionals

Presenter, Merrimack Valley Mediator's Group (MVMG), March 27, 2007, internet mediation and electronic communications.

Co-Presenter, Worcester County Bar Association, ADR Section, Worcester County Superior Court, January 11, 2007, collaborative practice in family law.

Presenter, Merrimack Valley Mediator's Group (MVMG), November 29, 2006 Massachusetts child support guidelines.

Co-Presenter, IACP Conference, San Diego, CA, October 14, 2006: "Professions Colliding: Addressing the Tension Between Mediation & Collaborative Practice"

Chair/Faculty, Suffolk University Law School Center for Advanced Legal Studies, September 28, 29, 2006, "Expanding Professional Skills to Resolve Conflict", Boston, MA

Chair/Faculty: MCLC "Collaborative Practice: At the Cutting Edge of Alternative Dispute Resolution", (March, 2006), Pittsfield, MA

Chair/Faculty: MCLE, "Cutting Edge: Collaborative Law Practice" (2005)

Co-Presenter, International Association of Collaborative Professionals Annual Forum, "The Art of the Four Way Meeting" (2005)

Faculty: MCLE, Contested Issues in Estates (2005)

Co-Presenter, International Association of Collaborative Professionals Annual Forum, "Expanding the Pie, Closing the Deal: Integration of Interest-Based Negotiation Skills and Narrative Mediation Principles and Techniques" (2004)

Chair/Faculty: MCLE, "Cutting Edge: Collaborative Law Practice" (2004)

Speaker/Faculty, MCLE, "Enhance Your Family Law Financial IQ: Discovery and the Effective Use of Experts: Discovery and Collaborative Law" (2004)

Speaker, Massachusetts Department of Revenue Child Support Enforcement Division, Quarterly Attorney Meeting, "Collaborative Law vs. Other Forms of Dispute Resolution" (2004) Chair/Faculty: Massachusetts Collaborative Law Council/Western New England College School of Law, "Collaborative Law Practice (2004)

Speaker, Divorce Center, Waltham, MA, "Here Comes the Judge: The divorce process" (2004)

Trainer, Vermont Trial Lawyers Association, "Collaborative Law: An Intensive Training Session (2003)

Speaker, Divorce Center, Waltham, MA, "How Do you Get a Divorce in Massachusetts" (2003)

Speaker/Faculty, Vermont Trial Lawyers Association, Waterbury, Vt, "Collaborative Law: An Intensive Training Session" (2003)

Speaker/Faculty, Vermont Trial Lawyers Association, Montpelier, Vermont, “Collaborative Law: A Breakthrough in Law Practice (2003)

Chair/Faculty, Massachusetts CLC “Collaborative Law Training”, Andover, MA (2002)

Chair/Faculty, MCLE, Collaborative Law Practice, Springfield, MA (2002)

Chair/Faculty, MCLE, Collaborative Law Practice, Boston, MA (2002)

Faculty, MBA Fee Arbitration Board Training, Boston, MA (2002)

Speaker/Faculty, Boston Bar Association, Collaborative Law Training, “Training in Collaborative Law Practice for Family Law & Business-Related Disputes” (2002)

Speaker, St. Kathryn Church, Hudson, NH, Divorce Support Group (2002)

Judge, National Mock Trial Competition, U. Mass at Lowell, Lowell, MA (2001)

Speaker, GAP Legal Guardianship Workshop (2001)

Speaker, The Divorce Center, Inc., “Your Separation Agreement: What Should it Include?” (2000)

Speaker, “Interest Based Negotiation”, New Hampshire Collaborative Law Group training (2000)

Moderator, MCLE, “GALs in Guardianship and Domestic Relations Cases” (1999)

Speaker, Lowell Early Awareness Program, Butler Middle School, Lowell, MA (1999)

Guest Speaker, University of Lowell, ADR, “Family Law Mediation” (1999)

Speaker, Divorce Center, “Custody and Visitation (1999)

Speaker, Divorce Center, “Mediation and Negotiation in Divorce” (1999)

Speaker, Lowell High School Career Day, Lowell, MA (1999)

PUBLICATIONS

Massachusetts Bar Association (2005)

“The Emerging Field of Collaborative Practice”, Karen J. Levitt
MBA Institute, Section Review, Volume 7, Number 3, 2005

MCLE, Contested Issues in Estates (2005)

“Tips on Dealing with Divorce, Remarriage, and Prenuptial Agreements”, Karen J. Levitt and Andrea Wells

MCLE, Enhance Your Family Law Financial IQ: Discovery and the Effective Use of Experts (2004)

“Discovery and Collaborative Law”, Karen J. Levitt

MCLE, Cutting Edge Collaborative Law Practice (2004):

“Interest-Based Negotiation”, Karen J. Levitt

“Four Way Meetings”, Karen J. Levitt

“Discovery and Effective Use of Experts in Collaborative Practice”, Karen J. Levitt

MCFM Family Mediation Quarterly, Vol. 3, No. 4, Fall 2004,

“Counterpoint: Collaborative Law and Mediation Can Co-Exist”, Karen J. Levitt

Massachusetts Collaborative Law Journal, Vol. 2, No. 1, Summer 2004, and the International Association of Collaborative Professionals, The Collaborative Review, Vol. 6, No. 1, Spring 2004

“The Bumpy Road to that Hug: First Case Lesson”, Karen J. Levitt, coauthored with Attorney Paula H. Noe