

CAROLINE BLACK SIKORSKE

CURRICULUM VITAE

CURRENT POSITION

Managing Partner

AREAS OF PRACTICE

100% of Practice devoted to Marital and Family Law

BAR ADMISSIONS

Florida, 1985

EDUCATION:

Stetson University College of Law
St. Petersburg, Florida
J.D. December, 1984

Cornell University
Ithaca, New York
B.S. 1982

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Sessums Black Caballero Ficarrotta, PA
Tampa, Florida
1989 – Present
Managing Partner

Assistant State Attorney, Deputy
Chief – Felony Division
Hillsborough County State Attorney's Office
1985- 1989

CERTIFICATION

Board Certified Marital and Family Lawyer
1995 to date

PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITIONS

Diplomat, American College of Family Trial Lawyers
Fellow, American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers
Martindale-Hubbell, AV Preeminent rated
The Florida Bar President's Pro Bono Service Award 2010
Jimmy Kynes Outstanding Pro Bono Service Award 2009
Best Lawyers in America, 2006 to present
Florida Legal Elite by Florida Trend magazine 2004 to present
HCBA James "Red" McEwen Memorial Award, 2004
Volunteer of the Year, Centre for Women, 1995
HCBA Award for Pro Bono Hours, 1994, Award for Outstanding Pro Bono Hours, 2003, HCBA Law Firm Award for Outstanding Pro Bono Service 2004

Recognized by the National Law Journal as one of the 2011 Tampa Lawyers of the Year

Recognized as one of the Top 50 Women Attorneys of Florida by the American Registry, 2011

TBCDG Collaborative Law Leadership Award

National Academy of Family Law Attorneys, Inc., Top 10, 2015

PROFESSIONAL
ASSOCIATIONS
AND POSITIONS

American College of Family Trial Lawyers, Diplomat, 2015 to Date

Hillsborough County Bar Association, Member 1989 to date

- + President, 2007-2008
- + Member, Board of Directors, 2004-2009
- + Member, Judicial Evaluation Committee, 1990-93
- + Executive Council, Family Law Section (Member, 1991 - 2001; Chair 1999-2000).
- + Chair, Pig Roast Committee (2005)
- + Long-Range Planning Committee
- + Chair, Judicial Bar Relations Subcommittee
- + Board member, Trial Lawyers Section, 2001-2002

American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers – Florida Chapter, Member 2002 to Date

- + President, Florida Chapter, 2012-2013
- + Board of Managers, Florida Chapter, 2006-2014
- + Chair, AAML Institute, Florida Chapter 2009
- + Chair, Collaborative Law Committee, National AAML, 2015-2017

The Florida Bar

- +Member, Florida Family Law Rules Committee 2016-present
- + Chair, Family Law Section 2003-2004 (Member 1994 to present).
- + CLE Committee Family Law Section (Chair 1997 -1998)
- + Long Range Planning Committee, Chair 1998-1999.
- + Liaison to Florida Bar Commission on the Legal Needs of Children
- + Member, Family Court Steering Committee, 1999-2001

Tampa Bay Academy of Collaborative Professionals 2011-Present

- + Chair 2011-2013
- + Co-Chair 2017-2019
- + Member, Board of Directors 2011-Present

13th Judicial Circuit Grievance Committee

- + Member, 1993-1996, Chair 1996.

International Academy of Collaborative Professional
+ Member 2007-Present

Athena Society
+ Member 2008-Present

Centre for Women-
+ Board of Directors 1992-1997.
+ President 1994-1995.

PUBLICATIONS

Chapter 3, Marital Settlement Agreements, in DRAFTING MARRIAGE CONTRACTS IN FLORIDA (The Florida Bar 4ed 1997).

"Family Law Rules," Lawyer, Hillsborough County Bar Association, December issue 1995.

"An Affair to Remember...or Not," Lawyer, Hillsborough County Bar Association, April Issue 1995.

Chapter 15, Equitable Distribution, in FLORIDA DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE (The Florida Bar 4d ed. 1993).

"Professionalism," co-authored with Mark A. Sessums, Family Law Commentator, Spring 1993.

Ethics and The Role of the Attorney, provided written materials for American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers on Family Law in Florida, 1991 and Board Certification Review Course, 1992.

"The Other Marital Misconduct: Dissipation of Marital Assets", Lawyer, Hillsborough County Bar Association, May Issue 1991.

LECTURES

Psycho-Social Issues as They Impact Co-Parenting and Attorney Case Management Techniques, American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers Annual Institute, May 2018.

"Unique Business Valuation Issues," American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, November 2017

"Proactive Management of the Family Law Practice," HCBA Marital and Family Law Section, September 2015

"Evidence In Practice: How To Choose, Organize And Present,"
Speaker, Florida Bar March 2014

"Taking Care of Business:" Managing your Parenting Case," Florida Bar, CLE September 2011

"Attorneys Fees and Costs," American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers Institute, April 2010

"Taxation Issues in Equitable Distribution & Alimony," Florida Bar Cert Review, February 2010

"Professionalism" Stetson University College of Law, January 2009

"Mission Impossible: Overcoming the Negative Custody Evaluation Recommendation," AAML, Chicago –November 2008

"Family Law Practice and Procedure," Florida Bar Family Law Certification Review Course, Spring 2006

Television show «Florida Justice Files," Spring 2006, WUSF, Tampa, Florida

"Alimony, Child Support and Temporary Issues in Divorce," Basic Family Law Seminar sponsored by the Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division, April 2001, Spring 2004, Spring 2006