



Monica Mazzei

Partner

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Services

Family Law
Alternative Dispute Resolution

Biography

Monica Mazzei is a Certified Family Law Specialist representing clients in the Bay Area, with a concentration in San Francisco and Silicon Valley, as well as Los Angeles. She represents high net worth clients throughout the litigation process and in mediation. Monica has been named a California Super Lawyer from 2015-2019 and has been recognized in the international *Chambers High Net Worth* 2017-2019 guide for Family/Matrimonial Law.

Monica specializes in dissolution actions involving complicated valuation and financial matters, and complex community property and support issues, including international issues, dissolutions involving hedge funds, private equity, venture capital and privately held businesses. Monica drafts and negotiates cohabitation agreements, pre-marital and post-marital agreements for her clients.

Monica also mediates pre-marital agreements. As a mediator, Monica helps to identify the thoughts and concerns of both parties in a non-confrontational setting. Mediation helps clients discuss difficult topics which allows Monica to create a financial structure that works for both parties.

Monica takes a modern approach to the practice of family law – addressing various needs for her clients related and unrelated to their family law case. Monica has relationships with top professionals in the Bay Area such as forensic accountants, mental health professionals, real estate agents, financial advisors and business valuation experts. She also works closely with estate planning attorneys to come up with creative solutions for her clients and ensure their agreements reflects their current objectives.

Monica is a frequent lecturer and speaker on family law matters and a staunch advocate against domestic abuse in her pro bono work.

Professional Involvement

Monica Mazzei is a Certified Family Law Specialist, certified by the State Bar of California Board of Legal Specialization.

Monica was the co-chair of the San Francisco Bar Association, Barristers Family Law Section from 2009 through 2010. In 2008 and 2011, she received the Outstanding Volunteer Award for Public Service from the San Francisco Bar Association.

Monica speaks frequently on family law issues to financial advisors and other professional groups.

She is a member of the Family Law and the International Law sections of the American Bar Association and the San Francisco Bar Association. She is also a member of the Family Law sections of the Beverly Hills Bar Association, the Marin County Bar Association, and the San Mateo County Bar Association.

Recognized in *Chambers High Net Worth 2017-2020* guide for Family/Matrimonial: California

Named one of the 10 Best Attorneys in California by the American Institute of Family Law Attorneys, 2016, 2017

Named an Outstanding Volunteer by the Justice and Diversity Center of the San Francisco Bar Association, 2015

Listed in Northern California Super Lawyers®: 2015-2020

Listed in Northern California Rising Stars®: 2011-2014

Selected as one of the Top Women Attorneys in Northern California by Super Lawyers: 2012, 2013, 2014

Selected as one of the Top 40 Family Lawyers Under 40 in California by the American Society of Legal Advocates: 2013-2017

Selected as one of the Top 40 National Trial Lawyers Under 40 by The National Trial Lawyers, 2014

Member of the International Society of Family Law

Member of the National Italian American Bar Association

Publications

- Commentary, "A Prenup Is the Latest Must-Have for Tech Startup Founders in Love," Bloomberg News, 2019
- Commentary, "Trump's Tax Law Pushing People To Divorce Faster To Save Money," Newsweek, 2018
- Commentary, "Millennial Millionaires and Their Prenups -- What They Need to Be Thinking About," Entrepreneur, 2018
- Commentary, "A Prenup Primer: What Silicon Valley Couples Should Consider," The San Francisco Chronicle, 2018
- Monica Mazzei and Anne Freeman discuss "Here's How to Start That Prenup Conversation" for The Bride

magazine

- Monica Mazzei and Anne Freeman featured in “Secrets of the Divorce Lawyers” for the Nob Hill Gazette
- "Love Money What You Need To Know To Protect Your Wealth Before During and After Marriage," Legal Update, 2015
- Cohabitation Agreements – “Prenups” for the Non-Married
- Contributing author, “Inside the Minds: Strategies for Family Law in California, 14th ed.” Aspatore Publishing, 2014
- Commentary, "Tax Planning for the Divorcing and Newly Divorced," Reuters, 2012
- Commentary, "3 Essential Money Conversations You Should Have Before Getting Married," Business Insider, 2014
- Interview, Social Impact Heroes: How Attorney Monica Mazzei Is Helping To Stop Domestic Abuse, Authority Magazine, 2020

Speaking Engagements

- Monica Mazzei and Anne Freeman host “A Marriage Roundtable for Women” at Sideman & Bancroft
- Monica Potter discusses “Pre-Marital Agreements – Why Do Them?” at an upcoming SF International Tax Committee presentation
- Monica Mazzei speaks at the Family Law Conference of the CalCPA Education Foundation
- Diana Richmond and Monica Mazzei speak about “Emerging Hot Topics and Trends Affecting Pre and Post Marital Agreements” at the Association of Certified Family Law Specialists’ meeting
- Monica Mazzei speaks on “Advising Your Clients Before, During and After Their Divorce” at the Financial Planning Association of San Francisco
- The Sideman & Bancroft Breakfast Briefing Series: “Premarital Agreements: Why Do Them?”

Education

Holy Names University
B.A. 1999, magna cum laude

Southwestern University School of Law
J.D. 2002

Harvard Law School
Advanced Negotiation Workshop, 2013