



THE FLORIDA BAR
FAMILY LAW SECTION

2009-2010 Committee Preference Form

**Maximize your Impact on Family Law in Florida and
Enhance your Section Membership**

Join a Committee Today!

Dear Family Law Section Member:

You can directly contribute to improving family law in Florida. Our section has a long and proud history of making positive changes in Florida's statutes, rules and case law. We have effectively educated lawyers, judges and other professionals and helped to keep them apprised of the latest developments and trends in this ever-changing and important area of law. Section members make this happen by working through our Family Law Section committees.

Equally important are the friendships and networking connections which have been forged through Section memberships and committee involvement. Enrich your practice while enhancing the lives of Florida citizens who are so significantly impacted by this multifaceted area of law on a daily basis.

I urge you to join a Section committee by filling out this form and returning it to The Florida Bar. You will be placed on the committee roster of your choice and your contact information will be given to the committee leadership. The committee leaders will thereafter notify you of all meetings and any actions to be taken by the committee.

Meetings of the Family Law Section committees listed on this form are open to all Section members, as is membership in all of the listed committees. Any member may appear to voice comments; however, the only way to be kept abreast of the meeting dates and agendas is to join a committee. Moreover, although any Section member will be recognized for discussion purposes at committee meetings, voting is limited to those Section members who appear on the committee roster. Thus, your potential to impact committee work and direction is most enhanced by signing up for the committees that interest you.

On behalf of the entire Executive Council I encourage you to join us at our upcoming meeting and retreats. Sign up for a committee and start making real difference!

Peter L. Gladstone
Family Law Section, Chair-Elect

DEADLINE TO RETURN THIS FORM TO THE FLORIDA BAR IS April 10, 2009!

Help Yourself and the Family Law Section Say YES to Committee Participation!

To ensure that we maintain a diverse mix of members across the state, you will be placed on the roster of any committee selected. Being on a committee roster keeps you advised of committee action, including live meetings, telephone conferences and e-mail votes. You will also be able to vote at all committee meetings.

This brochure describes the 2009-2010 Family Law Section committees. Please fill out this form indicating the committee(s) of your choice and return it to The Florida Bar **even if you are now a member of the committee(s) you select.**

There will be separate applications to join the Executive Council or to be elected as a Section officer. Fill out this form regardless of whether you intend to apply for one of those positions.

We hope that you will plan to attend the following Family Law Section events in 2009-2010:

April 15-19, 2009	Spring Jazz Retreat – French Quarter Fest Location: Hotel Monteleone, New Orleans Room Rate: \$199.00 per night Call for Reservations: (504) 523-3341
June 24-25, 2009	Family Law Section Annual Meeting in conjunction with The Florida Bar Annual Convention Location: Orlando World Center Marriott
August 13-16, 2009	Family Law Section Advanced Trial Advocacy Program Location: Ritz Carlton Golf Resort, Naples
September 9-10, 2009	The Florida Bar Family Law Section General Meeting Location: Tampa Airport Marriott
October 21-25, 2009	Family Law Section Spring Retreat Location: Fountaine Bleu, Miami
February 4-6, 2009	Family Law Midyear Meeting and 2010 Marital & Family Law Certification Review Course Location: Disney's Yacht & Beach Club Call for Reservations: (407) 934-3372
April 2009	(Specific Dates – TBD) Family Law Section Spring Retreat Location: Costa Rica
June 23-24, 2010	Family Law Section Annual Meeting in conjunction with The Florida Bar Annual Convention Location: Boca Raton Resort & Club

Check the Family Law Section website (www.familylawfla.org) for details about these meetings!

2009-2010 Operational Committees

CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION – This committee plans, schedules, produces and runs all Section CLE programs, including our telephonic lecture series. The CLE committee also assists the section chair in planning seminars to occur at Spring and Fall Family Law Section retreats.

LEGISLATION – This committee creates legislation and monitors proposals in the Legislature. Members work with our lobbyist advising legislators and staff and testifying before the Legislature.

MEMBERSHIP – This important committee showcases our Section and seeks to increase membership through the creation, explanation and display of membership benefits and opportunities.

PUBLICATIONS – This committee exhibits the Section’s talents to the rest of the Bar by soliciting, producing and editing content for our newsletter, The Commentator; our e-zine, FAMSEG; our state-of-the-art website and articles for The Florida Bar Journal.

RULES & FORMS – Working with family law rules, judicial administration rules and Rules Regulating The Florida Bar, this committee creates new and revises existing rules and forms. It also provides analysis and input as to the impact rule changes sought by others will have upon the practice of family law.

SPONSORSHIP – This committee forms strategic relationships with entities eager to reach members of our Section. Sponsorship revenues enable us to maintain our high level of service to members.

2009-2010 Substantive Committees

ADOPTION, PATERNITY, DEPENDENCY and CHILDREN’S ISSUES – This committee looks at placement, safety, welfare and best interests of children in all areas of family law. It works closely with the Legislation Committee and Executive Council ensuring that children’s interests are a primary concern.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE – This committee has established itself as a statewide leader in the area of domestic violence. It often is the driving force behind positive changes to legislation, rules and forms.

EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION – Analyzing the law concerning the division of assets and debts in a family law case, this committee works to improve Florida’s equitable distribution, looking at presumptions, special equity and the option of temporary equitable distribution relief.

GENERAL MAGISTRATES – This committee discusses issues relating to magistrates and support enforcement hearing officers. It suggests changes in areas impacting magistrates and hearing officers.

LITIGATION SUPPORT – This committee interacts with mental health and financial professionals to examine and define the roles of litigation support professionals in a family law practice.

MEDIATION and COLLABORATIVE LAW – This committee seeks to educate attorneys and judges about the availability of mediation, collaborative law and other alternative dispute resolutions models. It seeks statewide uniformity in practice of those models through passage of statutes or rules.

SUPPORT ISSUES – This committee focuses its efforts on the determination, modification and enforcement of alimony and child support. It has been responsible for many improvements in the law.

The Florida Bar
651 E. Jefferson Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2300

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Help Yourself and the Family Law Section Say YES to Committee Participation!

Your cooperation in promptly returning this form will allow our committees to be formed and ready by the Annual Meeting. Complete this form even if you now serve on the committee(s) of your choice.

After making your choice(s), please return this entire page *including label to:*

**SUMMER HALL, FAMILY LAW SECTION ADMINISTRATOR
THE FLORIDA BAR
651 E. JEFFERSON STREET
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-2300**

Place a check mark next to any committee(s) you wish to join for the 2009-2010. If you want to apply for committee leadership, contact Peter L. Gladstone, Incoming Chair, at plg@gwpa.net.

Operational Committees:

_____ (FL952) CLE
_____ (FL954) Legislation
_____ (FL957) Membership
_____ (FL951) Publications
_____ (FL958) Rules/Forms
_____ (FL959) Sponsorship

Substantive Committees:

_____ (FL961) Adoption, Paternity, Dependency and Children's Issues
_____ (FL967) Domestic Violence
_____ (FL965) Equitable Distribution
_____ (FL969) General Magistrates
_____ (FL966) Litigation Support
_____ (FL955) Mediation and Collaborative Law
_____ (FL960) Support Issues

Print Name: _____ Atty. Number: _____

E-mail Address: _____

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ATTENTION! All current committee members must return this form to remain on the committee roster!