



Section on Family Law

The Mission of the [ISBA Family Law Section](#):

To encourage and support a high level of professional and ethical commitment and expertise among those who practice family law in all its substantive branches; to remain sensitive to the changing needs and mores of families and individual family members in our society; to respond through reasoned efforts directed toward the appropriate branch of government, and bar and/or the public; and to accomplish understanding of the law as it exists and is applied, or change of that law, where it is needed.

General:

- ◆ Section fees are \$25 per year.
- ◆ To join, go to www.isba.org/sections

[Continuing Legal Education](#)

The Section sponsored or co-sponsored seven programs. These include:

- ◆ Family Law Financial Litigation (Sept. 18, 2015)
- ◆ A Family Law Financial Trial (Oct. 8, 2015 – Oct. 9, 2015)
- ◆ Get Ready – It’s Coming: Major Changes to Family Law Effective January 1, 2016 – CHICAGO & LIVE WEBCAST (Dec. 4, 2015)
- ◆ Attorney’s Fees – WEBCAST REPLAY (from the “Get Ready – It’s Coming Program”) (Feb. 1, 2016)
- ◆ Civil Procedure and Revised Statutes – WEBCAST REPLAY (from the “Get Ready – It’s Coming Program”) (Feb. 8, 2016)
- ◆ 3rd Annual Elder Law Bootcamp (April 21-22, 2016)
- ◆ Education for Attorney Appointed to Represent Children (June 2-3, 2016)

Section members also receive discounts on section-sponsored CLE programs.

[Legislation](#)

The Section Council reviews proposed legislation that may affect their members’ practice area. Highlights of the most recent legislative session include:

1. Number of bills reviewed: 40
2. Significant legislation:
 - a. House Bill 3898 - IMDMA cleanup
 - b. House Bill 3982 - Income shares and child support
 - c. House Bill 4447 - Parentage Act of 2015

Other

- ◆ [The Family Law Discussion Group](#) allows section members to pose questions and share information with fellow section members from around the state.

[Newsletters](#)

Delivered electronically unless otherwise requested. During 2014-15 the Section published 11 newsletters. Articles include:

- ◆ 7 tips to avoid QDRO malpractice (Jan. 2016)
- ◆ Advance preparation helps minimize future risks to business owners in a divorce (Nov. 2015)
- ◆ Best legal advice given—From a colleague, senior lawyer or layperson (Apr. 2016)
- ◆ Child support in parentage cases: Does In re Marriage of Turk apply? (Sept. 2015)
- ◆ The consideration of gifts and loans as income for purpose of the computation of child support (Mar. 2016)
- ◆ Disgorgement of fees ordered in In re Marriage of Squire (Feb. 2016)
- ◆ Disposition of cryopreserved pre-embryos settled in *Szafanski v. Dunston* (May 2016)
- ◆ Dividing railroad retirement benefits in divorce (Aug. 2015)
- ◆ Editor’s correction (Dec. 2015)
- ◆ “Enforcement” of a party’s obligation to pay secondary education expenses is not subject to Petersen’s limitation on retroactive reimbursement (July 2015)
- ◆ Enter, the long-ignored caretaker (Apr. 2016)
- ◆ Family law and the LLLT (Jan. 2016)
- ◆ “Good to go” (and return!) Part 1: Unraveling the rules (Jan. 2016)
- ◆ “Good to Go” (and return!) Part 2: The sailor and the perfect storm (Apr. 2016)
- ◆ Good to go (and return!) Part 3: Planning and prevention (May 2016)
- ◆ Graduation is upon us (Mar. 2016)
- ◆ In a divorce, Illinois courts have no authority to order pet “visitation” (Mar. 2016)
- ◆ LGBT families continue to face obstacles (Feb. 2016)
- ◆ Privacy of mental health records in Illinois: The Mental Health & Developmental Disabilities Confidentiality Act (Feb. 2016)
- ◆ Recent Illinois cases regarding income and child support (Oct. 2015)
- ◆ *Szafanski v. Dunston*: A case note (May 2016)
- ◆ A tale of two communities: Bringing pro bono collaborative law to Illinois National Guard veterans (Dec. 2015)
- ◆ Taxes and military pensions: The long and short of it (Aug. 2015)
- ◆ Ten changes in family law that practitioners need to know in 2016: A brief summary of modifications to the IMDMA (Dec. 2015)
- ◆ The times they are a changin’: The new IMDMA and Parentage Acts (Oct. 2015)
- ◆ V.A. payments and family support (July 2015)
- ◆ We need a statewide dialogue on the use of attorneys appointed to represent children (Sept. 2015)
- ◆ When can parents leave their children alone? (Nov. 2015)
- ◆ When God is in the prenup (Dec. 2015)
- ◆ Why doesn’t she just leave? (Apr. 2016)
- ◆ Why the date we file a petition for dissolution of marriage just became Important (May 2016)