

## Working In Family Law

Growing up I never imagined that I would ever be working one-on-one with families, paralegals and Attorney's in the family law field. Having said that, it is one of the most satisfying areas I have ever worked in and has even inspired me to return to school to further my education in hopes of one day becoming a paralegal.

It is rewarding to get the opportunity to help people in a time of need. Usually clients are at the end of their rope when they hire an attorney. They have often just started the divorce or child custody legal process and are usually overwhelmed by all of the emotions that come with these types of cases; hurt, anger, anxiety, and worry. In some cases, the individual has tried to navigate their own way through the legal system thinking that they could save money by doing it without proper representation, and now have to go back and fix things or change things only to find out that to re-visit the matter has cost them double what it would have cost them to do it right the first time.

I love being able to help the children involved in the legal matters. We do this by helping our clients set aside their own emotions and focus on the effects of their legal matter on their children. The safety and well being of the children should always be the number one concern. We get to encourage the development of good co-parenting skills by referring our clients to resources offered throughout the community such as parenting classes or counseling. In some cases, when appropriate, we can enlist the help of parenting professionals with the ultimate goal being to get a parenting plan established and registered with the Court.

Lastly, I love seeing happy endings, or beginnings, depending on which way you look at the situation. It is a stark contrast between the client who first came to us in the beginning of a family matter with all of their worries, concerns, and mixed emotions, to the client who leaves the office after having concluded their case, being able to stop worrying about what might happen and start focusing on the present and the future. It gives me great pride knowing that I was able to help a family start moving on with a new chapter of their lives after all of their legal disputes have been settled.