



## Atlanta Divorce Law Group March 2017 Newsletter

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### Greetings!

### How Grandparents Gain Custody of their Grandchildren in Georgia



There are two primary ways for grandparents to obtain custody of their grandchildren over the parent(s)' objection: petition for custody under O.C.G.A. § 19-7-1(b.1), or file a dependency petition in Juvenile Court.

#### Petition for Custody –

This case is filed in Superior Court and requires the grandparent to show . . . [Read More Here.](#)

### Team 100 Launch



We are excited to announce the launch of our Team 100 Referral system. We are building a referral list of 100 businesses in the local area that our firm has personally spoken to and trust will provide the best quality of service to our clients. If you need a referral for legal or non-legal needs, contact our office for a referral.

Those approved to be on our Team 100 list get the added benefit of having access to our list as well. In addition, we are excited to have the opportunity to feature Team 100 businesses in our newsletter.

### Team 100 Feature: Becky Berry Career Coaching



Becky Berry is the owner of Becky Berry LLC where she coaches women who are at crossroads in their lives. She has experienced several crossroads in her own life including careers as magazine publisher, software entrepreneur, stay-at-home, social entrepreneur, and, most recently, widowhood. Those experiences give her deep insights into how women can discover and access meaningful careers.

Becky has a talent for guiding women to think about careers they would never consider. Since she has had multiple careers in multiple industries, she understands how overwhelming it is to find the next career. When Becky and her husband made the decision for her to stay at home and raise their son, she had no idea what it would be like to re-enter the workforce 12 years later!

She learned that figuring out what was next boiled down to 3 things: (1) figuring out who she was at that moment, (2) figuring out what she wanted, and (3) figuring out how to go after it. So she did. Now Becky coaches women through the same process. Becky works with clients both locally and remotely.

Becky currently serves on the Education Committee of the STAR House Foundation in Roswell. You can find out more about her and her coaching at [beckyberrycoach.com](http://beckyberrycoach.com).



### Tip of the Month!

Encourage your kids to talk about how they feel about the divorce. Allow them to feel like they can share positive or negative emotions.

### Attorney's Corner: Successes That Mean Something

**Interviewer:** Our Tip of the Month is about encouraging the children affected by divorce to express how they feel. Do you have any success stories where you felt the children were really protected during the divorce process despite the conflict between the parents?

**Attorney Jeanette Soltys:** On occasion I have a client who impresses me with



Jeanette Soltys, Esq.

their ability to co-parent and put aside differences with their soon to be ex for the sake of the children. In one situation, the father purchased a home in the same neighborhood as the marital residence so the children could freely go back and forth between the parents. I've even seen a few couples keep the children in the marital residence long term, with the parents taking turn spending time in the residence with the children.

**Interviewer:** What were the basic circumstances?

**Attorney Jeanette Soltys:** In all of these situations, it was a fairly typical divorcing couple, and what differentiated these cases from others was the ability of the husband and wife to set aside their negative feelings toward each other and continue to work as a co-parenting team.

**Interviewer:** What were the issues the children were facing?

**Attorney Jeanette Soltys:** The issues faced by all children of divorce, which is their entire life being turned upside down by their family unit changing dramatically.

**Interviewer:** How was it all resolved?

**Attorney Jeanette Soltys:** These families found a way to divorce while disrupting the children's lives as little as possible by keeping the children in the same home or in one instance the same neighborhood.

**Interviewer:** What did you see the parents do that you thought was so effective?

**Attorney Jeanette Soltys:** These parents were able to set aside their emotions about what happened in the marriage so they could recognize the importance of the children's continued relationship with the other parent and also focus on minimizing the changes in the children's lives. Most couples are so focused on their own feelings of hurt and anger that they are unable to focus on the needs of the children. Once the divorce is over, all of the actions of your ex-spouse will eventually seem irrelevant, as you move on with your life, find happiness, and the hurts from your marriage are just part of your past. However, the children's relationship with both parents continues. It's a mistake to get so caught up in your own temporary feelings that you are emotionally unable to protect the children during the divorce process.

**Interviewer:** How can other families use this story in their own situation?

**Attorney Jeanette Soltys:** While living in the same neighborhood or continuing to share a house aren't workable solutions for most divorcing couples, an important lesson we can take away is the importance of putting the children's needs first. Our own negative feelings can cloud our perception of the children's needs. This means we must set aside our own pain or anger in order to think clearly for the sake of the children. This often takes a lot of work. When I have a client struggling with this issue, I recommend regular therapy along with practices that help reduce stress and improve clarity, such as prayer or meditation and getting regular exercise.



## Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Did you know St. Patrick's day is in honor of Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland? It's held on the day it's believed he died. It was considered a religious holiday until the 1970's when Ireland passed laws to allow alcohol to be served. Since then, it's become more of a celebration of the Irish culture.

## Calendar of Events

March 2017

- 3/9: In Court: Atlanta, GA
- 3/14: In Court: Atlanta, GA
- 3/15: In Mediation: Atlanta, GA
- In Court: Atlanta, GA
- 3/17: In Court: Atlanta, GA
- 3/21: In Court: Fulton Co.



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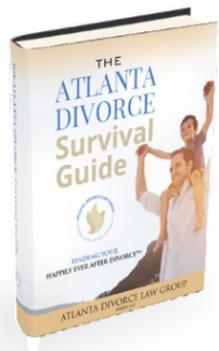
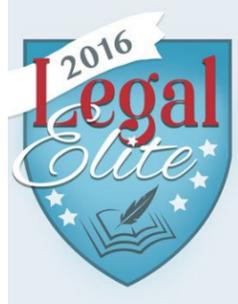
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