



## **Basics of Divorce Practice**

**Tuesday, March 23, 3–6 p.m.**

**Plymouth County Probate & Family Court, 52 Obery St., Plymouth (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Jury Room)**

**Course #: FLB10**

Divorce practice ranks among the most demanding, complex and challenging areas of legal work. In order to be effective and avoid costly mistakes, counsel must be prepared to address a wide array of issues — from asset valuation and division, to child custody matters, to taxation — often in a high-pressure, deadline-driven arena.

This course will teach you how to determine the facts of your client’s case, select appropriate avenues of relief and parry your opponent’s strategies while you become familiar with relevant statutes, rules and leading cases that you can use to achieve positive results for your client. Topics include:

- Initiating representation: how to interview prospective clients, address ethical issues that arise in establishing representation and develop a theory of your case;
- Core values: tips on preparing Rule 401 financial statements;
- Obtaining temporary orders: spousal and child support, asset preservation and visitation;
- Discovery: Rule 410, coping with the dishonest or secretive spouse, the discovery toolkit;
- Matters involving children: an overview of custody and visitation; guardians *ad litem*; special problems that children face when they are involved in divorce cases;
- Pretrial conferences and case management conferences: when to request them and how to prepare the appropriate materials to make the best use of them;
- Settlement primer: factors to consider in settlement negotiations, how to protect yourself and your client and how to determine whether or not a case should go to trial; and
- Trial preparation checklist.

### **Faculty:**

Deborah M. Faenza, Esq., program co-chair, Ryan & Faenza, Walpole

Susan A. Huettner, Esq., program co-chair, Law Office of Susan A. Huettner PC, Sandwich

### **Price:**

MBA sponsoring section/division members: \$80

Other MBA members/ co-sponsors: \$115

MBA member paralegals, law students & 2009 admittees: \$40

Non-members: \$160

*Sponsored by the MBA Family Law, General Practice, Solo & Small Firm and  
Juvenile and Child Welfare Sections and Young Lawyers Division*

*Co-sponsored by the Barnstable County Bar Association, Plymouth County Bar Association and  
Plymouth District Bar Association*

*(To receive co-sponsor rate, please provide the code “Promo30” when registering)*

**For more information or to register, call MBA Member Services 617-338-0530 or 1-877-676-6500**

***Pre-registration is strongly recommended, as space is limited, and cannot be processed without payment. Walk-ins on the day of the program cannot be guaranteed program materials or a seat.***

***All programs are subject to cancellation. To check the status of a program, visit [www.massbar.org](http://www.massbar.org) or call MBA Member Services on the day of the program.***