



The Quattro Firm About Town

Page **4**



Contents

Welcome to The
Quattro Firm
Page 1

Meet The Quattro
Firm
Page 2-3

The Quattro Firm
About Town
Page 4-6

Contracts: Why You
Should Use Them
By: Nicole McNamara
Quattrocchi
Page 7-9

A Note From The
Quattro Firm
Page 10



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Welcome to The Quattro Firm

At the Quattro firm, we believe in viewing our client as a whole person as opposed to just a set of legal issues. We believe that in order to be a successful advocate, we must be able to understand the full needs of our clients, not just the legal needs. By using this full understanding, we advocate with compassion.

more on **2**

Meet The Quattro Firm



Nicole McNamara Quattrocchi is the founding member of the Quattro Firm. She is a 2008 Southern Methodist University Law School graduate and a 2004 Wake Forest University Graduate. Nicole is a licensed Texas attorney where her practice involved mostly civil and commercial litigation. Nicole has been licensed in Florida since 2014 and has centered most of her practice on domestic relations law.

Nicole has spent a lot of time volunteering in her legal career whether it be through pro bono cases or through assisting at the Hurricane Katrina Relief Clinic in law school. Nicole believes in viewing the client as a whole person and not just a specific legal issue and therefore has, thus far, taken every case that the firm can handle, regardless of inability to pay. She is a passionate and compassionate attorney who looks forward to working with people across the spectrum of life with all of their legal needs.



Robert J. Fraxedas specializes in Estate and Tax Planning, as well as Estate Administration and Litigation. He is a 2015 University of Miami graduate (LL.M. – Estate Planning) and a 2005 University of Florida graduate (J.D.). Robert has been licensed in Florida since 2006, and currently lives in Boca Raton.

Robert regularly presents seminars on estate planning and probate matters throughout the state of Florida. A former president of Citrus Civitan, Robert believes in donating time and hands-on effort to the less fortunate. He has organized fundraising events for people with congenital disabilities, mentors underprivileged school-age children, and volunteers at homeless shelters. He strongly believes in providing all clients the best legal counsel possible, from highly compensated executives to impoverished individuals.



Melanie Bruchet is a 2012 graduate of Mercer University's Walter F. George School of Law in Macon, Georgia, where she received her J.D. and a Certificate in Advanced Legal Writing, Research, and Drafting from Mercer's top rated legal writing program. Melanie served on the Board of Directors for the Stonewall Bar Association of Georgia as well as completed internships at CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) for Children and the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of New Jersey.

Melanie has presented nationally on the subjects of human trafficking and LGBT youth in the juvenile court system. She also co-authored an amicus brief to the Georgia Supreme Court on the issue of post-separation custodial rights and the emotional effect on children of divorced parents. Melanie maintains an active bar license in Georgia and is sworn in to both the Georgia Court of Appeals and the Georgia Supreme Court. A South Florida native, she currently lives in Asheville, North Carolina.



Monique L'Italien is a civil and commercial litigator and appellate attorney who has practiced in Florida since 2001. She has broad experience at the trial and appellate levels in federal and state court. Her practice areas include bankruptcy, contract disputes, family law, real property and some criminal. Prior to entering private practice, Ms. L'Italien was an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Florida, handling criminal appeals and civil litigation matters.

Ms. L'Italien earned her B.A., cum laude, from Trinity College in Washington D.C and her J.D. from Vermont Law School. Ms. L'Italien enjoys traveling, running, spending time with her animals including her horse Dancer, an off track thoroughbred rescue, and doing other animal welfare work.

Read more about The Quattro Firm at www.thequattrofirm.com

Meet The Quattro Firm



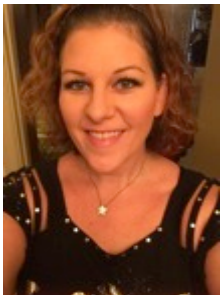
Maria Kontos obtained her Bachelor of Arts from Florida Atlantic University in 1995. Ms. Kontos has over 16 years of experience working on complex and voluminous civil, criminal and family law cases which involve organizing thousands of documents, discovery and file organization.

Ms. Kontos is intricately involved in the defense of all of the firm's clients' cases and takes great pride in assisting and working toward a favorable outcome in each case.



Jennifer Mondone is the office manager of the Quattro Firm. Jennifer grew up in upstate New York. She is a graduate of the Ohio State University where she studied financial management and business administration. Since graduating she's lived in North Carolina and settled in Florida for the last 13 years. This is her first job at a law firm but has previously dabbled in the insurance and mortgage industry, most recently in management for restaurants, from start ups to corporate chains and sales.

Jennifer also assisted in co-creating 2 humans which for the last 6 years has been her main focus and accomplishment. She enjoys spending her time with the family, paddle boarding, volunteering at the kids school, movie nights and anything involving wine or mimosas.



Sarah Kontos has been working professionally in accounting since 2005. Her experience includes conducting, supervising, and reviewing annual audits, bookkeeping and payroll, and compilations and examinations of the financial records of a wide range of businesses including non-profits, law firms, restaurants, 401(k) plans, and other service industries.

Sarah attended Florida Atlantic University earning her degree in Mathematics and attending an additional two years of studies in Accounting and Business Administration. She is originally from West Palm Beach, FL. She is a supporting member of Compass Lake Worth, United Way and Farm Sanctuary, and she volunteers at various fundraising events for local charities.

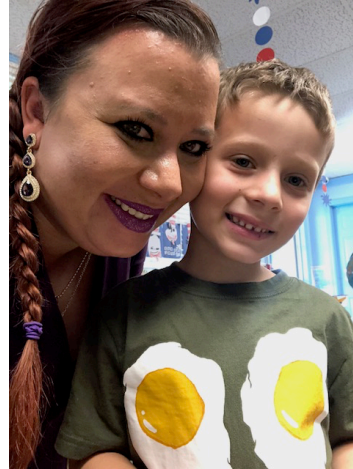


Alexandrea Perez is a twenty year old who just completed her junior year as an undergraduate at the University of Central Florida. She attended Suncoast High School in Rivera Beach where she graduated with her International Baccalaureate Degree. Throughout her college years Alexandra has gained a passion for international human rights law through her active participation in International Medical Outreach and Phi Alpha Delta pre-law society.

After her undergraduate graduation, Alexandra plans to participate in the Peace Corps for two years until she attends law school in either Washington D.C. or New York. After law school, Alexandra hopes to practice human rights law domestically or internationally.

Read more about The Quattro Firm at www.thequattrofirm.com

The Quattro Firm About Town



Left: Nicole joined Bright Child Academy for Dr. Seuss' birthday and read several stories to the children.

+ Our Practice Areas

- Bankruptcy
- Business Formation
- Civil Litigation
- Commercial Litigation
- Contract Drafting & Review
- Corporate Matters
- Estate Planning
- Family Law & Domestic Relations
- Family Law Mediation
- General Litigation
- Immigration
- LGBT Issues & Custody
- Marital Contracts
- Probate Litigation
- Probate Administration
- Wills & Trusts



Above: The Quattrocchi Family spent Spring Break 2018 exploring all that Florida has to offer. Above, they took in a nature show in Weeki Wachee Springs, home of the World Famous Mermaids.



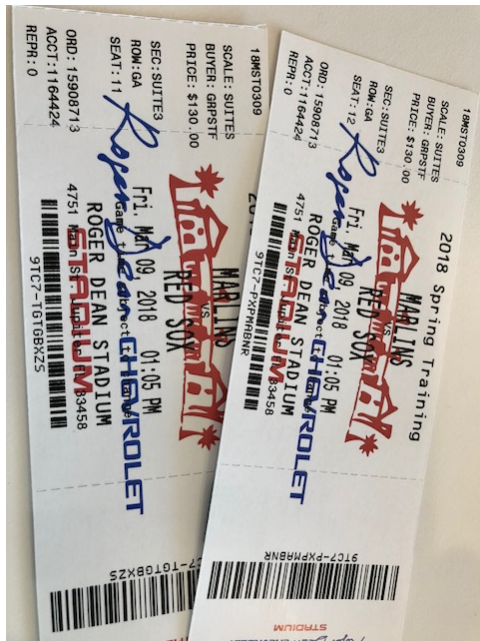
Above: Nicole has been coaching a Mock Trial at Rosarian Academy. This year's theme is The Lorax. Here the students practice in the lobby of the Rosarian Academy theatre. See the next newsletter for pictures of their final performance in May 2018.

Below: The Quattrocchi Family participated in the annual picnic held in Lake Clarke Shores.



Left: The Quattrocchi Family celebrated Easter with Egg Hunts and Bunny Cake Decorating.

The Quattro Firm About Town



The Quattro Firm has partnered with FindLaw. They generously provided for baseball tickets for spring training for Nicole and her husband to enjoy the Findlaw suite.

Summer Promotion:

In honor of the summer heat, we are offering 15% off our flat-rate fees from now until August 31, 2018. We appreciate your business and look forward to working with you soon.

As always, please follow us on social media. If you'd like to submit a review either on Facebook or through our website, please get in touch with us.



Contracts: Why You Should Use Them.

By Nicole McNamara Quattrocchi

People often ask attorneys about contracts. Back in the beginning of business, a man's word was his bond and many negotiations were settled with handshakes or an offer to have cocktails. Many generations of people believe that contracts are impersonal and unnecessary. Once, I had a client tell me that contracts are not "romantic." My response was simple: "No, contracts are not romantic, but neither is litigation."

Without contracts, your business arrangement is uncertain. Some believe that this is the benefit to operating without contracts. Without a contract, how can you be held to any standard of conduct? Well, the truth is that while there are no "certain terms" that a contract would dictate, if the other side isn't protected, you likely aren't protected either.



People also don't want to use contracts because they are starting a business with a friend or engaged in a business arrangement with a friend. The best of friends can make the most litigious of litigants. Further, any business has the potential for conflict. If your business grows and you are expecting that if something were to go



wrong, you could infer an oral contract and recover, then I hope you're not in the state of Florida. Florida has an extremely low threshold for recovery for oral contracts. This means that if your claim is worth more than what Florida has dictated is the amount you could recover for an oral contract, then you may be out of luck.

"The most difficult thing is the decision to act, the rest is merely tenacity."

—Amelia Earhart

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The final reason why people operate without contracts is the notion that they are too expensive to have an attorney prepare. This is often when people will use google to find legal terms and place them in a document that he/she believes will cover him/her in the event that the business relationship breaks down. The problem with google and the internet in general is that you may be putting in terms that you do not fully understand or including terms which would not be appropriate in the forum in which you plan to use them, or worst of all, using terms that are not really legal terms at all. For instance, a business contract in Texas will look very different than a business contract

in Florida. A Texas-based contract may be wholly unenforceable in Florida. In this situation, your business is not only unprotected by the contract, but you may be held to terms that were never intended simply because you used them in your “contract.”

The best course of action for a business is to properly file one’s paperwork to create the type of business that one plans to operate, such as a corporation or an LLC. When one files these, it is important to then have an Operating Agreement that will dictate the business agreement and appropriate terms that dictate how the business should be run. Most law firms will offer flat rates to prepare a business and set it up,



including drafting an Operating Agreement that meets the individual needs of the business.



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Next, one should have contracts for each aspect of his/her business. A caterer should have individual contracts for each of his/her employees with varying degrees of details for each individual. The dish washer's contract should not look the same as the chef's contract. Then the business will have contracts for sales purposes, marketing purposes, vendor contracts and any other applicable type of contract.



Each individual piece of the business should involve its own unique contract. Many of the contracts will have their own individual terms and may have some general terms as well. All of these contracts should be kept organized and filed in a place where the business records are kept, as well as a backup of each of them in an electronic form.

This may all seem like too much, but in the long run, it's better to be safe than sorry. When it comes to children, parents research daycares and schools, keep proper records of all pediatrician records and birth certificates, etc. Your business is like your child. If one wants to keep it safe, the best way to do so is to stay organized and use contracts.

The fear of the expense may be what holds people back the most. The expense up front will save you in the long run. Not paying for that contract at the beginning could cost you more than \$30,000 in attorney's fees in litigation, not to mention the enormous amount of stress and pressure that is often the result of litigation. Many law firms will offer flat rates to review a contract or even to draft one on your behalf. If you have a complex business plan and a growing business, it may be best to hire a law firm as your in-house counsel. This arrangement can often quash the fears and pressure of up front costs by turning them in to monthly payments.



In sum, any business, big or small should use contracts. If you are worried about your business, please contact us for your free consultation.

A Note From The Quattro Firm

As we head to the end of spring and beginning of summer, we hope that you stay dry from the rain and think of us should the rain prove to be too much.

Thank you.



The Quattro Firm

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