



## The Quattro Firm About Town

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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.

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## Meet The Quattro Firm



**Nicole McNamara Quattrocchi, Esq.** 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.



**Melanie Bruchet, Esq.** 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, Esq.** 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.



**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.

Read more about The Quattro Firm at [www.thequattrofirm.com](http://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.



**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.



**Shavonne M. Pierre** is a new member of the Quattro Firm. She is a graduate of South University where she studied and received her Bachelor Degree in Legal Studies. She has over 18 years experience in the legal field working for several prestigious firms in the Palm Beach County area. Her previous work experience has been in Insurance Defense, Civil Litigation, Securities & Arbitration, Commercial Litigation, Worker's Compensation, Family Law and Personal Injury. Shavonne has 4 children that are her main focus as well as her budding legal career.

Read more about The Quattro Firm at [www.thequattrofirm.com](http://www.thequattrofirm.com)



## The Quattro Firm About Town



Left: The Quattro Firm happily sponsored Lisa's Dance and Exercise's production of the Nutcracker.



Right: The Quattro Firm was happy to come out and enjoy Rosarian Academy's production of Annie

### + 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 Quattro Firm participated in Palm Beach Outlets Christmas event.



Nicole and her husband Steve exercise their civic duty by voting in local elections.

Right: The Quattro Firm proudly supports local businesses like E.R. Bradley's.



Right: The Quattro Firm sponsored a trailer in the Lake Clarke Shores Holiday Golf Cart Parade.

Below: Shavonne poses with the "reindeer monkeys" in the office during the holidays.

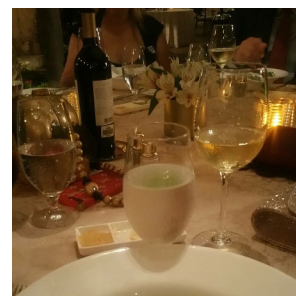


Below: Shavonne, Jennifer, Nicole, Monique and Carol celebrate at the annual Christmas Party.





## The Quattro Firm's Christmas Party



The Quattro Firm celebrated with its annual Christmas party complete with a delicious meal, lots of laughter and “white elephant” gifts.



## New Year Promotion:

**To celebrate the new year, we are offering double discounts for anyone who donates to the Rosarian Academy Fund. Whatever contribution you have made to Rosaraian, show us your documents and we will give you double that amount in a discount on fees up to \$1,500 (not applicable to flat rate fees).**

**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.**



## You May Think You're the Daddy, But Legally, You're Not

By Shavonne M. Pierre

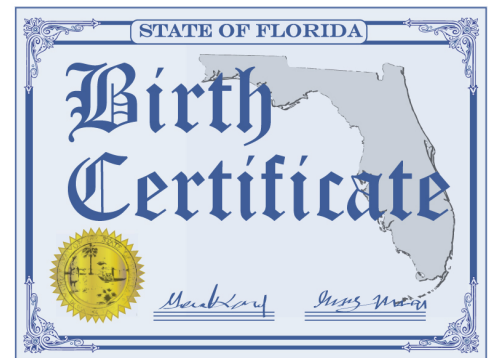
As an unmarried couple of a new baby you take pride in naming the baby and of course the father signing the birth certificate in most cases. As a new father or current father you need to know what it means when your name is or is not on your alleged child(rens) Birth Certificate. The father believes that in all sincerity that he has the same parental rights and parental responsibilities as the mother. Too often the statement "my name is on the Birth Certificate, so I have rights" is made. This myth is far from the truth.

In the State of Florida signing the Birth Certificate does **NOT** automatically give a father immediate parental rights and responsibilities or time-sharing. The signing of a Birth Certificate merely establishes a presumption that the man who signed is the father. In the famous words of Maury Povich, Florida automatically deems that "you are **NOT** the father" until a paternity test is conducted proving that "you **ARE** the father," or a

court order can establish legal paternity through a Court of Law or the Department of Revenue where a petition is filed to create or establish the parental rights of the father. involved in these decisions.



WikiHow to Win a Custody Battle



**"I never dreamed about success. I worked for it."  
—Estee Lauder**



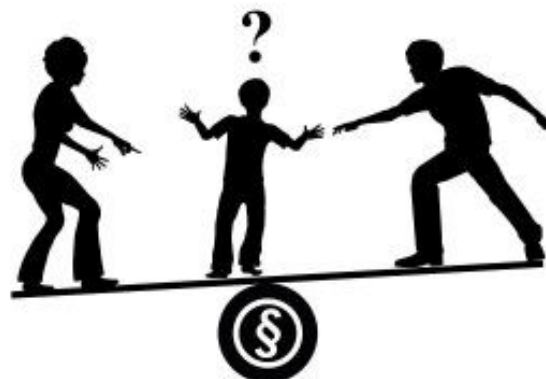
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Often, this kind of a petition will prompt paternity testing which is documentation proving to the State of Florida that the individual that signed the Birth Certificate is eligible to assist in making decisions as well as obtaining time sharing. Any issues that the alleged father may run into with making decisions for the child(ren) regarding school, medical issues, day to day decisions and time sharing cannot be addressed without obtaining a Court Order establishing paternity proving to the State of Florida that the alleged father indeed has the right to be involved in these decisions.

Either party of the alleged child(ren) can bring proceeding in the circuit court to determine the paternity of the child(ren) and then establish a parenting plan, determine the allocation of child support and determine the degree of parental responsibility. Florida Statute section 742.011 discusses the determination of paternity and states that any woman who is pregnant or has a child or any man who has reason to believe that he is the father of a child, or any child may bring the proceeding in circuit court to determine the paternity if it has not been established otherwise.



The party who chooses to bring the paternity cause of action can choose between filing a paternity action in circuit court, or filing with the Department of Revenue. If filing with the Department of Revenue, it will be an administrative proceeding where hiring private counsel is usually not recommended. If the paternity is not contested and the parties simply want to determine child support in such a proceeding, this may be the proper avenue.



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By Shavonne M. Pierre

However, if the parties are contentious, if there's a reason to believe that a party is not entitled to equal timesharing, if financial information is missing or unreliable, or to be fully represented by a private attorney, it is recommended that the party file in circuit court to determine parental responsibility, time-sharing, retroactive support if applicable, child support and any other matter related to the parties and the child.

In conclusion, an experienced Florida family law attorney can help you determine and establish paternity rights. Such an attorney



should review your options and your needs with regard to relocation of either party, parental responsibility, time-sharing, make up timesharing (if applicable), child support, retroactive child support (if applicable), claims for attorney's fees and the like. The attorney will assess the situation and decide on the perfect course of action.

Don't believe the myth that a signature on the Birth Certificate is sufficient. You don't want to be left in the dust when decisions are made in your absence and without your consent, including but not limited to, your child and his/her mother moving

away from Florida. Contact the Quattro Firm to ensure that you secure your rights to your child.



## A Note From The Quattro Firm

From our families to yours, we wish you happy holidays and a pleasant and prosperous 2019.

Thank you.



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## The Quattro Firm

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