



Meet the Newest Additions to The Quattro Firm

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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 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.



Jacqueline Lavoie Spence has been a practicing Florida Attorney for 5 years. She was born and raised in Queens, New York and moved to Florida in 2009.

She obtained her law degree from Nova Southeastern University and has a diverse background in many areas of law, but primarily focuses on Family law.



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.

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.



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.



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.



Kristin Fitzpatrick was born in New York, but raised in Florida. Her background is Early Childhood and as much as she loves her field, she also loves learning new things and being a well-rounded person. Her ultimate goal is to finish college where she is currently studying to be a speech-pathologist for children who have special needs.

Kristin is conversational- fluent in American Sign Language, and some Spanish. She enjoys cooking, reading, helping others and traveling. She also loves watching criminal cases/law shows. Kristin cannot wait to learn more about the law and enjoy all of the experience that the Quattro Firm has to give her.

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

Expanding the Practice: Meet Rob

Hello everyone,

My name is Rob, and I'm very excited to be a new member of the team! I am originally from Orlando. I, currently, live in Boca Raton with my wife, Abby, and my 9 month old son, Jacob "Big Jake" Fraxedas. I consider myself a really down-to-earth guy. I love to be outdoors, especially hiking, kayaking and mountain climbing. I also do all my own home improvement and lawn work. I'd consider myself a pretty big time nerd, and love studying philosophy, cosmology, and playing trivia games (especially Jeopardy).



+ Our Practice Areas

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

I've been practicing law since 2006. I started out doing all different kinds of litigation, switched to plaintiff's work for a couple years, and then settled into estate planning and probate, which are my specialties. I ponied up the time and money, and went back to school at the University of Miami in 2014, where I got my Master of Laws in Estate Planning. This has allowed me to provide advanced estate and tax planning for high net worth individuals, families, and businesses. These are the areas that I hope to focus on to help expand the firm.

I look forward to working with you, should we be able to help you with your legal needs.

Expanding the Practice: Meet Jackie



Hi! My name is Jacqueline Spence and I am a proud working lawyer-mom. I have been practicing law for 5 years, primarily in the area of family law.

Family law is a complicated area of law because not only is the law complicated, but it also involves emotions and families. With that, I am able to combine my Psychology degree with the practice of law.

Practicing family law is truly rewarding for me, especially as a mom. To be able to help clients through this difficult time and to help to give them a fresh start gives me a sense of the true meaning of being a successful advocate.

I am so happy to be a part of The Quattro Firm team and look forward to helping clients through their family law matters.

Expanding the Practice: Meet Jennifer

My name is Jennifer. I'm one of the new members of the team and new to working in a law firm. I am a mom of 2, Nicholas is 6 and Natalie is 4 and a wife of Robert for 8 years. So that also makes me a housekeeper, chef, referrer, nurse, negotiator, and overall task manager.

I am also a Buckeye Alumni and I am counting the days to football season and beer drinking season. I have lived in South Florida for 15 years now, currently in Jupiter, Florida. I've embraced the life on the water and paddle board often, kayak with the kids and even take them fishing when they ask. We're a sports family and play anything the kids want from hockey, soccer, golf, baseball, football and biking which has me injured and sore frequently especially with the recent addition of crossfit.

I have really gotten into projects with the kids so I'm learning a lot of DIY and crafting I never thought I was capable of. I'm also finding the balance between working, being a mother, wife and friend and finding time for myself occasionally but it's a struggle and not always as fun as I had imagined.

In my youth I worked in restaurant management which was long hours and much more physical. I loved the atmosphere and constant problem solving but as I aged and my family grew, work became more of a task than a pleasure so I took 4 years off. Since being back I've dabbled in sales, trying to find the hours that work for our family and it's a work in progress. I'm thrilled to be working for another mom who gets it and am enjoying getting to know all that comes with a law firm and look forward to what's next.



The Quattro Firm Believes In Female Empowerment

In the past 9 issues of the Quattro Firm newsletter, we have shared statistics about women in business and celebrated our unique perspective as an all female firm.

This August, the Quattro Firm added it's first male member, Robert J. Fraxedas to the Firm. While Rob may be outnumbered by all the women, he shares an ideal that some of the other members of the firm also share: being a working parent.

Many professionals, usually women, are forced out of the work force once they become a parent. Law firms are no stranger to this concept. While not allowed by law to ask a potential employee whether he/she has children or plans to do so one day, interviewers often find a way to bring up the conversation of children and other "distractions" to one's ability to work.

Of the eight members of The Quattro Firm, half are working parents. They love their children and their jobs and The Quattro Firm bends schedules to accommodate the needs of working parents. Men and women alike should be encouraged to come back to work without the shame of being criticized for wanting or having a family. Here at The Quattro Firm, we believe in the rights of all families.

When considering whether or not to re-join the work force, parents find themselves stuck with deciding who will care for their child while they are at work. The choice of nannies or daycares can be very scary for first time parents. It was of the utmost concern to Lynne Wellman. She looked around with her husband, Nick Wellman in 1996 and decided that she didn't like her choices.

Lynne and Nick decided that they wanted something more for their son and they had an idea to start a pre-school founded on certain ideals: love, security, structure, compassion, phonics and inspiring a love of learning.

Lynne was a real estate closer when she found herself pregnant with minimal choices for childcare for her son. Her husband's family owned property in Lake Worth off of Military Trail and Lynne had the idea to bulldoze the property and build a preschool. She wanted to form the kind of school that she would be comfortable with for her son. It would need to be safe, filled with kind and loving people, and have a curriculum where the children would be inspired to learn and still be free to be children. Lynne



had a dream, but it was difficult for her to find people who shared it.

To start the school, she needed a bank loan. She had begun to envision her school, staff it, design the architectural structures and create the ideals, but to get it started with all the required permits and staffing, she needed to secure a bank loan. Lynne felt the push back of gender inequality as she explained her dream to various male bank officers. However, Lynne was never disheartened and she continued to knock on doors until finally, she got a "yes."

It took Lynne 4 years to build the school, which began with just one building in 2001. When the school began, it was just 27 children, one of whom was Lynne's oldest son who was in the pre-4s class at the time and her newest addition who was almost 2. The enrollment was completely full within six months. The school remained full until the second building was open for business in 2004.

Lynne is no stranger to adversity. Securing the loan was the first time that Lynne faced a wall in her way, but it wouldn't be the last. However, Lynne believes in her school and she believes in her program. Imagination Station uses the A-Beka curriculum, which is a phonics based the

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phonics based learning system. This was originally not included for accreditation for Florida's Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten program ("VPK"). Finally, the state called to find out how the children from Imagination Station were thriving in Kindergarten and gave the accreditation to allow Imagination Station to keep its A-Beka curriculum and receive the state accreditation of the VPK program.

Lynne thinks that the fact that she is running a family-owned and operated pre-school sets her apart from her competition. When confronted with the term "daycare," she quickly corrected that Imagination Station is not a daycare. They are a preschool where even the infants are placed in their bouncers to enjoy "circle time." While a daycare simply provides care for children while parents are working, Imagination Station is a preschool where children learn in a structural system where they are stimulated to learn different skills depending on their age-appropriateness.

Imagination Station also has the Watch Me Grow system where parents can log in online or from their mobile device or tablet to watch their child in school all day. This is a system that certainly puts parents at ease and was a program which Lynne felt strongly about having. Lynne also thinks that her school is different from the others based on the fact that she tries to keep her staff happy so that they can concentrate on taking care of the children. She's carefully selected a staff who love the children from the first day that they are in their classes.

As far as the key to Lynne's success as a woman in business, she says she put her heart and soul in to this school. It's become a member of her family. While she's been asked for years to continue to expand, develop other locations or to franchise, Lynne feels like she likes to have the one location and to focus completely on that one location. She prides herself on the ability to develop personal relationships with the parents and to watch the little ones grow. She feels that in 16 years, they have developed a system that works for young children and she's happy with that. Lynne also feels that having a humble and personal relationship with her staff is important. She doesn't want anyone to feel uncomfortable and encourages people to speak up if there are problems.

For Lynne, her favorite part of being a woman in this field is more complicated. Lynne strived to continue to be a working mother. She created this school for her own children. She saw a need and she filled it. For Lynne, it's not that she's a woman running this business, but that she's a mother running a school who can relate to the parents because she is one. The decision to leave your child with strangers is not easy for most working parents. Lynne has been there and she's there to help to ease the transition for both the parents and the children. She's ready to listen to parents and their concerns.

Being a woman and running a school does have its advantages and Lynne was quick to recognize them. Being a working mother helps Lynne to relate to the working mothers and fathers who are bringing their children to Imagination Station. Additionally, with an almost all female staff, having a woman in charge makes things easy. She's open to any situation and she recognizes the need to be patient. Lynne is also realistic. In owning a preschool, things are going to go wrong and one just needs to be ready to handle it. Lynne's approach is constantly, "what's the worst thing that can happen" in any given situation. For parents, it helps to know that while you have left a crying child, you are unlikely to pick up a crying child.

Not surprisingly, Lynne said that her favorite part of running a preschool is the children. She loves to watch them grow into little people. By being a part of a preschool, it gives Lynne and her staff the chance to be a kid

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again. She loves to watch the wonder in the children's eyes as they get to experience things for the first time. She laughed and said that she cries every year when Santa arrives in his fire truck despite the fact that she knows it's going to happen; it's the joy and excitement from the children as they wave to Santa that inspires Lynne to continue to create more special events and more ways for the children to enjoy this special time in their lives.

Imagination Station has many special events throughout the year. At Halloween, they have a trunk or treat parade where parents decorate their cars and the children trick or treat in their costumes to the various cars to collect candy in handmade baskets. There is a Christmas visit with Santa, an Easter Bunny visit with and Easter egg hunt, a pony ride day, Mother's Day tea, Father's Day breakfast, summer water play complete with age appropriate splash grounds or water slides, Grandparents' Breakfast, bounce house days, food experiences, Grand Day (Read Across America), and much more. With so many to choose from, it was difficult for Lynne to choose her favorite. While she loves both Christmas and the Halloween celebrations, her favorite is the Mother's Day Tea because she enjoys seeing the teacher's creativity as they go crazy decorating with elaborate themes to spoil the mothers and thank them for their participation throughout the year.

As a courageous and determined working mom, Lynne had some advice for other entrepreneurial woman. She said that if you have a desire or wish, go for it. If you believe in it, then don't give up or let anyone change your mind. Doors will slam, but eventually, one will open. Never look back.

Then of course the bottom line is that owning your own business is fun. You get to make your own rules and this gives you the leeway to create the rules and learn what works. Lynne describes the school as a well-oiled machine. After 16 years, they know what works.

Thank you to the champion of working parents, Lynne Wellman for sharing her story. She has inspired us to learn that if you're looking for something and you can't find it, maybe you're the one who should build it. We are so happy that you created Imagination Station and we look forward to continuing to watch it grow.



"If you want something said, ask a man; if you want something done, ask a woman." —Margaret Thatcher

A Note From The Quattro Firm

We appreciate all of the continued support and as our business grows, we hope that you will continue to grow with us. Please think of us for your legal needs.

Thank you.



The Quattro Firm

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