**DECEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER** 

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## Williams Family Law...On the Speaking Circuit



The attorneys of Williams Family Law have been busy this year with many professional speaking engagements.

Jeff Williams was a participating speaker at a Pennsylvania Bar Institute seminar entitled "Drug and Alcohol Issues in Civil Litigation," which covered how the nation's opioid epidemic affects the cost of public health, law enforcement, public employment, and local government budgets. Williams' portion of the presentation focused on the impact of drugs and alcohol in family court.

Jeff also spoke at the summer meeting of the Pennsylvania Bar Association Family Law Section, discussing "Double-Dipping: Income/Assets in Support/Divorce," which is when something is considered an asset or income (or sometimes both) in the context of support, alimony and/or equitable distribution during a divorce, and also how it is construed differently by different states.



Bob Salzer presented this fall at the 2018
Bench Bar Conference hosted by the Bucks
County Bar Association, participating in a
panel discussion entitled "The Tax Cuts and
Jobs Act of 2017: A Family Court Perspective,"
discussing last year's tax code overhaul and
its effects on separation, divorce and marital
dissolution planning.

Photo: Robert J. Salzer, left, stands with members of the BCBA Family Court panel. From left: Donna M. Pironti, CPA, Hon. James M. McMaster, Hon. Brian T. McGuffin, and Hon. Jeffrey G. Trauger.

### **A Welcome Addition**

Shauna L. Quigley joined the firm this year as an associate. She is experienced in all matters surrounding family law: divorce, support, property distribution, child custody, and protection from abuse. To her clients, she is known for compassion and understanding; in her work, she is an effective, skilled negotiator. "We are delighted to have Shauna join our team," said Jeff Williams. "She is a talented attorney, and an active member of her community. She is an excellent addition to the firm."





#### AROUND TOWN:

### 9/11 HEROES RUN

Williams Family Law was proud to continue its ongoing support of the Travis Manion Foundation by serving as a sponsor of the 2018 "Heroes Run," which took place Sunday, September 23rd, at Fonthill Park. Business Manager Laura Fantuzzo (left) and attorney Melanie Wender both participated in the run.

## Proud to Again Be Named "Super"... and "Best"

We are proud to again be included in two of the most well-known attorney ranking organizations: Jeff Williams was again named to the 2018 list of Super Lawyers, while Melanie Wender and Shauna Quigley were both named to the 2018 "Rising Stars" lists, and three attorneys were selected for inclusion in the 2019 edition of The Best Lawyers in America: Jeff Williams, Susan Smith and Lynelle Gleason. Additionally, the firm itself was given a "Tier 1" ranking in Family Law in the Philadelphia region.







### ON THE BOOKSHELF

Our clients and colleagues already know the capability of our attorneys in their work. But what are they reading at home?

This month's featured attorney: Jeff Williams.

Things
Things
Mentally
Strong
People
Don't Do

Tikke bad menta habits and tough yourself up." -/m

Take Back
Your Power,
Embrace
Change, Fact
Your Fears,
and Train
Your Brain
for
Happiness
and
Success

MORIN

#### What I'm reading:

"13 Things Mentally Strong People Don't Do," by Amy Morin

#### Do I recommend it? Absolutely.

Why? It makes you categorically think about things that are commonsense while reinforcing things you should think about but don't. Like spending time and energy on things that are not only good for you, but for those around you in the workplace and at home. Everyone benefits and improves.

## From our Family Law Blog

Our Family Law Blog is where we share legal insights, legal news and much more. Some of our recent posts covered:



### Divorce is Declining Among Millennials

The divorce rate is dropping, and it seems as if Millennials may be the reason.



# What are the Divorce Statistics in Pennsylvania?

A recent report by the Pennsylvania Department of Health revealed some interesting trends in divorce in the commonwealth over the years.



# Student Loan Payments are Deductible as Alimony... for Now

The new tax law has reduced many options for alimony deductions.

However, a recent court case revealed a surprising one that still qualifies (for now, anyway).



### Pennsylvania Formally Establishes Collaborative Law

Divorces that may be settled amicably now have a new state law in place to regulate them.



# Child Support Guidelines Vary Widely State to State

Where you live could dramatically affect how much child support you pay or receive.



# How Financial Implications of Divorce Will Change in 2019

The new tax law goes into effect on January 1, 2019 with some significant changes for divorcing couples.



### **30 YEARS OF THE MICHENER**

Williams Family Law also helped commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Michener Art Museum by joining in the formal celebration "30 Years: An Evening in Black & White." The event took place on Saturday, September 15th, exactly thirty years to the day the Michener first opened its doors.

Photo: Partygoers Tim Quigley and Steve Price celebrate with Williams Family Law partners Bob Salzer and Jeff Williams, and Beth Beans Gilbert enjoys the festivities along with Williams Family Law partner Susan Smith.



