PIETRAGALLO
PIETRAGALLO GORDON ALFANO BOSICK & RASPANTI, LLP

CARLA SCHIFF DONNELLY
PARTNER



CSD@Pietragallo.com

301 Grant Street, 38th Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

T: (412) 263-2962
F: (412) 263-4221

CARLA SCHIFF DONNELLY is a partner at Pietragallo Gordon Alfano Bosick and Raspanti, LLP. She is a member of the Family Law Practice Group.

Ms. Donnelly has been practicing family law for more than 25 years. She provides representation in all areas of family law, with an emphasis on high-income divorce cases, matters involving business entities, prenuptial agreements, child support, and highly contested custody matters. She works closely with financial and psychological experts to help clients navigate the intricacies of their complex issues with proficiency.

Ms. Donnelly approaches family law cases with a win-win mindset. She has participated in more than 100 mediations. When an amicable resolution is not possible, however, she is an experienced and skilled litigator. Ms. Donnelly prides herself on being caring, creative, thorough, and tenacious. Ms. Donnelly handles cases in Allegheny, Butler, Lawrence, Beaver, Mercer, Westmoreland, Washington, and other surrounding Counties.

Ms. Donnelly is often tapped to take over complex custody cases, including interstate, relocation, school choice, and Hague Convention cases. She is appointed by family court judges to serve as a guardian ad litem and parent coordinator. She participates in the Children's Issues Sub-Committee of the Family Law Section of the Allegheny County Bar Association and the Children's Rights Committee of the Pennsylvania Bar Association.

Ms. Donnelly serves as a mediator, parent coordinator and arbitrator, using her expertise as the neutral in financial and custody cases to help parties work toward resolution outside of court. Ms. Donnelly is also trained in Collaborative Law.

In 2021, Ms. Donnelly received the Lynette Norton Award from the Pennsylvania Bar Association Commission on Women in the Profession. She has also been recognized as the Family Law Attorney of the Year 2018 at the Western Pennsylvania's 3rd Annual Businesswoman Awards. She was recognized as one of the 10 Best Family Law Attorneys in Pennsylvania by the American Institute of Family Law Attorneys. Ms. Donnelly was also recognized as a "Legal Elite" by *Georgia Trend Magazine*. She is rated an AV Preeminent attorney by Martindale-Hubbell, where she was also included in their 2013 edition of the Bar Register of Preeminent Women Lawyers. Ms. Donnelly has previously been named to the *Pennsylvania Super Lawyers Rising Stars* list. She was also recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America*® 2027 edition for her work in Family Law.

Ms. Donnelly previously served as the Co-Chair of the Pennsylvania Bar Association's Commission on Women in the Profession.

Ms. Donnelly previously practiced family law for more than 12 years at a leading domestic relations firm in

Atlanta, Georgia. She served on the board of the Visions Anew Institute, a nonprofit organization in the Atlanta area whose mission is to assist individuals through the divorce process with information, integrity, and dignity.

Ms. Donnelly is a proud soccer and cross country mom. She enjoys spending time with her husband and daughter and taking their dog on long walks. You can find her riding her Peloton in her spare time, although you will not see her anywhere near the top of the leaderboard! Ms. Donnelly and her daughter take pride in cooking and delivering lasagnas for Lasagna Love.

Publications

"Parent Coordination: The Underused Tool in Custody Cases," *Allegheny County Bar Association Lawyers Journal*, November 13, 2026.
"New Family Law Arbitration Act Provides PA Families With Greater Flexibility, Efficiency and Control," *Allegheny County Bar Association Lawyers Journal*, April 4, 2025.
"We're Divorce Lawyers. These Are The 6 Qualities We Look For In A Romantic Partner," *The Huffington Post,* May 29, 2024.
"This Divorce Trend Is Becoming More Popular With Celebs - For A Good Reason," *The Huffington Post*, March 21, 2024.
"Mediation and Other ADR Methods Help Divorce Litigants Circumvent Costs and Delays," *The Legal Intelligencer*, February 20, 2024.
"This Might Be Why So Many Celebrities Are Getting Divorced Right Now. Is there really such a thing as divorce season?," *The Huffington Post,* October 5, 2023.
"Five Reasons to be Thankful for Divorce," *The Huffington Post,* November 20, 2017.
"Back-To-School Tips For Divorcing Parents," *The Huffington Post,* August 9, 2017.
"7 Tips for Helping a Friend Through Divorce," *The Huffington Post*, December 14, 2015.
"Cheating Spouse? 5 Things You Need to Do Now," *The Huffington Post,* July 24, 2014.
"5 Custody Myths Separating Parents Should Know," *The Huffington Post,* June 5, 2014.
"Don't Get Stuck With the Wrong Lawyer: 6 Steps to Avoid the Most Common Divorce Mistake," *The Huffington Post*, September 30, 2013.
"Divorce: Should I Stay or Should I Go?" *The Huffington Post*, July 24, 2013.

Speaking Engagements

"Nightmare on Ross Street: The Haunting Effects of Dysfunctional Families," *Allegheny County Bar Association (ACBA) Family Law Section* (Pittsburgh, PA), October 24, 2024.
"Parental Alienation: What it is, What it isn't, and What to do about it," *2024 Pennsylvania Bar Association (PBA) Family Law Section Summer Meeting* (Cambridge, MD), July 13, 2024.
"Writing Your Way to Success," *2023 Pennsylvania Bar Association (PBA) Commission on Women in the Profession Fall Retreat* (Hershey, PA), November 4, 2023.
"The Prenuptial Agreement Intake: Laying the Foundation for an Effective Agreement," *Law in the Family, Pennsylvania Bar Association Family Law Section* (Podcast), September 14, 2023.

Bar Admissions

Pennsylvania
Georgia (inactive)