



Elder Law, Trusts & Estates, Medicaid Eligibility, Probate, Guardianships

## Ronald Fatoullah & Associates

Seated, from left: Ronald Fatoullah, Elizabeth Forspan, Esq. Standing, from left: Debby Rosenfeld, Stacey Meshnick, Lian Kuang-Maoga, Jeffrey P. Gorak, Eva Schwechter

With more than three decades in practice, Ronald Fatoullah & Associates has earned a distinguished reputation for work in the fields of elder law and trusts & estates—areas that founder Ronald Fatoullah has embraced because of their connection to the world of finance.

"I had always been interested in law and finance, so trusts and estates, the preservation and protection of one's assets immediately made sense," Fatoullah says. "There has always been an immense satisfaction in advising clients on these issues, whether I'm helping them save on estate taxes or obtaining appropriate care through the Medicaid system."

In New York, Fatoullah is a leader in these fields, with his firm serving as an authority on elder law, estate planning, Medicaid eligibility, wills, trusts, special needs planning, probate matters, estate litigation, guardianships, tax matters, and planning for veterans & same-sex couples.

"I'm proud to have such a dedicated team of attorneys who are also extremely knowledgeable, thorough, and creative," Fatoullah says. "While creativity might not seem important in this area, we've found it to be crucial when trying to resolve complex matters."

"Almost every aspect of the firm's practice, from elder law to trusts and estates, is interrelated with financial management, so we approach each and every case in a holistic way."

To that end, Fatoullah started J.R. Wealth Advisors LLC, a wealth management and financial services company, with his son after reviewing thousands of clients' portfolios over the years and seeing the mismanagement of assets: "Early on, I noticed that inappropriate financial products were being sold to my clients, sometimes out of ignorance, and sometimes because of the high commission involved; and I was determined to find a better way," he says.

Fatoullah brings that same philosophy to activities outside of his practice, where he advocates for seniors and works to improve the profession. Most recently, he helped draft and promote the Uniform Adult Guardianship Protective Proceedings Jurisdiction Act (signed into law in 2013), which makes it easier to resolve interstate guardianship issues.

In addition, Fatoullah frequently lectures on estate planning and elder law issues for professionals, corporations, and the public. He is co-chair of the Board of Directors of the Long Island Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association and chairs its legal committee. He is also a member of the Executive Committee of the Elder Law Section of the New York State Bar Association and chairs its Financial Planning and Investments Committee. He also serves on the Executive Council of AARP New York.

"Helping people is both how I give back and what keeps me motivated in my practice," Fatoullah notes. "When I reflect on my career, the most rewarding part has not been the profits earned, but the countless number of people I have been able to help."

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The importance of lawyers who focus on family law and trusts & estates cannot be overstated. These professionals can help you make sound decisions when planning for, or experiencing, life events such as birth, death, marriage, divorce, adoption or the drafting of a will, among others.

That's why Leaders In The Law is featuring these Family and Trusts & Estates lawyers—to honor and highlight the achievements and expertise of the fields' most accomplished practitioners in New York City and the tri-state area.

The lawyers and firms featured in these pages have helped thousands of people make calm, wise decisions during some very confusing and difficult experiences. They are also available during your time of need—no matter how complex the situation may be.

Feel free to view our online edition at [www.nymag.com/nymag/advertorial/familylaw](http://www.nymag.com/nymag/advertorial/familylaw). We'd love to hear from you, so please send your thoughts to me at [kevin@leadersinthelaw.com](mailto:kevin@leadersinthelaw.com).

Sincerely,



Kevin Vermeulen  
CEO, Leaders In The Law



## ELLEN B. HOLTZMAN

### A Leader in Matrimonial and Family Law

As one of New York's most successful matrimonial trial lawyers, Ellen Holtzman knows that divorce is never easy. Ellen and her extremely competent team understand the tremendous stress that divorce and complex custody cases can create for the family. To help clients see past the stress and focus on a brighter future, they are dedicated to working efficiently and effectively. Ellen begins by having an extended consultation with each client to elicit his or her goals and concerns. She then starts to develop a strategic plan, tailored to the unique circumstances of the case. Whether at the settlement table or, when necessary, in the courtroom, Ellen Holtzman has a reputation for obtaining favorable outcomes for her clients.

While the Law Office of Ellen B. Holtzman is known best for its record of results in high-conflict divorce and child custody cases, the firm handles the full range of family law matters. Ellen notes that collaborative divorce, in which each spouse has an attorney to advise and assist and agrees to negotiate in an atmosphere that remains respectful, can be an excellent option for some families. "It can be a wonderful alternative to traditional divorce, which often involves court appearances."

In addition to her thriving family law practice, Ellen is Director of Legal Education for the Washington Square Institute, an innovative interdisciplinary Family Law and Family Forensics Training Program for attorneys, judges, and mental health professionals. A past president of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York, Ellen Holtzman currently serves the people of New York as a Commissioner on the New York State Legislative Ethics Commission.

**ELLEN B. HOLTZMAN** 101 North Middletown Road, Nanuet, NY 10954 **845-627-0127** [rocklandfamilylaw.com](http://rocklandfamilylaw.com)

# The Law Firm of Wisselman, Harounian & Associates, P.C.

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**CELEBRATING ITS 40TH YEAR**, WH&A is one of the largest and most respected family law firms in LI and NYC, with a record of proven success in and out of the courtroom. With resources to handle all matters from simple to complex, we use inventive strategies to resolve cases successfully and cost effectively, through mediation, negotiated settlements or litigation.

**FOUNDER, JEROME A. WISSELMAN'S REPUTATION** AS a caring provider of exceptional representation is well known. "We hold ourselves to a high standard. Our priority is to protect the best interests of our clients and their children, and address their concerns so that they feel comfortable with our representation," he notes. Jerry is a recipient of the Leadership in the Law Award; an LI Top Ten Legal Eagle, Martindale-Hubbell's Client Distinction Award, and a Top 100 NY Super Lawyer.

**PARTNER JACQUELINE HAROUNIAN IS A TENACIOUS** attorney who believes that a negotiated settlement before trial is almost always the preferred outcome for her clients. "My goal is to steer my clients through a divorce process characterized by civility, clarity and common sense. I will go the extra mile to help them make smarter decisions for a more secure and healthy future," she says. She is consistently ranked one of the best attorneys in her field. Among her many accolades, she is rated "AV Preeminent" by Martindale-Hubbell, is a six-time NY Super Lawyer, and is twice named by Super Lawyers as one of the Top 50 Women Lawyers in New York — the only LI attorney on this list.



*Firm Attorneys standing left to right:* Joseph J. Bracconier III, Lisa M. Gardner, Jerome A. Wisselman, Jacqueline Harounian, Lloyd C. Rosen.  
*Seated left to right:* Christine M. Settineri, Derrick A. Rubin, Jordan E. Trager, Amanda Rose Green

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Stacia Grossman

*Seated, from left:* Nancy M. Green, Esq. (Partner), Barbara Burger, Esq. (Partner)  
*Standing, from left:* Gregory Stanger (Legal Assistant), Rosa Marzano (Outside Counsel), Germana F. Giordano (Outside Counsel), Jacqueline Green (Associate)

Rosa Marzano) with regard to criminal, corporate, and real estate matters.

"We take a custom-tailor approach when representing our clients because no two cases are the same," notes partner Nancy Green, who began practicing with Burger in 1995. "Divorce can be very difficult for people, and to make this time more manageable for them, we try to connect with our clients on a personal level and really walk them through the divorce process."

For this reason, the firm obtains much of its work through referrals from past clients as well as from other lawyers. Indeed, the firm is well respected in the legal community, with its members receiving recognition in Super Lawyers and serving in prominent bar organizations, such as the New York State Bar, New York Women's Bar, New York County Lawyers Association, and New York City Bar Associations. Both Burger and Green are listed in Super Lawyers.

Divorce, Child Custody, Child Support, Pre- & Postnuptial Agreements

## Burger & Green, LLP

From offices in Midtown Manhattan's historic Graybar Building, the attorneys of Burger & Green, LLP work to provide high-quality family law services to clients throughout New York and internationally. For years, the firm's attorneys have served as proud and active members of New York's legal community, and they bring considerable experience and legal knowledge to the area of matrimonial law.

"Our clients have varying backgrounds, professions, and income levels, but what they all share is a need for trusted representation on these sensitive issues," says partner Barbara Burger, who has been handling family law for more than 40 years. "The matters we deal with, such as divorce and child custody, go to the very essence of our clients' lives, so we feel a tremendous responsibility to realize their goals."

Attorneys at the firm have successfully represented their clients' interests in a wide range of family law matters, including divorce, child custody, international child custody agreements, child support, prenuptial and postnuptial agreements, and international child abduction (Hague) cases. The firm also provides services for real estate transactions, representing buyers and sellers in residential and commercial real estate closings and works closely with outside counsel (attorneys Germana F. Giordano and

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# The Law Offices of Anthony A. Capetola



The Law Offices of Anthony A. Capetola is one of the premier firms in Long Island and New York City for family law, corporate law, civil litigation, and criminal defense. Led by experienced trial attorney Anthony A. Capetola, the firm provides clients with committed service and skilled crisis management.

"Clients know that they can rely upon us to achieve the best possible results," says Capetola. "A former client recently emailed me saying, 'I wanted to express my deep thanks to you and your office for providing me with such great service. I experienced great professionalism, smart decisions, respect and great service from each and every colleague of yours.' That's the result we strive for with each and every client."

With more than 44 years of trial experience, Mr. Capetola focused his practice on matrimonial law since 1985. Along with his associates, he has been recognized as being among the finest family law practitioners in Nassau, Suffolk, and New York Counties, and is often sought out to handle complex custody and visitation matters, having tried international custody cases pursuant to the Hague Convention.

"I have tried hundreds of cases, as an assistant prosecutor and in private practice. No challenge is too great, we cannot be intimidated and we often shine when the odds are against us," says Capetola.

In praising Anthony Capetola for his superior legal prowess, a New York Supreme Court justice recently stated: "The plaintiff's attorney, Anthony Capetola, Esq. represented his client with skill and professionalism. Mr. Capetola is a practiced and competent attorney. He is one of the principals in a highly respected law firm and appears on matrimonial cases on behalf of the firm's clients on a regular basis. He has successfully tried or negotiated numerous cases before this Court. He enjoys a superior reputation in the legal community in the area of matrimonial law."

More than just a litigator, Capetola is highly sought after to share his knowledge with others, having lectured extensively at various law schools and bar associations. He is a member of the Nassau County, New York State, and American Bar Associations. He has been included in Super Lawyers since 2010, and recognized as one of the area's top matrimonial attorneys by *Long Island Pulse Magazine*.

In addition to running a successful law practice, Mr. Capetola has also achieved recognition as a boxing promoter, real estate developer, restaurateur and community activist. When not engaged in the practice of law, he can often be found at The Carlton, a high-end Long Island restaurant and catering facility that he opened in 1995.

"Being a seasoned entrepreneur, it's second nature to me to weigh all potential benefits when deciding which course of action to take in a litigation. Recognizing that our actions are likely to have a lasting impact on a client's life well beyond whether they win or lose their case, our approach is more of a holistic one," he says. "We seek to situate clients on a path that will yield long-term benefits for them once we are no longer representing them."

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Divorce Negotiation, Settlement and Litigation, Child Custody & Visitation, Prenuptial and Postnuptial Agreements

## Cohen Rabin Stine Schumann LLP



The 10-attorney family law firm of Cohen Rabin Stine Schumann, founded by esteemed family lawyers Harriet Newman Cohen, Bonnie E. Rabin, Martha Cohen Stine and Gretchen Beall Schumann, offers decades of experience in family law.

The Cohen Rabin Stine Schumann team of lawyers adheres to the highest ethical standards as it negotiates complex financial or custody settlements, or litigates high or lower profile equitable distribution/custody/support disputes. Cohen Rabin Stine Schumann is proud to be one of New York's most respected family law practices whose reputation for excellence and successful outcomes is widely known.

Seated, from left: Martha Cohen Stine, Harriet Newman Cohen, Bonnie E. Rabin, Gretchen Beall Schumann.

Standing, from left: Lindsay R. Pfeffer, Paul C. Kurland, Evridiki "Vicky" Poupouridis, Robert Pagano, Amanda Laird Creegan, Tim James, and Laura A. Tucker

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John Teufel  
Jessica L. Toelstedt  
Francesca O' Cathain  
Marc Fleisher  
Richard A. Abrams  
Kelly R. Fissell  
Alexandra E. Stein  
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Seated, from left: William M. Sullivan,  
Michelle Aulivola, Karen Svendsen, David H. Besso  
Standing, from left: Jeffrey J. Pilinko,  
Nicole L. Bohler, Brittany A. Fiorenza, Jeffrey Panasci,  
Kevin J. Werner, Elizabeth J. Grosso

Matrimonial and Family Law

## Long Tuminello, LLP

Long Tuminello, LLP has been providing superior legal services to the Long Island community for more than 40 years. The full-service law firm's matrimonial and family law practice is among the most prominent in Suffolk County, and its attorneys have earned their outstanding reputation by helping clients make calm and rational decisions to ensure the most beneficial outcomes.

The firm's matrimonial and family practice has successfully handled complex cases involving issues ranging from divorce and child custody to domestic violence. Its knowledgeable and compassionate lawyers and staff work closely with clients to understand their legal needs and assist them in achieving peace of mind during such trying times.

Comprised of lawyers who are at the forefront of their profession, Long Tuminello's members have held – and continue to hold – memberships and leadership positions with various legal organizations, including: The Suffolk County Matrimonial Bar Association; American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers; International Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers; Suffolk County Family Law Committee; and the Suffolk County Matrimonial Law Committee, among many others. Most recently, partner William

Sullivan served as president of the Suffolk County Matrimonial Bar Association (2014-2015).

While settlements are preferable to litigation, Long Tuminello always prepares to zealously represent clients in court by using a team approach that leverages the firm's strengths and in-depth experience. These collaborations often secure positive results while adding value and solidifying clients' trust.

The attorneys and staff at Long Tuminello are committed to providing comprehensive, timely, and cost-effective legal services. The firm's legal team makes every effort to minimize both the stress and financial impact of litigation for clients and their families. Oftentimes, once a matter is resolved, Long Tuminello's lawyers maintain lifelong professional bonds with the individuals and families they had the privilege to represent.

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Standing, from left: Homer C. Liwanag, Natalie A. Corriss, Allyson D. Burger, Lisa M. Key, Michelle Petzolt  
Seated, from left: Michael Chetkof, Lee Rosenberg

Saltzman Chetkof & Rosenberg LLP is determined to obtain maximum results for clients whether by way of creative settlement or litigation. We are committed to treating clients with compassion and respect, and helping them leave the family law process with their dignity intact. Saltzman Chetkof & Rosenberg LLP is listed among U.S. News & World Report's "Best Law Firms" in Family Law and in the Bar Register of Pre-Eminent Lawyers in Family Law by Martindale-Hubbell.

Our attorneys have decades of combined experience in matrimonial and family law and includes attorneys who have received a variety of professional honors such as "Super Lawyers"; "Best Lawyers in America"; Martindale-Hubbell "AV" Pre-Eminent rating; as well as holding National, State, and Local Bar Association positions. Partner, Michael Chetkof, serves as a Special Master for the Nassau County Supreme Court Matrimonial Center. He and Senior Associate, Allyson D. Burger, are members of the NY Family Law American Inn of Court. Partner, Lee Rosenberg, is a Fellow and Board Member of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers and a member of the Executive Committee of the NYS Bar Association's Family Law Section. Ms. Burger is also Chair of the ABA Young Lawyers Division Family Law Committee and honored among the "Top Women in Law" by Hofstra's Center for Children Families and the Law. Associate, Natalie A. Corriss is a member of the Appellate Practice and Matrimonial Law Committees of the Nassau County Bar Association and of the NYS Women's Bar Association.

We work personally with each client, hearing their concerns and providing honest advice on how to proceed. We pride ourselves on being available and responsive, and are supported by a friendly and knowledgeable staff.

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## WHY SCHLISSEL OSTROW KARABATOS, PLLC?

Schlissel Ostrow Karabatos, PLLC is one of the most experienced, respected, and creative boutique family law firms in the New York metropolitan area. Whether it requires dealing with complicated financial matters, child custody, child support, spousal maintenance, or any of the many other issues arising in a divorce context, our approach is simple: combine experience, creativity, skill, dedication, and compassion to develop and effectuate a strategy that's right for the particular client.



Standing (L to R): Jeanine M. Rooney, Arnold S. Klein, Lisa R. Schoenfeld, Jennifer Rosenkrantz, Hillary Reinhartz, Joseph A. DeMarco  
Seated (L to R): Elena Karabatos, Stephen W. Schlissel

### SOK'S ATTORNEYS ARE CONSISTENTLY RECOGNIZED BY PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND THEIR PEERS AS LEADERS AT THE FOREFRONT OF MATRIMONIAL LAW, INCLUDING MOST RECENTLY:

- Elena Karabatos' leadership role as president of the New York Chapter of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers (AAML).
- EVERY attorney named as 2016 Super Lawyers or Rising Stars.
- Stephen W. Schlissel being named recipient of the 2013 Distinguished Service Medallion by the Nassau County Bar Association, an achievement he shares with one chief justice and three associate justices of the U.S. Supreme Court.
- Elena Karabatos' selection by Long Island Business News as a member of the Class of 2015 Top 50 Most Influential Business Women on Long Island, and vice president of the Nassau County Bar Association.
- The inclusion of Elena Karabatos and Stephen W. Schlissel in:
  - *The Best Lawyers in America* 2016
  - Ten Leaders of Divorce Law on Long Island
- Five members of the firm are Fellows of the AAML.
- Jennifer Rosenkrantz, Joseph A. DeMarco, and Lisa R. Schoenfeld's selection to Ten Leaders of Divorce Law on Long Island - Age 45 & Under.

Samuel J. Ferrara

RoseAnn C. Branda

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## Abrams, Fensterman, Fensterman, Eisman, Formato, Ferrara & Wolf, LLP

Abrams Fensterman, a full-service law firm serving clients throughout New York with offices in Lake Success, Brooklyn, Manhattan and Rochester, boasts expertise encompassing a comprehensive scope of practice areas. The firm has established a distinguished matrimonial and family law department with a Fellow of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers and two AV Preeminent™ rated Martindale-Hubbell® partners at its helm – Samuel J. Ferrara and RoseAnn C. Branda.

Ferrara, named in New York Super Lawyers since 2008, has particular experience with contested custody and high net-worth cases and has been recognized as one of the “Top 10 Divorce Law Attorneys Age 45 & Under in Long Island” by Ten Leaders.

Branda, also named in New York Super Lawyers since 2008, is an experienced and skilled lawyer in both settlement negotiation and, where necessary, aggressive trial litigation and has been recognized as one of New York’s Women Leaders in the Law for 2016.

Both Ferrara and Branda are frequent lecturers at law schools, bar

associations and in the media on varying topics of interest to matrimonial and family law practitioners.

The nine additional talented and accomplished attorneys of the Abrams Fensterman matrimonial law team also boast a long list of accolades and achievements.

**ABRAMS  FENSTERMAN**

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For more than 20 years, AAML Fellows and partners, Allan D. Mantel and Kevin M. McDonough, have worked as a team, representing many of NYC's most prominent and financially sophisticated clients in their sensitive divorce and prenuptial agreement matters.

When necessary, they are able to draw on the expertise of their tax and commercial litigator partners, Dennis Stein and Gerard Riso, to provide comprehensive and total in-house representation, regardless of the matter's breadth or complexity.

Most often the firm's matrimonial clients obtain effective settlements without resorting to litigation, due to the reputation and superior negotiation skills of Messrs. Mantel and McDonough. Mr. Mantel is a past President of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers (New York); is a Fellow of the International Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers; and has been awarded an AV rating by Martindale-Hubbell (20 years). Messrs. Mantel and McDonough both also have been selected, by peer evaluation, to *The Best Lawyers in America*.

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Jane Bevans, Esq.

Divorce & Matrimonial Law

Jane Bevans practices Family Law in New York.

A graduate of New York University and Brooklyn Law School, Bevans is an advocate for fair and reasonable divorce practices, and her creative mind leads to agreements. Bevans believes that settlement is preferable to litigation, and is also an advocate for self-help divorce where appropriate.

Bevans has served on the Family Law and Matrimonial Law committees of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York, the New York County Lawyers Association, the New York State Bar Association, and the Women's Bar Association of New York, where she has served as a director and the chair of the Legislative Committee. In that role, Bevans lobbied the State legislature for no-fault divorce, which was finally passed in 2010.

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John P. DiMascio, Sr.  
John P. DiMascio, Jr.

Matrimonial & Family Law



A Navy veteran, John DiMascio completed his law school education while a State Court Officer. He established a law firm specializing in all aspects of Family Law in 1984 which evolved into DiMascio &

Associates, LLP, a partnership with his son, John P. DiMascio, Jr. Mr. DiMascio is a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation, a Barrister of the Inns of Court, a former Chair of the Matrimonial Law Committee of the Nassau Bar, AV<sup>®</sup> peer rated by Martindale-Hubbell<sup>®</sup>, and listed in the Bar Registrar of Preeminent Lawyers.

John P. DiMascio, Jr. is the former Chair of the Nassau County Bar's Matrimonial Committee. In 2006, Mr. DiMascio, Jr. received the Juris Seritus Award from the Court Officer's Benevolent Association of Nassau County. Mr. DiMascio, Jr. is a commentator for the New York Law Journal, Newsday and New York Post, and has published articles for the Family Law Review of the State Bar Association. Mr. DiMascio, Jr. has lectured at Continuing Legal Education seminars for the State Bar Association, National Business Institute, and Nassau County Bar Association.

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Adria S. Hillman

Divorce, Custody,  
High Net Worth Matters

Adria S. Hillman Family Law office concentrates on complex, multi-jurisdictional divorce, financial and custodial issues (including forensic evaluations, access calendars, mental health issues) for high net worth individuals.

Highly experienced in all forms of resolution from simple settlements to mediated, collaborated and litigated resolutions. Extensive experience in strategic analysis, trials, appeals, negotiations, settlement and document drafting. Works with knowledgeable and skilled business valuation experts on a wide range of industries, including hedge funds, private equity and other financial service sectors. Accessible, direct, responsive and judicious. Offices include experienced counsel and paralegals.

Ms. Hillman is AV Preeminent<sup>®</sup> Rated by Martindale-Hubbell<sup>®</sup> and has been designated a Super Lawyer. She is a Special Master, Civil Court, ADR Neutral, New York County Supreme Court.

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