

ALL-STAR FACULTY



JUDGE THOMAS TRENT LEWIS (Program Director) is Assistant Supervising Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court Family Law Department. He is a Certified Family Law Specialist and, before taking the bench, practiced family law for over 28 years. Judge Lewis serves on the Judicial Council Family & Juvenile Law Advisory Committee and on the Family Law Education Committee for the Center for Judicial Education and Research. He is also President of the California Chapter of the Association of Family & Conciliation Courts and a Fellow of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers (AAML). He was honored in 2010 by the Southern California Chapter of the AAML with its Outstanding Jurist Award. Judge Lewis is a contributing author of The Rutter Group's *California Practice Guide: Family Law*. He writes and teaches extensively in the family law field and participates regularly on basic and advanced level family law programs presented by The Rutter Group and California Family Law Report.



ROBERT E. BLEVANS, CFLS, received his Juris Doctorate in 1977 and was admitted to the California State Bar that year. He has been a Certified Family Law Specialist since 1983. Mr. Blevans is a Fellow of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers and is a past President of the Northern California Chapter of the Academy. He is also a diplomat of the American College of Family Trial Lawyers. After practicing law for 18 years in Los Angeles, Mr. Blevans moved to the heart of the wine country, Napa, California, where he is a partner in the law firm of Blevans & Blevans, LLP. The firm has extensive experience in handling complex asset cases, particularly those involving issues of valuation and disposition of partnership, professional practices, closely held corporations, real property investments and related issues of support.



JUSTICE DENNIS A. CORNELL was a trial lawyer for 20 years and a Superior Court judge for nine years, and has been an appellate justice since 2000. He has been a certified family law specialist since 1980, and a fellow of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers since 1982. Judge Cornell tried approximately 50 jury trials to verdict as a lawyer, and over 120 jury trials and several hundred court trials as a trial court judge. He was the lead appellate attorney on over 20 family law appeals resulting in 12 published decisions. He has argued family law cases in the California Supreme Court, California Courts of Appeal, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and the United States Supreme Court.



GORDON D. CRUSE, CFLS, has been engaged in the practice of law since December 1983 and has been a Certified Family Law Specialist since 1993. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers as well as the International Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers. Mr. Cruse is listed in *Best Lawyers in America* in both Family Law litigation and Family Law mediation and has been selected as one of the *Best Lawyers in San Diego* each year since 2008. He is listed in *Super Lawyers* and continues to be listed in the Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers. He was first listed in that registry 16 years ago. Mr. Cruse is Chair of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers E-Discovery/ESI Committee and a co-Chair of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers Council of Committee Chairs. Gordon's Martindale-Hubbell rating is "AV."



RONALD S. GRANBERG, CFLS, has been a Certified Family Law Specialist since 1987 and was President of the Association of Certified Family Law Specialists in 2006. He is a member of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers and the International Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers. Mr. Granberg was the 2011 recipient of the Northern California Chapter of American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers *Fellow of the Year Award*, the 2012 recipient of the Association of Certified Family Law Specialists *Hall of Fame Award*, and the 2013 co-recipient of the Southern California Chapter of American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers *Family Law Person of the Year Award*. He has made presentations to numerous bar associations and organizations throughout California.



JAMES A. HENNENHOFER, CFLS, is in his 40th year in practice. He is a Certified Family Law Specialist and a past President of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers. Mr. Hennenhofer holds the *Norby Award* from the San Diego County Judiciary and the *Family Law Person of the Year Award* for the Southern California Chapter. He is a diplomat in the American College of Family Law Trial Lawyers and a Fellow of the International Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers. Mr. Hennenhofer is a graduate of the Georgetown Law Advanced ESI Academy and is also a graduate of the ASU Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law ESI Program, and the e-Discovery and Digital Evidence Conference and Symposium through the LawCLE Center.



MARC PETER KAPLAN, CFLS, is a Certified Family Law Specialist with over 30 years' CPA and forensic experience. He has a unique practice serving exclusively as a dedicated neutral as well as Special Master/Referee, Mediator, Arbitrator or Privately Compensated Temporary Judge. His mission statement is to resolve cases, educate the bench and bar on family law financial issues and promote civility among attorneys.



ANNE C. KILEY, CFLS, has been practicing law since 1990 and is a Certified Family Law Specialist. Her Martindale-Hubbell rating is "AV," signifying the highest level of professional excellence and ethical standards. She has also been recognized as a Southern California *Super Lawyer* by the Los Angeles Times Magazine since 2005, and has been included in *Best Lawyers in America* since 2007. Ms. Kiley is a member of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers. She has served on the board of Levitt and Quinn, a nonprofit firm providing family law services to low-income families in Los Angeles, and on the Judge Pro Tem panel for the Los Angeles Superior Court Family Law Departments. She was a Visiting Clinical Professor of Law at the University of Southern California Law School in the Fall of 2003, and taught Family Law at The University of Southern California Law School in 2007 and 2008.



RICHARD R. MUIR specializes in QDROs, pension, disability, family wealth transfer vehicles, and taxation issues in divorce. He has been a court appointed expert in over 7,500 matters and has prepared over 10,000 QDROs. Mr. Muir has been a speaker at various seminars on QDROs, ERISA, tax issues related to divorce, and compensation plans, among others. He received a Bachelor's degree from Albion College, and a J.D. (cum laude) and L.L.M in Taxation from the University of San Diego School of Law.



JUDGE MAREN E. NELSON has been on the family law bench in Los Angeles since 2004. Before taking the bench, Judge Nelson had wide-ranging experience both as a trial lawyer and as a manager of complex class action litigation. She represented issuers and underwriters in securities-related litigation, lenders in complex commercial litigation, and employers in labor litigation. She regularly appeared in arbitrations before the National Association of Securities Dealers and the New York Stock Exchange and represented individuals and corporations in investigations instituted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, the California Department of Corporations, and self-regulatory organizations. In 2008, Judge Nelson received the *Distinguished Jurist Award* from the Southern California Chapter of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers.



LOUISE NIXON has practiced law since 1994. Her practice focuses on retirement benefits, specifically determining the community or marital interest in pension benefits earned through employment and in consulting and/or drafting appropriate orders for the division and disposition of those interests. Ms. Nixon is founder and president of QDRO Counsel Inc., a professional law corporation. She received her B.A. from the University of California, Davis in 1984 and her J.D. from Whittier Law School in 1993. Before she began her legal career, Ms. Nixon worked as a legislative aide in Washington, D.C. and as public relations director for the Los Angeles World Affairs Council.



DAVID J. SWAN, CPA/ABV, is a Certified Public Accountant licensed in the State of California. He is a current member of the California Society of CPAs and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) and holds the AICPA "Accredited in Business Valuation" (ABV) certification. He also holds the newly created "Certified in Financial Forensics" (CFF) credential offered by the AICPA. Mr. Swan lectures on litigation and management issues for the California CPA Educational Foundation, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants Divorce Conference, the Continuing Judicial Studies Program, and CFLR.