



THE FAMILY LAW FIRM OF DONNA J. SMIEDT NAMED TOP FAMILY LAW ATTORNEY

## ATTORNEYS DONNA SMIEDT, DESARAY MUMA, AND MICHAEL MUÑOZ

BY MEREDITH KNIGHT PHOTOS BY LANDON DAY

**When you're facing a family law challenge,** you want to partner with a highly-qualified attorney who specializes in the intricacies of family law. If you live in the Arlington/Mansfield area, you can rest assured the full-service family law firm of Donna J. Smiedt has got you covered. From the smallest, uncontested divorce or will to multimillion-dollar, complex estate division, family law is their specialty—and their passion. Few lawyers in our area possess the litigation experience and family law expertise of Attorneys Donna Smiedt, Desaray Muma, and Michael Muñoz.

"I've had the honor of representing hundreds of families going through all types of divorces—many of which include complex, separate property estates," Donna said. "These cases require the knowledge and experience of a board-certified litigation lawyer with 33 years 'experience specializing in the field.'"

Donna's tag line, "When your family and finances matter, EXPERIENCE COUNTS" is more than just a slogan. Donna and her team possess the trial experience of litigating and winning and managing high conflict custody cases to ensure the best outcome for their clients, the children, and

the whole family unit. "As my firm grew and I needed to add attorneys, I carefully hand selected two of the most dynamic and passionate family law attorneys I know," Donna said. "Desaray Muma joined me four years ago. She's highly capable lawyer in the courtroom as well as being trained in the collaborative practice of family law. Together we grew the firm so rapidly that we needed to add a third attorney to the practice. We were lucky enough to join forces with, Michael A. Munoz, a senior litigation lawyer with almost 15 years of family law experience. We've also have an amazing staff of paralegals, legal assistants,



*No matter what your situation, Donna understands what you are going through and will do everything in her power to ensure a positive outcome for you and your family.*

office manager and a receptionist, to provide the best possible front and back office service to our clients as Arlington/Mansfield's full-service family law firm."

Together they partner with clients who may be struggling with family law issues for the first time. "It's our passion to share the wealth of experience we've adduced at FLFDJS in order to strategize and guide our clients through the family law system in order to maximize a favorable outcome—not only for the client we represent, but the whole family unit," Donna said. "The 'wins' don't mean much if the family is fractured and the children destroyed by being exposed to the wars fought in family court."

Donna built her beautiful office, located conveniently in South Arlington to host private, collaborative meetings or mediations in a low-stress atmosphere.

The décor is fun and eclectic, filled with an art collection she carefully curated to provide the nicest possible environment to foster the kindest resolution of the ugliest of family law situations. "We even have a 'divorce therapy' dog on staff, as it's a proven fact that animals, especially dogs, lower the heart rate and calm the senses," Donna said. "Baxter is an integral part of our intentional commitment to the resolution of family law matters in the most therapeutic setting possible at The Family Law Firm of Donna J. Smiedt, PLLC."

Donna herself graduated high school at age 15, a year after she moved to the United States from South Africa. By age 19, she had earned her undergraduate degree from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas and went on to be one of the Southern Methodist University School of Law's youngest graduates in history, finishing her law degree at only 22.

Since then, she's worked passionately to improve the lives of her clients as they move through troubled times. She credits her passion to the fact that she fully believes in the importance of the work she does and is proud to be able to offer her clients a safe and understanding system of support as well as effective legal solutions.

It's no wonder Donna has been named Family Law Attorney of the Year in Arlington and was voted Top Family Law Attorney in Fort Worth by her peers again this year. "Our family law center exists to provide families with a variety of options, at one of the most difficult times of their lives, when emotions run high," Donna said. "We are the dispassionate voice of advice, tempered with empathy for their stressful situation, guiding them from the dark to the light in their divorce or custody experience."

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