

## PRACTICE GROUPS

- Family Law
  - Cohabitation Agreements
  - Divorce or Dissolution of Marriage
  - Division of Assets
  - Establishing Paternity/Parentage
  - Grandparents' Rights
  - Prenuptial and Postnuptial Agreements
  - Restraining Orders
  - Spousal and Child Support
  - Visitation and Custody Agreements

## EDUCATION

### University of Southern California Law School

- Juris Doctor (2003)
- **Public Interest Law Foundation Grant**, Los Angeles County Bar Association Pro Bono Award
- *Honors Grades*: Contracts, Evidence, Family Violence, Family Violence Clinic, Family Law, Constitutional Law II, Law and Psychiatry, Real Estate Transactions, and Gender Discrimination

### University of California, Los Angeles

- Bachelor of Arts, Psychology (2000)
- *Cum Laude*
- *Golden Key National Honor Society*
- *Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society*
- *Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society*
- *Dean's List*

## MEMBERSHIPS

- State Bar of California
- Los Angeles County Bar Association
- San Fernando Valley Bar Association
- Beverly Hills Bar Association
- Mexican American Bar Association (Board Member, 2006-2007)
- Step Up Women's Network
- Women to Women
- Working Mothers

## AWARDS

- **Southern California Rising Star**, Los Angeles Magazine, 2007 -2011
- **Top Women Attorneys of Southern California**, Los Angeles Magazine, 2011



## VANESSA SOTO NELLIS, ESQ.

### Shareholder

### Family Law Practice Group

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Vanessa Soto Nellis is a Los Angeles family law attorney and Shareholder at our Firm.

She prides herself on bringing "calm to crisis" in family law matters, by focusing clients on the big picture, even in high conflict divorce and child custody situations.

Representing individuals in all aspects of family law in Southern California, Ms. Nellis counsels and litigates for Firm clients in dissolution (or divorce) matters, spousal support, child support, visitation rights, cohabitation, prenuptial and postnuptial agreements, and other family law matters.

Ms. Nellis represents:

- Business Owners in a variety of industries
- Corporate Executives earning complex benefits or compensation packages
- Doctors and other Health Care Professionals
- Entertainment Industry Artists and Executives
- Financial Planners & Accountants
- Professional Athletes
- Real Estate Professionals

As a Los Angeles family law attorney, Ms. Nellis' experience encompasses all aspects of marriage dissolutions, including: division of assets, complex tax situations, modifications to child custody and visitation agreements, and mediated divorces.

Ms. Nellis educates clients as to the various aspects of family law that affect their cases, whether those aspects involve negotiating prenuptial agreements, the ramifications of a spouse's refusal to cooperate, or the potential for financial and emotional well-being when engaging in family law mediation.

She believes it is important to educate professionals from different industries on family law matters since there are so many misconceptions. For this reason, Ms. Nellis and a colleague formed a networking group aimed at bringing professionals from different industries together to educate one another.

Ms. Nellis has been named in *Los Angeles Magazine* as a **Rising Star** from 2007-2011 by her peers and through the magazine's independent research. The publication also named her one of the **Top Women Attorneys in Southern California**, in their online edition. She joined our Firm in 2003 and became a Shareholder in 2011.

Before practicing family law in California, Ms. Nellis received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from the University of California, Los Angeles in 2000, graduating Cum Laude. She earned her law degree in 2003 at the University of Southern California Law School.

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Ms. Nellis is a member of the State Bar of California, the San Fernando Valley Bar Association, the Los Angeles County Bar Association, the Mexican American Bar Association, and the Beverly Hills Bar Association. As a Los Angeles family law attorney, Ms. Nellis also belongs to Step Up Women's Network and the Woman To Woman network here in Los Angeles.

## NOTEWORTHY LEGAL ACTIVITIES

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- Co-Presenter, **Family Law: The Impact on Your Business** - MCLE accredited Seminar Series, May 2011
- Co-Author, **Family Law Mediation: Achieving Wellness in an Uncertain Economy** - *Valley Lawyer*, January 2010
- Author, **A 'No-Fault' State Beats the Blame Game** - *The Signal*, Santa Clarita Valley, March 2009
- Co-Presenter, **Immigration: Generally and its Impact on Employment and Family Law** - MCLE accredited Seminar Series, March 2008
- Presenter, **Woman to Woman: Everything You Wanted to Know About Prenuptial Agreements But Never Asked** - WomanToWoman Professional Networking, March 2008
- Co-Presenter, **All You Want to Know About Prenuptial, Postnuptial, and Cohabitation Agreements** - MCLE accredited Seminar Series, May 2007
- Co-Presenter, **Family Law Fundamentals** - MCLE accredited Seminar Series, February 2006
- Co-Author, **Before Second Marriage, Know All This** - *San Fernando Valley Business Journal*, June 2005

