PBA Collaborative Law Committee

Lunch & Learn
“Transformational Magic”
Tuesday, Jan. 24, 2023
Noon – 1 p.m. by Zoom
No cost; no CLE

Please join us and bring at least one “anti-war” story of how a transformative conversation in the collaborative process changed the path of the case.

This will be an “interactive conversation,” and all attendees will be encouraged to participate.

Discussion Leaders:
• Ann Levin
• David A. Miller
• Lisa M. Shapson
• Zanita Zacks-Gabriel
(See bios on page 2.)

No cost to attend, but please register in advance for this meeting:
https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcocmgqDorGdbS6401aZBWSvtyWu1ukdBb

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.
**Discussion Leaders:**

**Ann Levin** started collaborative practice in 2004 and has found that her training and skillset has served her well in all areas of practice, which include litigation and mediation. “I love this approach to family restructuring because it allows clients to focus on what is most important to their unique situations and they maintain control of the process and the outcome,” she says.

**David A. Miller, Esq.** started his legal career in 1986 clerking for the family court judge in Washington County. He worked for a commercial litigation firm in Pittsburgh (1987-1989), a general practice firm in Donora (1989-2001) and two large divorce firms in Pittsburgh (2001-2010). His career took a major turn in 2006 after he was trained in collaborative law. In December 2006, he and several attorneys established the Collaborative Law Association of Southwestern Pennsylvania (CLASP). In 2011, Dave opened his own practice. In addition to advanced training in collaborative practice and mediation, he has been a trainer in seven basic collaborative practice trainings and a speaker about collaborative practice at other events. Dave is a member of the PBA and the Allegheny, Butler and Washington County bar associations. As the first chairperson of the PBA Collaborative Law Committee, he helped draft and later enact the Pennsylvania Collaborative Law Act. Dave received two PBA Special Achievement Awards – one for establishing the PBA Collaborative Law Committee and one for enactment of Pennsylvania’s Collaborative Law Act. Dave is a member of the Virginia State Bar (1985) and Pennsylvania Bar (1987). He graduated from the George Mason University (B.A. Government 1982) and the University of Virginia School of Law (J.D. 1985).

**Lisa M. Shapson, Esq.** is a partner with the Philadelphia firm of BKW Family Law LLC, where she practices family law in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. She is a trained mediator, parenting coordinator and collaborative practice attorney. She is the current co-chair of the PBA Collaborative Law Committee. She was the former co-chair of the Philadelphia Bar Association’s Equitable Distribution and Mentoring Committees of the Family Law Section and currently serves as the co-chair of the Family Law Section’s ADR Committee. Lisa is a member of the Executive Committee of the Nicholas A. Cipriani Inn of Court, where she has served as co-chair of the Programming Committee since 2013. She frequently lectures on family law issues for the Philadelphia Bar Association and the Pennsylvania Bar Institute and is a regular family law columnist for The Legal Intelligencer online. She has been consistently named as a Pennsylvania Super Lawyer since 2013 and to the First Judicial District’s Pro Bono Roll of Honor, for exemplary pro bono work, five times between 2009-2015. She received her J.D from Villanova University School of Law and her B.S. in business administration from Bucknell University.

**Zanita Zacks-Gabriel, Esq.** trained in mediation more than 30 years ago and trained in collaborative more than 15 years ago. She says: “I call myself a full-time peacemaker, generally exclusively handling collaborative work, mediations and unbundled peacemaking services. It makes me a lot happier and I have very happy clients. Plus, it is less expensive for the client.”