

## PROGRAM FACULTY

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**JUDGE THOMAS TRENT LEWIS** (Program Director) is a CFLS since 1986 and a member of AAML. He was assigned to the Los Angeles Superior Court Family Law Department in 2006. He currently serves on the CJER Family Law Education Committee. He is a frequent CFLR/Rutter Group panelist and teaches at the FLRC update program, Family Law 101 and AFLC. He was the 2010 AAML Southern California Judicial Officer of the Year.



**MICHAEL ASIMOW** is a visiting professor at Stanford Law School and Professor of Law Emeritus at UCLA Law School. He teaches income tax, contracts and administrative law. Asimow is the author of the tax chapters in The Rutter Group's *California Practice Guide: Family Law* and *California Practice Guide: Real Property Transactions*. He is also the lead author of The Rutter Group's forthcoming *California Practice Guide: Administrative Law and Procedure*.



**JUDGE KENNETH A. BLACK** (Ret.) served three years as Supervising Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court Family Law Department. He has received many honors, including the State Bar Family Law Section's Judicial Officer of the Year Award and the Spencer Brandeis Family Service Award. He lectures statewide on family law topics and is a contributing editor of The Rutter Group's *California Practice Guide: Family Law*.



**THOMAS PAINE DUNLAP** is a partner in the family law firm of Trope and Trope and has been a CALS since 2001. He specializes in family law appeals and writs and has been the appellate attorney in numerous published cases that have established or clarified important family law principles.



**IRA M. FRIEDMAN** is a partner in the Beverly Hills law firm of Friedman & Friedman. He has been a CFLS since 1983. He is a Fellow of both the California and International AAML. He is a past Chair of both the Beverly Hills Bar Association and Los Angeles County Bar Family Law Sections. He has lectured for the American Bar Association, the Los Angeles County Bar Association, Beverly Hills Bar Association and the Southern California Chapter of AAML.



**JUDGE SCOTT GORDON** serves on the Los Angeles County Superior Court. He is currently assigned to the Family Law Department as the Assistant Supervising Judge. Before taking the bench, Judge Gordon served with the L.A. District Attorney's Office for 16 years and was a detective with the Santa Monica Police Department for eight years. He has served as Adjunct Professor of Law for Southwestern University School of Law for the past 19 years. He has taught family law, community property, trial advocacy, criminal procedure and forensic evidence.



**STEPHEN A. KOLODNY** is a CFLS and principal partner in the Beverly Hills firm of Kolodny & Anteau. He is a member of AAML (past President of both the Southern California and International chapters), founding Member of American College of Family Trial Lawyers and its recently retired Executive Vice-President, former Chair of LACBA Family Law Section, and Co-Chair of the Family Law Trial Institute Training Program in Houston.



**KRISTINE LEWIS** has over 25 years of experience in client relations in the family law field, including initial client interviews through all aspects of the client relationship. She has a wealth of practical office management tips for small family law firms.



**FORREST MOSTEN** is a CFLS and has been mediating in private practice since 1979. He limits his practice to mediation, collaborative and unbundled representation of high conflict and complex legal matters. He has been named 2011 Super Lawyer in Family Law and one of California's Top 25 Family Mediators by the Daily Journal. His pioneering work enables him to train mediators around the world.



**JUDGE CHARLES NOVACK** was appointed to the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of California in 2010. Before then, Judge Novack practiced bankruptcy law in Oakland for 16 years. Judge Novack also served as an associate professor at California State University, East Bay. He frequently lectures on the interplay between bankruptcy and family law.



**ELLEN PECK** is a sole practitioner from Escondido, California. Her practice is limited to legal and expert services concerning the Professional Responsibilities of lawyers. She is a co-author of The Rutter Group's *California Practice Guide: Professional Responsibility*. She has served as ethics counsel to the State Bar and the ABA. She is past Chair of the State Bar's Committee on Professional Conduct.



**JUDGE AMY M. PELLMAN** served as Legal Director at The Alliance for Children Rights before taking the bench. She practiced appellate and trial work in the Children's Court and has taught and published extensively in the area of juvenile rights. She is known as a national advocate for children's rights and received the ABA Child Advocacy award. She sat in a Family Law trial assignment from 2005 to 2010. Currently, Judge Pellman is assigned to the Dependency Court in a Trial Department.



**JUDGE ROBERT A. SCHNIDER** (Ret.), CFLS, was a partner in the law firm of Schnider & Schnider from 1971 until his election as a Los Angeles Superior Court Commissioner in 1981, where he was assigned to the Family Law Department. In 2002, Commissioner Schnider was appointed Judge of the Superior Court. From 2005-2007, he was the Supervising Judge of the Family Law Department. He retired from the bench at the end of 2008 and now works as a private neutral through ARC. The State Bar of California named him Judicial Officer of the Year in 1997.



**CHRISTINE HAYES SICKLER**, a 1976 graduate of Hastings College of the Law, became a CFLS in 1991 and is a principal of the Law Offices of Beatrice L. Snider, APC in San Diego. Ms. Sickler serves as a Judge Pro Tem for the San Diego Superior Court, Family Law Division, and is a frequent lecturer on family law issues.



**BEATRICE L. SNIDER** has been a CFLS since 1980 and is founder of the Law Offices of Beatrice L. Snider, APC in San Diego. Ms. Snider serves as a Judge Pro Tem for the San Diego Superior Court, Family Law Division, and has written several articles and lectured on family law and business valuations in divorce.



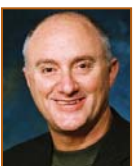
**STEVEN SPARTA**, Ph.D., is in independent practice and is frequently court appointed to serve in family law cases. He is a Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at UCSD School of Medicine, an Adjunct Professor of Law at Thomas Jefferson School of Law, and an Adjunct Professor of Psychology at SDSU. He was Chair of the Ethics Committee of the American Psychological Association and formerly was Chief Psychologist at Children's Hospital San Diego.



**MICHAEL TOBRINER** has practiced family law in the San Francisco Bay Area for over 30 years. He devotes his practice to Alternative Dispute Resolution in family law. Michael is a CFLS and a member of AAML. He has served as a mediator and as collaborative counsel in numerous family law cases and is a participating member of Collaborative Practice San Francisco and the International Association of Collaborative Professionals.



**MARK L. TUFT** is a co-author of The Rutter Group's *California Practice Guide: Professional Responsibility*. He is Vice-Chair of the California State Bar Commission on the Revision of the Rules of Professional Conduct, Adjunct Professor at USF School of Law and a member of the American Law Institute. Mr. Tuft is past Chair of the Bar Association of San Francisco and a recipient of that Bar Association's Award of Merit.



**STEPHEN JAMES WAGNER** is a CFLS and partner in the Sacramento law firm of Dick & Wagner, specializing in complex family law matters, including issues relating to fiduciary duties, characterization, tracings, business valuations and support. He is a member of the ACFLS and California and International AAML. He is co-author, along with Dawn Gray, of the LexisNexis/Matthew Bender publication, *Complex Issues in California Law*. He is a speaker at the Family Law Trial Institute in Houston, and FLRC.



**COMMISSIONER DAVID S. WEINBERG** (Ret.) is a private judge in Orange County. He was previously in private practice at Weinberg & Weinberg, a Deputy District Attorney, and a Commissioner in Orange County. He is a recipient of the J.E.T. Rutter Award, Orange County Bar Association, Family Law Section and a member of the Western State University College of Law Hall of Fame.