MARIA P. COGNETTI, ESQUIRE

3304 Market Street Camp Hill, PA 17011 (717) 909-4060

EDUCATION

Franklin & Marshall College 1975

Lancaster, Pennsylvania

Degree: B.A.

University of Pittsburgh School of Law 1978

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Degree: J.D.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Sole Proprietor 2013 - present

Cognetti Law Group, LLC f/k/a Cognetti & Associates 3304 Market Street Camp Hill, PA 17011

Sole Proprietor 2000 - 2012

Maria P. Cognetti & Associates 210 Grandview Avenue, Suite 102 Camp Hill, PA 17011

Sole Proprietor January 1994 - Dec 1999

Law Offices of Maria P. Cognetti 200 North Third Street, Twelfth Floor Harrisburg, PA 17101

Shareholder May 1990 - Dec 1993

Mette, Evans & Woodside 3301 North Front Street Harrisburg, PA 17108 Partner July 1980 - May 1990

Killian & Gephart 218 Pine Street Harrisburg, PA 17101

Associate July 1979 - July 1980

Meyers & Desfor 410 North Second Street Harrisburg, PA 17101

Associate July 1978 - July 1979

Zupancic & Somerton 2509 Frick Building Pittsburgh, PA 15219

County of Dauphin

Court-Appointed Custody

Conference Officer 1985 - 2005

MEMBERSHIPS AND ASSOCIATIONS

Admitted to Pennsylvania Bar, 1978, Pennsylvania

Admitted to the Supreme Court of the United States (2004)

Admitted to practice before United States District Court, Western District (1978)

Admitted to practice before United States District Court, Middle District (1982)

American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers 1988 to present

President 2013-2014

Past Chair, By-Laws Committee; Chair Emeritus, Custody

Standards Committee; Past Member, Board of Governors; Past

Co-Chair, CLE Committee

Vice Chair (and founding Fellow of) AAML/AFCC Joint

Conference on Advanced Custody Issues

Pennsylvania Chapter, American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers 1988 to present Past President; Past Member, Board of Managers and Board of Examiners Fellow, International Academy of 2002 to 2018 Matrimonial Lawyers Past Editor, Newsletter Diplomate, American College of Family 2012 to present Trial Lawyers Member, American Bar Association 2008 to 2019 Member, Family Law Section Member, Pennsylvania Bar Association 1978 to present Past Chair, Family Law Section

Member, Dauphin County Bar Association 1980 to present Member, Court Relations Committee; Member, Family Law Section; Past Member, Board of Directors; and Past Chairman, Family Law Section

Member, Cumberland County Bar Association 2000 to present Member, Family Law Section

Member, Franklin County Bar Association

Member, Family Law Section

Member, Board of Directors

Chairman, Bench Bar Conference

2003 to present
2019 to present
2019 to present

Master and previously Vice President, Cumberland County
American Inn of Court 2001 to present

Member, Association of Family and
Conciliation Courts
Co-founder of AFCC/AAML Joint Conference on Custody

Past Member, Pennsylvania Trial Lawyers Association
Past Member, Board of Governors; Past Chairman, Family Law Section; and former Casenotes Editor for *The Barrister*

Past Member, American Trial Lawyers Association

Past Member, Dauphin County Seminar for Separating Parents Task Force

Past Member, Pennsylvania Trial Lawyers Association LAWPAC

PRESENTATIONS

Video Interview Family Lawyer Magazine – Custody Conflicts

and Maintaining a Successful Family Law Practice During Covid-19. March, 2020

Testified Pennsylvania Senate Judiciary Committee

Public Hearing on pending Presumptive Joint Custody legislation, Harrisburg, PA, (appeared on behalf of the Joint State Government Commission Advisory Committee on Domestic

Relations Law) December, 2019

Conference Planner AFCC/AAML 2019 Joint Conference on

Advanced Issues in Custody. San Diego, CA.

September, 2019

Speaker AFCC/AAML 2019 Joint Conference -

Navigating Challenging Terrain: Psychological Testing in the Courtroom. San Diego, CA,

September, 2019

Speaker Pa. Supreme Court Disciplinary Board training

program. Harrisburg, PA, June, 2019

Speaker Franklin County Bench Bar – Custody

Evaluations. Mercersburg, PA, October, 2017

Conference Planner AFCC/AAML 2017 Joint Conference on

Advanced Issues in Custody. San Diego, CA,

September, 2017

Speaker AFCC/AAML 2017 Joint Conference -

Psychological Testing and Cross Examination.

San Diego, CA, September, 2017

Speaker Franklin County Bench Bar – Dealing with the

Stress of a Family Law Practice. Gettysburg,

PA, October, 2015

Speaker Cumberland Count Inns of Court – Maintaining

Sanity in the Practice of Law. October, 2015

Conference Planner AFCC/AAML 2015 Joint Conference on

Advanced Issues in Custody. Washington, D.C.

September, 2015

Speaker AFCC/AAML 2015 Conference - Private

Adjudication of Child Custody: Trends, Traps and Tips. Washington, D.C. October 2015

Speaker PA Conference of State Trial Judges - What

Family Court Lawyers Want Family Court

Judges to Know, Hershey, PA, July 2015

Speaker PBA/FLS Program - Practicing Wellness While

Practicing Family Law, The Greenbrier, White

Sulphur Springs, WV, July 2015

Course Planner/Speaker PBI Child and Spousal Support – Back to

Basics, Mechanicsburg, PA, December 2014

Speaker Iowa State Bar Association Annual Meeting –

Child Custody Evaluations, Des Moines, IA,

June, 2014

Conference Planner AFCC/AAML 2013 Joint Conference on

Advanced Issues in Custody. Washington, D.C.

September, 2013

Speaker NBI Divorce Law A to Z, Harrisburg, PA

August 22, 2013

Course Planner/Moderator Family Law Practice in Central Pennsylvania,

PBI, Mechanicsburg, PA, November, 2012

Speaker Family Law Seminar – Child Custody

Evaluation Standards, Iowa Bar Association,

Des Moines, IA, October, 2012

Speaker AAML Custody Evaluation Standards, Hartford

County Annual Family Law Case Management

Conference, Bel Air, MD, September, 2012

Speaker Custody Evaluation: What Are We Looking At,

National Council on Juvenile and Family Court Judges National Conference, Las Vegas, NV,

March, 2012

Speaker Finding Hidden Assets in Divorce and Support

Cases, PBI, Mechanicsburg, PA, March, 2012.

Speaker Key Issues Under the New Custody Act,

Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges,

Philadelphia, PA, February, 2012

Speaker Advanced Issues in Child Custody: How

Divorce Lawyers and Mental Health

Professionals Work With and Against Each Other, AAML/AFCC, Philadelphia, PA,

September, 2011

Speaker Mental Health-Attorney Consultation in Child

Custody Cases Ethical and Methodological Considerations, Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, Annual Conference,

Orlando, FL, June, 2011

Course Planner/Moderator Presentation of a Custody Evaluation in a

Complex Custody Trial, PBI, Philadelphia, PA,

May, 2011

Course Planner/Moderator Presentation of a Custody Evaluation in a

Complex Custody Trial, PBI, Mechanicsburg,

PA, May, 2011

Course Planner/Moderator Presentation of a Custody Evaluation in a

Complex Custody Trial, PBI, Pittsburgh, PA,

May, 2011

Course Planner/Speaker Intersection of Legal and Mental Health Issues

in Custody Cases, PBI, Philadelphia, PA,

February, 2011

Course Planner/Speaker Intersection of Legal and Mental Health Issues

in Custody Cases, PBI, Mechanicsburg, PA,

February, 2011

Speaker The New Custody Law In Pennsylvania,

Franklin County Bar Association, Lunch &

Learn, Chambersburg, PA, January, 2011

Speaker HB 1639, PBI, PBA Family Law Section

Winter Meeting, Lancaster, PA, January, 2011

Speaker HB 1639 – The Ins and Outs of the New

Custody Law, Cumberland County Bar Association, Lunch & Learn, Carlisle, PA,

January, 2011

Speaker 14th Annual Family Law Update, PBI,

Mechanicsburg, PA, November, 2010

Course Planner/Speaker Custody Evaluation Standards, AAML, Annual

Meeting, Chicago, IL, November, 2010

Speaker AFCC Ninth Symposium on Child Custody

Evaluations, Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, Boston, MA, October,

2010

Speaker Drafting Marital Settlement Agreements, PBI,

Mechanicsburg, PA, February, 2009

Speaker Pitfalls of Family Law - Malpractice/Ethics,

PBI, PBA Family Law Section Winter Meeting,

Philadelphia, PA, January, 2008

Speaker Pitfalls of Family Law - Malpractice and/or

Ethical Dilemma, PBI, Philadelphia, PA,

August, 2007

Speaker How to Ace Your Appeal, PBI, Family Law

Institute, Mechanicsburg, PA, April, 2007

Speaker How to Ace Your Appeal, PBI,

PBA Family Law Section Winter Meeting,

Atlantic City, NJ, January, 2007

Speaker Analyzing Tax Returns, DRAP Conference,

Valley Forge, PA, November, 2006

Speaker Ethics for Family Lawyers, PBI,

Mechanicsburg, PA, August, 2006

Speaker Fundamentals of Family Law, PBI,

Mechanicsburg, PA, July, 2006

Faculty Intensive Trial Advocacy Program, Widener

University, Harrisburg, PA, May, 2006

Speaker Ninth Annual Family Law Update, PBI,

Mechanicsburg, PA, November, 2005

Speaker General Practitioner's Update, PBI, Harrisburg,

PA, June, 2005

Speaker Earning Capacity in Support Cases, DRAP

Conference, Nemacolin, PA, November, 2004

Speaker Eighth Annual Family Law Update, PBI,

Mechanicsburg, PA, October, 2004

Testified Pennsylvania Senate Judiciary Committee

Public Hearing on pending Custody legislation, Harrisburg, PA, August, 2004 (appeared on behalf of the Joint State Government Commission Advisory Committee on Domestic

Relations Law)

Speaker General Practitioner's Update, PBI, Harrisburg,

PA, June, 2004

Speaker Drafting Marital Settlement Agreements,

PBI, Mechanicsburg, PA, December, 2003

Speaker Seventh Annual Family Law Update, PBI,

Mechanicsburg, PA, November, 2003

Speaker Family Law Practice in Central Pennsylvania,

PBI, Mechanicsburg, PA, October, 2003

Speaker General Practitioner's Update, PBI, Harrisburg,

PA, June, 2003

Speaker Finding Hidden Income

The Balance Sheet: What You Need to Know PBA Family Law Section Winter Meeting,

Pittsburgh, PA, January, 2003

Speaker Sixth Annual Family Law Update, PBI,

Mechanicsburg, PA, October, 2002

Speaker Earning Capacity in Support Cases and Tax

Return Analysis, DRAP Conference,

Nemacolin, PA, October, 2002

Course Planner/Speaker/Author Trial of a Custody Case, PBI, Harrisburg, PA,

August, 2002

Course Planner/Speaker/Author Trial of a Custody Case, PBI, Philadelphia, PA,

August, 2002

Speaker General Practitioner's Update, PBI, Harrisburg,

PA, June, 2002

Testified Pennsylvania Senate Judiciary Committee

Public Hearing on pending Custody legislation, Harrisburg, PA, May, 2002 (appeared on behalf of the Joint State Government Commission Advisory Committee on Domestic Relations

Law)

Speaker How to Read Tax Returns, Franklin County

Domestic Relations Office, Chambersburg, PA,

May, 2002

Speaker Dealing with Earning Capacity in Support

Actions, Cumberland County Bar Association,

Carlisle, PA, January, 2002

Speaker Litigating Custody Cases, PBI,

Philadelphia, PA, January, 2002

Speaker Business Valuation in Equitable Distribution,

PBI, Mechanicsburg, PA, December, 2001

Speaker How to Read Tax Returns, Dauphin County

Domestic Relations Office, Harrisburg, PA, November, 2001

Speaker Fifth Annual Family Law Update, PBI,

Harrisburg, PA, October, 2001

Speaker Family Law Potpourri, PBI, Philadelphia, PA

April, 2001

Testified Pennsylvania Senate Judiciary Committee

Public Hearing on pending Presumptive Joint Custody legislation, Harrisburg, PA, April, 2001 (appeared on behalf of the Joint State Government Commission Advisory Committee

on Domestic Relations Law)

Moderator/Speaker Family Law Practice in Central Pennsylvania,

PBI, Mechanicsburg, PA, February, 2001

Speaker Fourth Annual Family Law Update, PBI,

Harrisburg, PA, November, 2000

Speaker Tax Consequences in Divorce: Avoiding the

Pitfalls, PBI, Harrisburg, PA, August, 2000

Speaker Practicum on Custody and Divorce, DCBA,

Harrisburg, PA, April, 2000

Moderator/Speaker Fundamentals of Family Law, PBI,

Mechanicsburg, PA, March, 2000

Speaker Joint State Government Commission

Recommendations on Custody, PBA, Philadelphia, PA, January, 2000

Speaker Third Annual Family Law Update, PBI,

Mechanicsburg, PA, November, 1999

Speaker Joint State Commission Update: What You

Need to Know, PBA, New York City, NY, July

1999

Testified Pennsylvania Senate Judiciary Committee

Public Hearing on pending Paternity legislation, Harrisburg, PA, April, 1999 (appeared on behalf of the Pennsylvania Bar Association

Family Law Section)

Speaker Tips from the Frontline: Pragmatic Custody,

PBI, Mechanicsburg, PA, April, 1999

Speaker/Author Evidentiary Issues at Trial and on Appeal, PBA,

Pittsburgh, PA, January 1999

Speaker/Author Advanced Custody Relocation Seminar,

AAML, PA Chapter, Pittsburgh, PA, January,

1999

Speaker Evidence for Family Lawyers, NITA,

Mechanicsburg, PA, December, 1998

Speaker/Author Second Annual Family Law Update, PBI,

Harrisburg, PA, November, 1998

Speaker Reading Tax Returns for the Self-Employed

Defendant, D.R.A.P. Conference, Harrisburg,

PA, September, 1998

Course Planner/Speaker/Author Trial of a Custody Case, PBI, Harrisburg, PA,

April, 1998

Course Planner/Speaker/Author Trial of a Custody Case, PBI, Philadelphia, PA,

April, 1998

Course Planner/Speaker/Author First Annual Family Law Update, PBI,

Harrisburg PA, November, 1997

Course Planner/Speaker/Author First Annual Family Law Update, PBI,

Pittsburgh, PA, October, 1997

Speaker Collateral Issues in Family Law: Tax Fraud,

Criminal Actions, and Bankruptcy, PBI,

Harrisburg, PA, June, 1997

Speaker/Author Update on the Support Guidelines, PBI,

Harrisburg, PA, May, 1997

Course Planner/Speaker/Author Family Law Arbitration and Mediation, PBI,

Pittsburgh, PA, April, 1997

Course Planner/Speaker/Author Family Law Arbitration and Mediation, PBI,

Harrisburg, PA February, 1997

Course Planner/Speaker/Author Family Law Practice in Central Pennsylvania,

PBI, Harrisburg, PA, February, 1997

Speaker Drafting Marital Settlement Agreements, PBI,

Harrisburg, PA, November, 1996

Speaker Equitable Distribution Update, PBI, Harrisburg,

PA, October, 1996

Speaker Fundamentals of Family Law, PBI, Harrisburg,

PA, March, 1996

Speaker Advanced Family Symposium, PBI, Harrisburg,

PA, December, 1995

Course Planner/Speaker/Author Hot Issues in Custody, PBI, Pittsburgh, PA,

November, 1995

Speaker/Author AAML Advanced Mediation Training, AAML,

Chicago, Illinois, November, 1995

Course Planner/Speaker/Author Hot Issues in Custody, PBI, Harrisburg, PA,

October, 1995

Course Planner/Speaker/Author Hot Issues in Custody, PBI, Philadelphia, PA,

September, 1995

Speaker Tax Traps in Divorce Law, PBI, Harrisburg, PA

July, 1995

Speaker/Author AAML Mediation Training, AAML, Chicago,

Illinois, January, 1995

Speaker Women and Divorce: The Legal Aspects,

Woman Care, Harrisburg, January, 1995

Speaker AAML Mediation Training Panel, AAML,

Chicago, Illinois, November, 1994

Speaker AAML Mediation Training, AAML, Chicago,

Illinois, June, 1994

Speaker/Author Fundamentals of Family Law, PBI, Scranton,

PA, March, 1994

Speaker/Author Fundamentals of Family Law, PBI, Harrisburg,

PA, February, 1994

Speaker Equitable Distribution Update, PBI, Harrisburg,

PA March, 1993

Speaker Family Law Update, DCBA/PBI, Harrisburg,

PA, November, 1993

Audio Lecture College Support in Light of *Blue v. Blue* and

Act 62, PBI, October, 1993

Speaker Support Law Update, PBI, Harrisburg, PA July,

1993

Speaker Equitable Distribution Update, PBI, Harrisburg,

PA March, 1993

Speaker Child and Spousal Support, PBI, Harrisburg,

PA March, 1992

Speaker Tax Aspects of Divorce, PBI, Harrisburg, PA

November, 1991

Speaker Equitable Distribution Update, PBI, Harrisburg,

PA, October, 1991

Speaker/Author How to Challenge Psychological Evidence in

Custody Cases, PBI, Harrisburg, PA July, 1991

Speaker/Author Tax Aspects of Separation and Divorce, PBI,

Harrisburg, PA November, 1989

Speaker/Author Prenuptial Agreements, PBI, Harrisburg, PA,

September, 1988

Speaker/Author Prenuptial Agreements, PBI, Pittsburgh, PA,

September, 1988

Speaker/Author Prenuptial Agreements, PBI, Allentown, PA,

September, 1988

Speaker Family Law Statewide Institute - The Evolution

of a Contested Domestic Relations Case, PBI,

Harrisburg, PA, November, 1984

Speaker Shaping the Future, D.R.A.P. Conference,

Harrisburg, PA, September, 1988

Speaker Family Law Developments 1987, Dickinson

School of Law, Carlisle, PA, April, 1987

Speaker What the Divorce Code Can Do to Your Estate

and Business Clients, PBI, Harrisburg, PA,

October, 1986

Speaker The Nuts and Bolts of the Family Law Case,

PaTLA, Champion, PA, July, 1986

Speaker Annual Update of the Law, PaTLA, White

Haven, PA, July, 1985

Speaker Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment in

Law Offices, PBI, Hershey, PA, May, 1983

Speaker Family Law Statewide Institute, PBI, Sunbury,

PA, November, 1981

HONORS

AAML Fellow of the Year 2011

Pennsylvania Bar Association Special Achievement Award 2011

Association of Family and Conciliation Courts Presidential

Service Award 2011

Appointed to the Hearing Committee of the Disciplinary

Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania 2010 - present Senior Hearing Member 2018 - present

Appointed to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court Domestic Relations Rules Committee Chair	2009 - 2016
	2015 - 2016
Appointed to Joint State Government Commission Advisory Committee on Domestic Relations Law Chairman, Subcommittee on Custody	1996 - present
Appointed to Commission for Justice Initiatives in PA Changing the Culture of Custody Committee	2005 - 2015
Appointed to the AFCC Task Force which developed Guideli Plan Evaluations in Family Law Cases	ines for Parenting 2019 - 2022
Rated "AV" by Martindale Hubbell	
Recognized as a Preeminent Lawyer by Martindale Hubbell	
Listed in Best Lawyers in America	
Central Penn Business Journal's Women of Influence	2014
Chosen as Central Pennsylvania's Best Lawyers, Family Lawyer of the Year 2010 and 2015	
Listed in Pennsylvania Super Lawyers	
Named as a Select Lawyer TM by Susquehanna Style Magazin	e 2016
Voted Reader's Choice Best Lawyer by Harrisburg Magazine	2012 - 2016

COMMUNITY SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

Member, Kiwanis Club of Harrisburg

Member, Board of Directors; Member, Pennsylvania
National Horse Show Steering Committee; and Chair,
Merchandise Committee

Founding Member, Christopher Columbus 1492 Society 1992 - present