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Austin

WOMEN IN LAW /// FAMILY LAW

# Practicing Family Law

*with Heart*



(l to r) Shelly Martinka, Office Manager; Lisa Mitchener, Paralegal; Mallory Ellis, Attorney; Daryl Weinman, Attorney; Paula Spears, Paralegal; Heather Cantu, Paralegal

After 22 years in practice, Austin Attorney and Certified Family Law Specialist Daryl Weinman has learned a few things about helping people navigate divorce. In fact, from the moment potential clients first walk through the door, Weinman and her associates are working to calm their fears.

“They’re worried about how custody will work or whether or not they’ll have financial security. The main objective immediately becomes finding a creative settlement everybody can live with,” says Weinman, Founder of Weinman & Associates. “That, to me, is the best success.”

Take, for example, how the firm tackles custody negotiations. The ultimate goal, says Weinman, is making kids’ lives easier during an otherwise difficult time. By weighing important factors like the children’s ages, the location of each parent’s home, and even the financial resources available to both parties, Weinman & Associates works diligently to find custom solutions that fit each individual family.

## Client Centered

The team takes special care to establish a safe, open, and collaborative relationship with clients and respects them enough to be honest about managing expectations. “Most clients have no idea what they’re getting into, even if they’ve been divorced before,” says Associate Mallory

Ellis. “Daryl makes it easy to understand what’s going on. We have the privilege of caring for emotional needs in a way most lawyers won’t.”

Weinman & Associates attorneys regularly make referrals to other experts, like therapists and financial planners, who can help with other facets of divorce. Plus,

every Valentine’s Day, the firm hosts a mixer for newly single clients. Weinman has even written a book, “Your Post-Divorce Journey Back to Yourself,” based on her personal experience with divorce.

“We don’t just give legal advice,” says Weinman. “We try to walk clients through this life transition. By the end of the case, they have a new path and a fearless future.”

**WEINMAN & ASSOCIATES**

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## CREDIBILITY IN THE COMMUNITY



Daryl Weinman started the firm in May 1994 and has become one of the best-known family law attorneys in Austin. “I knew a lot of the judges back when they were attorneys,” says Weinman. “I know their families and my opposing counsel, too. Judges know they can trust what I say.”

Weinman tells the students she teaches at Rice University’s Paralegal Graduate Certificate Program that the most challenging part of family law is the constantly evolving nature of each case. “From the time clients walk in until we’re done,” says Weinman, “we’re dealing with changing relationships.”

The good news? “When you’re finished with a case,” she says, “clients’ lives and their families’ lives continue on. They leave here feeling better about what the future holds.”