

## **LINDA F. SPIEGEL, ESQ.**

79 Main Street, Suite #1  
Hackensack, New Jersey 07601  
201-489-1001  
[LFS@SpiegelLawFirm.com](mailto:LFS@SpiegelLawFirm.com)  
[www.SpiegelLawFirm.com](http://www.SpiegelLawFirm.com)  
[www.familymediationnj.com](http://www.familymediationnj.com)  
[www.DivorceMediationNJ.wordpress.com](http://www.DivorceMediationNJ.wordpress.com)

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### **Education**

#### **Boston University School of Law**

Boston, Massachusetts  
J.D. 1978

#### **Barnard College, Columbia University**

New York, New York  
A.B. 1974

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### **Bar**

State of New Jersey, 1978

### **Admissions**

State of New York, 1980

U.S. Dist. Ct. for the District of New Jersey, 1978

U.S. Dist. Ct. for the Southern Dist. of NY, 1980

U.S. Dist. Ct. for the Eastern Dist. of NY, 1980

Supreme Court of the United States, 1982

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### **Professional Employment**

1988-present                   **Sole Practitioner**, Bergen County, NJ  
1984-1985                   General litigation practice  
1978-1983                   

- Chancery, General Equity
- Commercial
- Construction
- Corporate
- Family
- Guardianship

  
                                 Estate Planning  
                                 Probate  
                                 Residential and Commercial Real Estate

1988- present                   **Arbitrator and Mediator**  
                                 R. 1:40 Mediator and Arbitrator  
                                 Commercial Arbitration and Mediation  
                                 Construction Arbitration and Mediation  
                                 Consumer Arbitration and Mediation  
                                 Divorce Mediation

Family Mediation including Elder Issues  
FINRA Arbitrator

1985-1988	<b>LaFianza &amp; Strull</b> , Hackensack, NJ <i>Partner 9/87 - 9/88</i> <i>Associate 9/85 - 8/87</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Family law</li><li>• Corporate</li><li>• Commercial</li><li>• Construction</li><li>• Real estate</li><li>• Personal injury</li></ul>
1983-1984	<b>Friedman, Carney &amp; Wilson</b> , Newark, NJ <i>Litigation Associate</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Family law</li><li>• Construction</li><li>• Computer contracts</li><li>• Insurance fraud</li><li>• Prerogative writ</li><li>• Tort litigation</li></ul>
1978	<b>Prentice-Hall, Inc.</b> , Englewood Cliffs, NJ <i>Editor - Federal Taxes</i>
Summer 1977	<b>Kings County District Attorney's Office</b> Brooklyn, NY <i>Litigation Intern</i>
Summer 1976	<b>NAACP Legal Defense Fund</b> , New York, NY <i>Litigation Intern</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Death penalty</li><li>• Employment discrimination</li></ul>

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### Reported Cases

**A.L. v. P.A.**, 213 N.J. Super. 391 (App. Div. 1986)  
*cert. den.* 107 N.J. 110 (1987)

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## **Honors and Awards**

November 2018      **Named as a Bergen County New Jersey Top Lawyer by Bergen Magazine** in the field of Alternate Dispute Resolution

June 2017      **Named one of Bergen County New Jersey's Top Lawyers by (201)Magazine** in the field of Alternate Dispute Resolution.

2007      **Joint Legislative Resolution Honoring Linda F. Spiegel**  
The Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey  
April 2007

2007      **Project S.A.R.A.H.**  
Honored as a volunteer attorney by Project S.A.R.A.H. - Stop Abusive Relationships at Home

2001      **Women Lawyers in Bergen**  
Attorney Pathfinder and Role Model Honoree

1992      **Who's Who in Rising Young Americans**

1990      **Who's Who in American Law**

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## **Publications**

Present      Blog, [www.SpiegelLawFirm.com](http://www.SpiegelLawFirm.com)

2023      **"Elder Care Planning Mediation"**, ABA e-magazine, Voice of Experience, January 2023 issue, republished in the ABA GP Solo e-Report, May 2023.

2013      **"Child Support for the Special Needs Child: What a Divorce Mediator Needs to Know."** NJAPM Mediation News, Vol. 18, Issue 1, Fall 2013

1987      **"Private Adoption: Caveat Actor,"** Bergen Barrister

1986      **"Ten Tips for Avoiding Successful Ethics Grievances,"** General Practice Section Newsletter, New Jersey State Bar Association

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## Professional Positions Held

### Arbitration:

**Arbitrator**, FINRA, 2016 to present  
**Arbitrator**, American Arbitration Association, 1994 to present  
Construction Lien Claims, pursuant to The  
New Jersey Construction Lien Law  
**Arbitrator**, American Arbitration Association, 7/1988 to present  
Commercial/Construction/Consumer panels  
**Arbitrator**, Contract Arbitration, Superior Court  
of New Jersey, Law Division, Bergen County  
**Arbitrator**, appointed by Judge Marguerite Simon,  
Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division,  
Bergen County  
**Private arbitration practice**

### Mediation:

**Mediator**, American Arbitration Association (AAA)  
**Mediator**, AAA - Superstorm Sandy Mediator  
**N.J. Superior Court**, Foreclosure Mediator  
**N.J. Superior Court**, Civil Mediator  
**N.J. Superior Court**, Family Law Economic Mediator  
**N.J. Superior Court**, Custody and Parenting Time Mediator  
**Panelist, Contract Mediation**, Superior Court of  
New Jersey, Law Division, Bergen County  
**Panelist, Matrimonial Early Settlement Panel**,  
Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division,  
Family Part, Bergen County  
**Private mediation practice**

### Commissioner:

**Condemnation Commissioner**, and Chair of the Commission  
appointed by the Assignment Judge, Superior Court of New Jersey,  
Bergen County

### Public Defender:

**Assigned Counsel**, New Milford Municipal Court  
**Contract Attorney**, Office of the Public Defender,  
Passaic County  
**Pool Attorney**, Office of the Public Defender,  
Bergen County

**Pool Attorney**, Office of the Public Defender,

Essex County

**Pool Attorney**, Office of the Public Defender,

Appellate Section

**Court Appointments:**

**Special Medical Guardian.** Appointed by Judge Escala as a special medical guardian for a woman at Bergen Regional Medical Center

**Special Fiscal Agent.** Appointed by Judge Marguerite Simon as Administrator and then as special fiscal agent in an especially contentious Will litigation, Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division, Bergen County

**Administrator.** Appointed by Judge Marguerite Simon as Administrator in a Will contest between siblings, Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division, Bergen County

**Temporary Guardian.** Appointed by Judge Marguerite Simon for incapacitated person in nursing home, during pendency of litigation between family members, Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division, Bergen County

**Counsel for Alleged Incapacitated Persons.** Appointed by Judges O'Halloran, Lesemann, Moses, Simon, Escala, Koblitz, Doyne and Contillo.

**Counsel for Minor** in application by the minor's father for withdrawal of funds from the Surrogate's intermingled account. Appointed by the Honorable Sybil R. Moses, P.J.S.C., Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division, Probate Part, Bergen County

**Guardian of the Person and Property of an Incapacitated Elderly Woman.** Appointed by Order of the Honorable Marguerite Simon, P.J.S.C. Superior Court of New Jersey, Chancery Division, Probate Part, Bergen County, as guardian of the person and property of an elderly woman with no family. Appointed by Order of the Honorable Bonnie J. Mizdol, A.J.S.C. Superior Court of New Jersey, Bergen County, as guardian of the person and property of an elderly woman with no family

## **Bar Association Memberships and Professional Affiliations**

American Bar Association  
Bergen County Bar Association  
New Jersey State Bar Association  
Women Lawyers in Bergen County

American Arbitration Association  
Bergen County Mediators Peer Consultation Group  
Marie Garibaldi American Inn of Court for ADR  
New Jersey Association of Professional Mediators

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## **Bar Association and Professional Affiliations Activities**

### **Bergen County Bar Association:**

#### Elected positions:

1989-1994 Trustee

#### Appointed positions:

2021-2022	Co-Chair, Continuing Legal Education Committee
2014-present	Co-Chair Alternate Dispute Resolution Committee
2011-present	Co-Chair Construction Law Committee
1995-2003	Editorial Board, Bergen Barrister
1993-present	Representative of the Family Law Committee on the Bergen County Youth Services Commission
1995-1999	Co-Chair, Continuing Legal Education Committee
1991-1994	Editor-in-Chief, Bergen Barrister
1990-1994	Editorial Board, Bergen Barrister
1990-1991	Hearsay and Sections Editor, Bergen Barrister

#### Committee assignments:

Alternate Dispute Resolution, Civil Practice, Construction Law, Continuing Legal Education, Elder Law, Estate Planning & Administration, Family Law, Juvenile Practice, Probate Litigation & Guardianship and Real Property.

#### Publications and seminars:

Author, Family Law Section, D-Day Digest

BCBA: Panelist, Top Tips for Advocates Appearing in Mediations and or Arbitrations, 4-16-2024

BCBA: Speaker and Panelist, Some Frequent Issues in Residential Home Constructions, June 4, 2020

Moderator: A Primer on Construction Drawings and Related Contract and Litigation Issues, BCBA seminar, 11/16/2016.

Moderator: Overview of the Court's Mediation & Arbitration Programs & the Statutory Foundations for Private Mediation and Arbitration, BCBA seminar, 5/21/2015.

Moderator: Arbitration of Construction Disputes, BCBA seminar, 12/11/ 2014.

Moderator: Top Ten (Maybe More) Contract Provisions in Construction Contracts - From an Owners and Contractor's Perspective, BCBA seminar, 9/11/2014

Moderator: Substance Abuse: Get Juveniles into Treatment, BCBA seminar, 7/24/2013.

Moderator: Human Trafficking and the 2014 Super Bowl, BCBA seminar, presented on 12/12/13.

Speaker & Panelist: Hot Topics in Construction Law, BCBA seminar. Presented arbitration of lien claims component, 5/ 9/13.

Panelist: NJ Consumer Fraud Act and Home Improvement Contractors - Navigating the Minefield, BCBA seminar 4/18/12.

Speaker: What Can Mediation Do for Your and Your Client. Presented the ethics component of the seminar, BCBA 4/6/11.

Special Editor, Children of Bergen County, Bergen Barrister, Fall, 2003.

Moderator: Qualified Medical Child Support Orders - QMCSO. Presented 6/27/96, BCBA.

Speaker: Residential Construction Liens. Presented 3/26/96, BCBA.

Speaker: Hot Tips to Avoid Successful Ethics Grievances. Presented, 12/5/95 BCBA.

**Marie Garibaldi American Inn of Court for ADR:**  
Executive Committee 2023 to present

**Women Lawyers in Bergen County:**

Elected positions:

1987-1989	President
1984-1987	Vice President
1983-1984	Secretary
1996-2003	Director at Large
1994-1995	Director at Large
1991-1992	Director at Large
1989-1990	Director at Large

Appointed positions:

Editor-in-Chief - WLIB Newsletter  
Chair - SWAG, Seasoned Womens Attorney Group  
Member - Website Committee

Publications and seminars:

2003 - Present.

Editor-in-Chief, Women Lawyers In Bergen Newsletter

**WLIB SWAG &CLE:**

Moderator: SWAG meeting on “Of Counsel”, What is it and what opportunities are available? January 10, 2022.

Moderator and Panelist WLIB Ageism and Diversity - What is Ageism and What you Can Do About It. April 21, 2021.

Facilitator and presenter: SWAG meeting on Ageism and Diversity, January 11, 2021.

Moderator and Panelist: Guardianships of the Elderly: How to Advise Your Clients on the Appropriate Legal and Ethical Issues, as well as Levels of Care, June 7, 2017.

Moderator: Ethics and Your Aging Client, November 18, 2016.

Moderator and Presenter: Divorce and the Special Needs Child, October 30, 2013.

**New Jersey Association of Professional Mediators:**

2023 - Present, Member of the Board of NJAPM and Newsletter Editor

2024 - Speaker, NJAPM, The Ethics of Ghostwriting

2024 - 5 Questions About Civil Mediation

**Bergen Peer Group**

Sole Speaker: Mediating a Construction Dispute, Learning a New Language, March 2, 2022

**New Jersey State Bar Association:**

**Committees:**

Alternate Dispute Resolution, Family Law

**American Bar Association:**

**ABA Publications:**

Elder Care Planning Mediation, ABA e-magazine, Voice of Experience, January, 2023, republished in the ABA GP Solo e-Report, May 2023.

**Committees:**

Alternate Dispute Resolution, Family Law, GP & Solo Practice and Senior Lawyers Division, Co-Vice Chair of the ABA SLD ADR Committee 2024.

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**Supreme Court Appointments**

2012-2016	Reappointed for another 4 year term to the District IIB Fee Arbitration Committee
2013-2016	Fee Arbitration Panel Chair
2010-2011	Chair of District IIB Fee Arbitration Committee
2009-2010	Vice Chair of Committee
2008-2011	Panel Chair
2007-2011	Supreme Court of New Jersey, District Fee Arbitration Committee, District II-B
1992-1996	Supreme Court of New Jersey, District Ethics Committee for Bergen County, District II-B South

**Community Involvement**

2007- Present

Steering Committee Member, Bergen County, Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative

2004 Chair, Bergen County Youth Services Commission  
2003 Co-Chair, Bergen County Youth Services Commission  
2001-2002 Co-Vice Chair, Bergen County Youth Services Commission  
1993-Present Representative of the Family Law Committee of the Bergen County Bar Association to the Bergen County Youth Services Commission  
Free Legal Consultation to victims of domestic violence provided through Jewish Family Service Project Sarah Jean Robertson Women Lawyer's Scholarship Foundation, Inc. - Founder and Past Chair

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### Community Seminars

2021 **NJ State Bar Foundation** presented via Zoom on Estate Planning, Wills and Living Wills to attendees at the Hohokus Library.

2019 **NJ State Bar Foundation** presented on Elder Law and Wills at the River Vale Library.

2019 **New Jersey State Bar Foundation** Family Law 101, sole presenter on March 26, 2019 at The Displaced Homemakers Center@ The Bergen One-Stop.

1997 **Bergen County Bar Foundation** seminar on Family Law. Seminar topics included custody, alimony, child support, equitable distribution, grounds for divorce and court procedures from filing of the Complaint to the granting of the Final Judgment of Divorce and post-judgment problems.

1996 **The Career and Life Counseling Program** at the Bergen Workforce Center. Seminar entitled "Divorce The Law and You" which focused on the issues of divorce law, the role of the attorney and court procedures.

**Democratic Leaders Monthly Breakfast.** Program entitled, " Ethics, Politics and the Legal Profession". Spoke on attorney ethics specifically citing cases of attorneys who are or were public officials and the ethical violations which resulted in sanctions and/or disbarment.

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## Teaching Positions

1978-1981      **Institute for Legal Assistant and Paralegal Training**  
*Instructor, Legal Research and Writing*  
Developed the curriculum in legal research and writing for the Institute

1979      **Institute for Legal Assistant and Paralegal Training**  
*Instructor, Civil Procedure*

**Fairleigh Dickinson University**, Rutherford Campus  
*Guest Lecturer, Women and the Law*

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