



Debbie Segal

Retired Pro Bono Partner

1100 Peachtree Street NE
Suite 2800, Atlanta, GA USA 30309
t 404.815.6167 | f 404.541.3383
dsegal@ktslaw.com

Debbie Segal provides pro bono legal services to low-income clients, community groups and nonprofit organizations. Debbie joined the firm from the Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation, where, as executive director, she was responsible for the administration of the city's largest Pro Bono Program.

Debbie is recognized as a 2008 Georgia "Super Lawyer" in Legal Aid/Legal Services by *Super Lawyers* magazine. She was named one of Atlanta's "Legal Elite" in 2005 and 2012 by *Georgia Trend* magazine. Debbie is a recipient of the Happy Perkins Award by the Pro Bono Partnership of Atlanta at its 2014 Volunteer Appreciation and Awards Reception, where she was recognized for her extraordinary contributions to Pro Bono Partnership of Atlanta. Debbie was a 2012 recipient of the H. Sol Clark Pro Bono Award. The Clark Award honors an individual lawyer who has excelled in one or more of a variety of activities that extend legal services to the poor, and Debbie was recognized for her professionalism and commitment to, and support for, the delivery of pro bono civil legal services to the poor and underserved in Georgia. In 2012, she received the Partner of the Year Award from the Georgia Asylum and Immigration Network (GAIN) in recognition of her work on behalf of asylum seekers and immigrant victims of human trafficking, domestic violence and sexual assault. Debbie received the William Reece Smith Special Services to Pro Bono Award by the National Association of Pro Bono Professionals in 2005 and the Outstanding Leadership in the Public Interest Award from Emory University School of Law in 2003. She was recognized in *Atlanta* magazine feature "Women Making a Mark" in 2002. Debbie also received the Families First Award, Atlanta Bar Association Family Law Section in 2000 as well as the State Bar of Georgia Family Law Section Professionalism Award in 1997. Debbie also received the Community Service Award from Emory University School of Law School Legal Association of Women Studies in 1988. She is AV® rated by Martindale-Hubbell.*

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Experience

Lawyers at Kilpatrick Stockton, in collaboration with the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, wrote and published the definitive training manual to educate lawyers on how to represent left-behind parents whose children have been wrongfully removed or retained in the United States by the children's other parent or relative. The manual contains discussion of the legal issues, reports decisions by federal circuit, contains model pleadings and outlines the progression of a case from inception to conclusion, both legally and logistically. The

manual is published on the website of the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children and contains hyperlinks to all cited cases and statutes. A supplement is in progress.

Represents victims of domestic violence who are seeking protective orders for themselves and their children against batterers and stalkers.

Represent children and/or their best interests in a variety of settings and courts. Lawyers routinely serve as guardians ad litem, representing the best interests of children in a variety of contexts. In Atlanta and in Winston-Salem, lawyers have represented the best interests of hundreds of children whose parents are disputing their custody. The guardian ad litem is charged with getting to know the child, studying the circumstances of the child's life, interviewing witnesses, reviewing documents and ultimately, making an oral or written recommendation to the appointing court as to what is in the child's best interests.

Education

Emory University School of Law J.D. (1979)

Cornell University B.S. (1976)

Admissions

Georgia (1979)

Court Admissions

Georgia Court of Appeals

Supreme Court of Georgia

U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia

Professional & Community Activities

American Bar Association, Chair of the Commission on Domestic Violence and Past Chair of Standing Committee on Pro Bono and Public Service

Atlanta Legal Aid Society, Advisory Board Member

Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation, Advisory Board Member

Emory University School of Law, Advisory Board Member

Health Law Partnership, Advisory Board Member

North Carolina Bar Association, Public Service Advisory Committee Member and NC LEAP Board Member

Pro Bono Partnership Atlanta, Advisory Board Member

Vox Teen Communications, Member and Immediate Past President of Board of Directors

Insights

[News Releases](#)

ADL Honors Debbie Segal with Lifetime Achievement Award

March 14, 2019

News

Kilpatrick Townsend's Media Report August 19-26, 2016

August 26, 2016