

Mary Cushing Doherty, Partner

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HIGH SWARTZ
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

EST. 1914



Areas of Practice

- Family Law
- Child Custody
- Child Support
- Domestic Violence
- Equitable Distribution
- Spousal Support/Alimony

Bar Admissions

- Pennsylvania, 1978

Education

- Villanova University School of Law, J.D., 1978
- University of Delaware, B.A., 1975

Civic & Community Work

- Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Philadelphia, Eastern PA Advocacy Committee, 2015-present; Chair, 2016-present
- St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church, Horsham, Pre-Cana counselor, 1982-2011; Lector 2000 - present
- Upper Dublin High School, adjunct instructor, Child Development II, since 1995
- Light the Night Executive Committee, Eastern Philadelphia PA region, 2014-present

With a distinguished record of professional and community service, Mary Cushing Doherty has more than 40 years of legal experience in the area of family law. She concentrates her practice on all aspects of marital dissolution and family law issues. Ms. Doherty is an experienced and certified Arbitrator and Mediator. She strives for the amicable resolution of divorce when possible; however, she is a zealous litigator when it serves the best interests of her clients.

Ms. Doherty has been a Course Planner and Lecturer for the Pennsylvania Bar Association Family Law Section and Montgomery Bar Association, and a Lecturer for the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers (AAML). She has been a spokesperson for legislative reform for the Pennsylvania Bar Association and as a member of the Pennsylvania Joint State Legislative Committee on Family Law, she is the co-chair of the AAML Legislation Committee.

Professional Affiliations

- American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers – Pennsylvania Chapter, Fellow, since 1986; President of Pennsylvania Chapter, 2006 - 2007; Legislation Committee Co-Chair 2015-2020; Chapter Leader Coordinator, 2007-2014
- Pennsylvania Bar Association, Family Law Section Chair, 1999 to 2000; Officer, 1995 to 2001; Council Member, 1990 to 1994; Ex Officio Council Member, 2002-present; Section Member since 1979; Member of the Commission on Women in the Profession, since 1997; PBA Commission on Women in the Profession, Executive Council; Review and Certifying Board Chair Women of Accomplishment, Women's Yellow Pages, 24th & 25th Editions
- Joint State Government Commission of Pennsylvania, Member of Advisory Committee on Domestic Relations Law, 1995 - present; Chair of Alimony Sub-Committee; Member of Advisory Committee on Assisted Reproduction Technologies
- Doris Jonas Freed Inn of Court, Member of the Bench since 1995
- Pennsylvania Bar Institute, Board of Directors, 1992 to 1998; Award of Professional Excellence in Programming, Association for Continuing Legal Education, for Drafting Marital Settlement Agreements Course, 1997
- Supreme Court Committee on Racial and Gender Bias in the Justice System, Chair of the Gender Bias in Family Court Subcommittee Work Group and coeditor of Gender and Racial Bias in Family Court portion of the report, 2000 to 2003
- Attorney General Family Violence Task Force, Member of Law Enforcement and the Judiciary Group, Designee for Pennsylvania Bar, 1998-1999
- Philadelphia Bar Association, Family Law Section Chair, 1985; Member Since 1979; Family Law Delegate to Board of Governors, 1986; Member of Judicial Selection Commission, 1985
- American Bar Association, Family Law Section, Member, 1979 - 1987 & 1992 - present

Publications & Presentations

- Ms. Doherty has been a Course Planner and Lecturer for the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers since 1990 and for the Pennsylvania Bar Institute since 1985. She also has been a Lecturer for the Pennsylvania Bar Association Family Law Section and Montgomery Bar Association. She has lectured at Villanova University School of Law and Widener University and is a teacher at the NC Bar.
- Women of Accomplishment, Women's Yellow Pages, 24th & 25th Editions
- Co-Author, LexisNexis Practice Guide: Pennsylvania, 2017-present

Honors & Awards

- The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Woman of the Year, 2018-2019
- Selected to Super Lawyers, 2004-present
- Best Lawyers in America® (Philadelphia-Family Law), 1995-present
- Best Lawyers in America® Lawyer of the Year, - Family Law, 2021
- Top Attorneys, Suburban Life Magazine, 2011, 2017, 2018
- Upper Dublin School Board Recognition for 20 years as an adjunct instructor in 2018

