



# *Leading with Honor*

*Jeralyn Lawrence is on the Forefront of Family Law*

ARTICLE BY ELLE BRIDGE



Jeralyn Lawrence, founder of Lawrence Law in Watchung, was recently honored by the New Jersey State Bar Association's Family Law Section with the Saul Tischler Award. "This award recognizes outstanding lifetime achievement in family law and contributions to advancing the profession, community service and dedication to family law issues through education and advocacy," says Thomas Nobile, a spokesperson for the association. Here, Lawrence discusses the meaning to her behind the award and the state of family law today.

**WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS AWARD?**

**Lawrence:** The award embodies a profound meaning within the New Jersey legal community. I am humbled to be recognized.

The award's significance lies in its recognition of the serious impact of the many individuals and families facing complex legal challenges. Through our continuous efforts, we have been fortunate to gain the respect of our peers and the appreciation of the individuals we have had the privilege to represent. Exceptional legal expertise, coupled with an empathetic approach, has allowed me to navigate intricate legal matters with professionalism and sensitivity, providing invaluable support to our clients. By receiving this award, it not only celebrates my accomplishments but also highlights the importance of promoting

justice and advocating for the well-being of children and families in the legal system. I am deeply grateful for this recognition.

**WHAT ARE THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES IN FAMILY LAW TODAY?**

**Lawrence:** Family law faces several significant challenges in the present-day legal landscape, and these challenges are particularly pronounced in states like New Jersey, where a catastrophic shortage of judges further compounds the issues. One of the most pressing challenges is the complexity and emotional nature of family law cases, which require delicate handling due to the personal and sensitive nature of the issues involved. Family law attorneys must navigate these complexities while ensuring the best interests of their clients and the well-being of the families involved.

Addressing the judge shortage by increasing resources, funding and judicial appointments is crucial to alleviate the burden on the family law system and ensure efficient and equitable outcomes for families in need of legal resolution. This is also why resolving matters outside of court is critical and an area we emphasize at our firm.

**WHAT OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS ARE YOU MOST PROUD OF?**

**Lawrence:** I was honored at the Barry Croland Family Law Inn of Court's Final Meeting for my devotion to the legal profession and the members of the matrimonial bar.

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I am pleased to share I have been selected as a finalist for Attorney of the Year by the *New Jersey Law Journal*. The winner is announced at the New Jersey Legal Awards, which is organized by the journal. The awards involve a rigorous selection process, and I am elated to be considered among such remarkable candidates in this category.

I also recently completed my New Jersey State Bar Association presidency, which was the greatest honor

of my professional life. One of my biggest accomplishments was the Putting Lawyers First Task Force. Under my leadership, the NJSBA put lawyer wellness and quality of life in the legal profession at the forefront of its mission.

Lawrence Law has moved to 744 Mountain Blvd., Watchung. Learn more at [LawLawFirm.com](http://LawLawFirm.com).