

# THACKER · SLEIGHT



**CONNIE R. THACKER**  
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## **Education**

Connie is a graduate, *cum laude*, from Western Michigan University Cooley Law School where she served on the *Law Review* as an assistant editor, the Chair of the Scholastic Review Board, and was the recipient of the American Jurisprudence Award in Trial Advocacy, Moot Court, Business Planning and Corporations. She received her undergraduate degree in Jurisprudence from University of Baltimore.

## **Practice Areas**

Family Law, Custody, Parenting Time, Spousal Support  
Mediation/Collaboration/Arbitration  
Prenuptial Agreements  
Business Valuations  
Parental Alienation/Domestic Abuse  
Business/ Corporate  
Trust/Estate Planning  
Real Estate

## **Bar Admissions**

Michigan  
Colorado  
District of Columbia  
Maryland

## **Honors**

2017 *Best Lawyer GR*, MI Family Law Lawyer of the Year  
2016 *Best Lawyer GR*, MI Collaborative Lawyer of the Year  
2015 *Best Lawyer GR*, MI Family Law Lawyer of the Year  
2011 *Best Lawyer GR*, MI Family Law Lawyer of the Year  
*Fellow*, American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers  
2011-2017 Super Lawyers® in Family Law  
2014 American Registry of Business Excellence  
Fellow, Michigan State Bar Foundation  
Listed in the "Best Lawyers in America®" for Collaborative  
Western Michigan's *Best Lawyers*  
2017 100 Top Female Lawyer in Michigan

# THACKER · SLEIGHT

AVVO, Top Lawyer Rating, Superb 10  
Recognized by Leading Lawyers for Family Law

## Professional Affiliations

### Current

American Bar Association, Family Law Section  
State Bar of Michigan  
Grand Rapids Bar Association  
American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers  
Association of Family and Conciliation Courts  
Michigan Council for Family and Divorce Mediation  
Collaborative Practice Institute of Michigan

### Previous

State Bar of Michigan, Chair of Domestic Violence Committee  
State Bar of Michigan, Chair of Alternative Family Committee  
State Bar of Michigan, Family Law Council  
State Bar of Michigan, Executive Committee  
Grand Rapids Inns of Court, Past Officer  
AAML Michigan Chapter, Board of Examiners  
Grand Rapids Bar Association, Chair of Family Law Section  
Judicial Candidate Review Committee  
ICLE Family Law Advisory Board  
U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, Clerkship

## Publications

The Closing Letter, *Family Law Journal*  
Stock Options, *Family Law Journal*  
Children Who Require More, *Family Law Journal*  
An Electronic Scent of Another, *Family Law Journal*  
Facebook and the Rules of Evidence, *Family Law Journal*  
Contractual Vows, *Family Law Journal*  
Understanding the Child Advocate, *Family Law Journal*  
Domestic Abuse and the GAL, *Divorce GAL Handbook*  
Estate Planning in a Divorce, *Family Law Journal*  
*GAL Handbook for Divorce Practice*, Co-Editor  
Business Owners Beware, *Detroit*

## Certifications

Certified Mediator  
Certified Collaborative Divorce Lawyer  
Certified Arbitrator, AAML  
Divorce Financial Analyst (CDFA)  
ICLE Family Law Certificate Graduate  
ASA Business Valuation Market Approach/Training  
ASA Business Valuation Income Approach/Training  
Licensed Michigan Real Estate Broker

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## **Presentations**

The Divorce Process, ICLE  
Drafting the Judgment of Divorce and Follow Up, ICLE  
Domestic Violence/Domestic Abuse, ICLE  
Fundamentals of Divorce Practice and Procedure, ICLE  
Non-Marital Unions, ICLE  
Attorney Fees from A-Z, ICLE  
Cohabitation Agreements, ICLE  
Understanding Psychological Reports, ICLE  
The impact of Divorce on Special Needs Children, ICLE  
DOMA and Marriage Equality, ICLE  
Alternative Dispute Resolution, ICLE  
Overcoming Child-Parent Contact Problem/Alienation, ICLE  
Custody Evaluations, State Bar of Michigan, ICLE  
Joint Legal Custody, AAML  
Parent Coordination, AAML  
Understanding Arbitration, AAML  
Judgment of Divorce, AAML  
Enforcement of Prenuptial Agreements, AAML  
Child Support Deviation from the Formula, AAML  
Prenuptial Agreements, Edward Jones  
The Divorce Process, Western Michigan Estate Planning

## **Court Opinions**

*Drummer v. Zheutlin* No. 27827 Mich App 2007  
*Lemmen v. Lemmen* 481 Mich App 2008  
*Lemmen v. Lemmen* WL 45959 Mich App 2010  
*Martin v. Martin* Ottawa County 2017

## **Ownerships**

Co-Owner of Esquire Realty Group, LLC  
Co-Owner of NxtGen Collect, LLC

## **Community**

Saugatuck Center for the Arts, Board of Directors  
Fennville Chamber of Commerce  
Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce