

October 18, 2011

Sent via e-mail to childcounsel@mcccourt.com

Circuit Court for Montgomery County, MD
Attn: Family Division Master for Court-Approved Child Counsel Roster
50 Maryland Avenue, Courthouse
Rockville, MD 20850

Re: My Request and Application for Inclusion on the Court-Approved Child Counsel Roster

Dear Family Division Master and BIA Review Committee:

Please consider this letter a formal request and application for my inclusion on the Court-Approved Child Counsel Roster of the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland. On September 28, 2010, I attended and successfully completed my most recent BIA training--the six and one-half (6.5) hours of child counsel training that was sponsored by the Administrative Office of the Courts--which fulfills the requirement of Guideline 4 of Md. Rule 9-205.1. To this letter I have appended the following documents for your review and consideration:

- 1) My résumé;
- 2) Proof of my successful completion of at least six-hours of training as required by Guideline 4 of Md. Rule 9-205.1;
- 3) Proof of my professional liability insurance which is maintained for me at my firm's sole expense as required by Guideline 4 of Md. Rule 9-205.1; and
- 4) My affirmation that I am willing to take at least one (1) *pro bono*, appointment as child counsel per year as required by Guideline 4 of Md. Rule 9-205.1.

If supplemental information or documentation is needed in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I would like to take this opportunity to let you know that it has been my pleasure to be appointed as Child Counsel in a number of Montgomery County family law cases during my career and to have been a helping hand to each of the children involved in this capacity. I remain interested and available to handle more of these matters now and in the future. Whether a child's situation would best be served by the appointment of a Best Interest Attorney (BIA), a Child Advocate Attorney (CAA) or a Child's Privilege Attorney (CPA), I stand ready to be of assistance again in any such role.

Based upon my twenty-two (22) years of legal experience in Montgomery County family law matters, the majority of which has often included complex child custody, access, visitation and support issues, I am particularly well-suited to the role of Child Counsel. Although I understand that family law matters in general, and particularly those with child-related issues, are usually multifaceted and often emotionally-charged situations for both the parties and their children, I am willing and prepared to meet such challenges and to persevere through the inevitable difficulties that may arise to attain the best outcome possible under the law for my client.

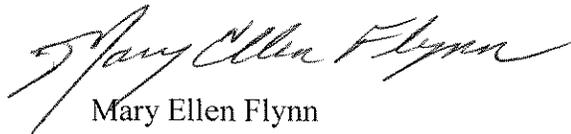
*Elliott Andalman • Mary Ellen Flynn Principals
Kathryn McDonough • Peter Casciano*

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As you may already be aware, the law firm of Andalman & Flynn, P.C., of which I am a founding co-owner, managing partner, and active litigator, is a well-established firm with a long-standing reputation of successfully representing clients of all economic, social and cultural backgrounds in Montgomery County. We have two (2) principal attorneys with combined legal experience of over sixty (60) years, and within the past four (4) years, we have expanded by hiring two (2) associate attorneys who are now well-grounded in their respective practice areas; therefore, I am available for additional appointments by the Court.

I am always honored to be appointed by the Court to act as Child Counsel. I ask that you approve my request and application to be listed on the Circuit Court's Roster of Court-Approved Child Counsel and that you keep me in mind for future BIA, CCA and CPA appointments as the need arises. Should you wish to receive any additional information or if you have any questions in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Ellen Flynn". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Mary Ellen Flynn

MEF/jb
Enclosures as listed above

Mary Ellen Flynn, Esq.
Andalman & Flynn, P.C.
8601 Georgia Avenue, Suite 206
Silver Spring, MD 20910
301-563-6685
www.andalmanflynn.com
meflynn@a-f.net

I. Employment: *Since Admittance to Maryland Bar, December 1988:*

My clients are individuals from a wide range of national and socio-economic backgrounds, and businesses ranging from small retail shops to professional and large-sized corporations. My areas of practice have always included family law, criminal and traffic defense, personal injury and property damage, contract disputes, landlord-tenant, domestic violence and peace orders, and other (Circuit and District Court) civil litigation.

- Andalman & Flynn, P.C., Silver Spring, Maryland
Managing Partner (1998-present)
- Silber, Andalman, Perlman & Flynn, P.A., Takoma Park, Maryland
Managing Partner (1991-1998)
- Law Offices of Susan Silber, Takoma Park, Maryland
(predecessor to Silber, Andalman, Perlman & Flynn, P.A.)
Associate (1988-1991)
- City of Takoma Park, Maryland
Assistant Corporation Counsel (1988-1998)

II. Court Admissions

- Court of Appeals of Maryland (1988)
- United States District Court for the District of Maryland (1989)
- District of Columbia Court of Appeals (1989)
- United States District Court for the District of Columbia (1989)
- Supreme Court of the United States of America (1997)

III. Education

Washington College of Law at American University, Juris Doctor, *cum laude*, 1988

A. *Employment during Law School--Prior to Admittance to Maryland Bar:*

- Law Clerk, Law Offices of Susan Silber (June 1987 until hired as an Associate in Dec 1988)
- Law Clerk, Offices of Stephen Trattner, Washington, D.C. (Sept 1986-June 1987)
- Dean's Fellow and Law Clerk, Professor Candace Kovacic, Washington College of Law (Fall 1987-Spring 1988).
- Clerk (Cite checking and proof-reading), *Trial Magazine*, Association of Trial Lawyers of America (ATLA) [now American Association for Justice (AAJ)] (Summer 1986)
- Student Lounge Coffee Bar, Washington College of Law, Employee (Aug 1985-May 1986);
Manager of 6 Student Employees (Aug 1986-May, 1987; Aug 1987-May 1988)

B. *Activities during Law School:*

- Note and Comment Editor, *Journal of International Law and Policy* (Fall 1986-May 1988)
- Law Clerk, US Magistrate Arthur Burnett, US District Court for District of Columbia (Summer 1986)
- Rule 16 Student Prosecutor, District Court and Circuit Court, Office of State' Attorney for Anne Arundel County, MD (Sept 1987-May 1988)

Binghamton University, State University of New York, Bachelors of Science, with honors, 1985
Majors: Political Science and Law & Philosophy

A. *Employment during College and Prior to Law School:*

- Employee, Dining Hall Services, Binghamton University, State University of New York (Aug 1981–May 1985)
- Employee, Marriott Catering Services (Aug 1983–May 1985)
- Residential Assistant, College in the Woods Dormitory (Aug 1983 – May 1985)
- Employee at various temporary agencies in New York, NY as Secretary, Bookkeeper, Receptionist (Summers 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985 & Winter Vacations 1981, 1982, 1983)

B. *Activities during College:*

- Member & Volunteer, New York Public Interest Research Group (“NYPRIG”) (Aug 1981–May 1985)
- Intern, Mayor Juanita Crabb, Binghamton, New York (Jan 1985–May 1985)
- Member, Budget Committee, Student Bar Association (Aug 1983–May 1985)
- Member, Recreational Synchronized Swimming Team (Aug 1982–May 1985)
- College in the Woods “Air Jam,” Stage Mgr. (Aug 1983–May 1984); Producer (Aug 1984–May 1985)

IV. Select Awards and Recognitions

- A/V® rating from Martindale Hubbell®, the highest possible peer review rating of attorneys for ethics and legal ability.
- 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008 Maryland Super Lawyer, Baltimore and Maryland Super Lawyers Magazines
- 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2009 Washington D.C. Super Lawyer, Law and Politics and Washington D.C. Super Lawyer Magazines.
- A 2011 Recipient of the National Association of Professional Women's "Executive of the Year" Award present at the Annual Meeting in New York City, recognizing a handful of women nationally each year for their success in business and their outstanding abilities to interact, exchange ideas, educate, and employer professional women
- The 2010 Recipient of the Professionalism Award, Bar Association of Montgomery County, Maryland
- The 2009 Recipient of the David Hjortsberg Award, presented by the Maryland State Bar Association's Solo & Small Firm Practice Section and the Howard County Bar Association, in appreciation of a solo/small firm practitioner who raises the consciousness of all attorneys and non-attorneys through her/his professionalism, civility, intelligence, respect and commitment to community

- A 2008 Honoree of *The Daily Record's* Maryland's Leadership in Law Award, celebrating the success of 24 Marylanders who contribute significantly and consistently to the legal profession and to the communities in which they work
- A 2008 Recipient of *The Daily Record's* Maryland's Top 100 Women, an award that recognizes the outstanding achievement of women as demonstrated through professional accomplishment, community leadership and mentoring
- The 2007 Annual Dinner Meeting Honoree, Montgomery County Chapter of the Women's Bar Association of Maryland
- The 2007 Recipient of the President's Outstanding Service Award, Bar Association of Montgomery County, Maryland

V. Highlights of Professional Association Positions and Appointments

A. Current Positions and Appointments:

- Dean's Advisory Council, Washington College of Law at American University (2008-present)
- Character Committee of the 7th Appellate Circuit, Court of Appeals of Maryland (2009-present)
- Master of the Bench, Montgomery County, Maryland Inns of Court (2009-present)
- Trustee, Bar Associations Insurance Trust (2008-present)
- Board of Governors, Maryland State Bar Association (2003-2005; 2009-2011)
- Board of Directors, Montgomery County, Maryland Bar Foundation, Inc. (2002-present)
- Board of Directors, Montgomery County Women's Bar Foundation {Founding Director} (2002-present)
- Planning Committee, Maryland State Bar Association (2011-present)
- Litigation Section Counsel, Maryland State Bar Association (2010-present)
- Nominating Committee for the Sodaro Award, Maryland State Bar Association (2008-present)
- Local & Specialty Bar Committee, Maryland State Bar Association (2008-present)
- Chair, Courthouse Construction Committee, Bar Association of Montgomery County, Maryland (2007-present)
- District Court Bar-Bench Committee, Bar Association of Montgomery County, Maryland (1999-2002; 2009-present)
- Strategic Planning Committee, Bar Association of Montgomery County, Maryland (2008-present)
- Legal Advisory Committee, National Society of Multiple Sclerosis (2000-present)

B. Past Positions and Appointments:

- President:
 - Bar Association of Montgomery County, Maryland (2007-2008)
 - Montgomery County, Maryland Bar Foundation Inc. (2008-2009)
 - Montgomery County Chapter of Women's Bar Association of Maryland (1995-1996)
- Treasurer:
 - Bar Association of Montgomery County, Maryland (2002-2003)
 - Montgomery County, Maryland Bar Foundation Inc. (2003-2004)
 - Solo and Small Firm Practice Section of the Maryland State Bar Association (2000-2001)
 - State Women's Bar Association of Maryland (1993-1994)
 - The Committee to Retain the Sitting Judges of Montgomery County, Maryland, P.A.C. (2004-2007)
- Board of Governors:
 - Maryland State Bar Association (2003-2005; 2009-present)

- Executive Committee:
 - Bar Association of Montgomery County, Maryland (1997-1999; 2006-2009)
 - Maryland State Bar Association (2004-2005)
 - Montgomery County Chapter of Women's Bar Association of Maryland (1989-1997)
 - State Women's Bar Association of Maryland (1993-1995)
- Board of Directors:
 - Montgomery County, Maryland Bar Foundation, Inc. (2002-present)
 - Montgomery County Women's Bar Foundation {Founding Director} (2002-present)
 - State Women's Bar Association of Maryland (1992-1995)
 - Collaborative Dispute Resolution Professionals, Inc., a non-profit organization {Founding Member} (2003-2007)
 - National Lawyers Guild, District of Columbia Chapter {Executive Board of Directors} (1988-1992)
- Chair:
 - Solo and Small Firm Section, Bar Association of Montgomery County, Maryland (1999-2000)
 - Solo and Small Firm Section, Maryland State Bar Association (2002-2003)
 - Solo Day at the MSBA Annual Convention {Program Chair} (2001)
 - Triennial Auction, Montgomery County Chapter of Women's Bar Association of Maryland {Chair; Finance Chair} (2001, 2004, 2007)
- Co-Chair:
 - Golf & Tennis Outing; Silent Auction Committee, Bar Association of Montgomery County, Maryland (1998; 1999)
 - The Committee to Retain the Sitting Judges of Montgomery County, Maryland P.A.C. {Finance Co-Chair} (2003-2004)

VI. Professional Association Memberships

- Advisory Board, Advocacy Board for Children of Divorce (1998-2000)
- American Bar Foundation (Fellow 2010-present)
- Bar Association of Montgomery County, Maryland (1988-present)
- Bar Associations Insurance Trust (Trustee 2008-present)
- Character Committee of the 7th Appellate Circuit, Court of Appeals of Maryland (2009-present)
- Collaborative Dispute Resolution Professionals, Inc., a non-profit organization (2003-present)
- Collaborative Divorce Association, Inc. (2008-present)
- The Committee to Retain the Sitting Judges of Montgomery County, Maryland, P.A.C. (2004-2007)
- Dean's Advisory Council, Washington College of Law at American University (2008-present)
- International Academy of Collaborative Professionals (2008-present)
- Legal Advisory Committee, National Society of Multiple Sclerosis (2000-present)
- Maryland Association for Justice, Inc. [f/k/a Maryland Trial Lawyers Association] (1995-present)
- Maryland State Bar Association (1988-present)
- Maryland State Bar Foundation (Fellow 2000-present)
- Montgomery County Chapter of Women's Bar Association of Maryland (1988-present)
- Montgomery County, Maryland Bar Foundation, Inc. (Bar Leader 1998-present)
- Montgomery County, Maryland Inns of Court (Master of the Bench 2009-present)
- Montgomery County Women's Bar Foundation (Board of Directors/Founding Director 2002-present)
- National Lawyers Guild, District of Columbia Chapter (1988-1998)
- State Women's Bar Association of Maryland (1988-present)

VII. Other Contributions to Profession

- A. *Seminars & Other Speaking Engagements (1991-present)*: I have given numerous seminars, CLEs, and other presentations for MICPEL, Montgomery County Bar Foundation, the WBA, the MSBA, the ABA, Montgomery County, Maryland Inns of Court, and other organizations. The majority of these presentations have centered around law firm management practices, collections and civil litigation tips for legal professionals. Also I have been a guest speaker in the community on a variety of topics, including Maryland Law, careers in the law, mentoring and time-management, for Montgomery County, Maryland Public Schools, Girl Scout Council for the Nation's Capital, rotary clubs, homeowners associations and other civic organizations.
- B. *Publications (1991-present)*: I have written over 23 articles and columns, the majority of which focus on law firm management, billing and collecting fees, and collections in general. These articles and columns have been published by national law journals, MICPEL, MAJ, MSBA and other bar associations.
- C. *Pro Bono & Other Volunteer Work (1988-present)*: I have volunteered through many *pro bono* programs and taken on *pro bono* cases through the Montgomery County Circuit Court Family Division *Pro Se* Project [now Family Law Self-Help Project]; the National Multiple Sclerosis Society; Archdiocese of Washington; Pro-Bono Program of the Montgomery County Bar Foundation; the TESS Center; and other community programs, as well as serving for 6+ years as a mediator for the District Court of Maryland for Montgomery County.

VIII. Civic & Business Organizations

- Girl Scout Association
 - Leader, Senior Troop 375 (2010-present)
 - Leader, Cadette Troop 375 (2008-2010)
 - Leader, Junior Troop 375 (2005-2007)
 - Member (1969-1980; 2003-present)
- Member, Greater Silver Spring Chamber of Commerce (1998-present)
- Treasurer, Stonegate Homeowner's Association (2001-present)
- Mentor, International Center for Language Studies, Inc., International Exchange and Business Training Division (2010-present)
- Member, National Association of Professional Women (2011-present)
- Member, Montgomery Women (2011-present)
- Silver Spring Rotary Club
 - Chair, Distinguished Speaker Series (2003-2008)
 - Member (1998-2008)
- Member, Clara Barton Awards Luncheon Committee, American Red Cross (1997-1998)