

Pilar Camus Nichols

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Work Experience:

Nichols Gelmann LLC, Rockville, Maryland

Senior and Founding Partner (June 2023 – Present)

Oversee attorneys, employ research, writing and oral communications skills while representing clients in the settlement and litigation of cases in the areas of criminal and family law. Regularly appointed by the Court to represent minor children in custody disputes. Mediate custody and property issues for parties engaged in divorce and custody disputes.

Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law, Washington, DC

Adjunct Professor (January 2010 – Present)

Lecturer to law students in the course “Starting and Managing a Law Practice.” Developed the curriculum and successfully obtained permanent course status after an extensive evaluation process.

Offit Kurman, P.A., Bethesda, Maryland

Principal Attorney (February 2019 – May 2023)

Represented clients in the settlement and litigation of cases in the areas of criminal and family law. Was regularly appointed by the Court to represent minor children in custody disputes.

The Law Offices of Tomes, Salter, Nichols & Gomez, LLC, Rockville, Maryland

Partner (July 2010 – January 2019)

Co-managed the daily operations of a small law firm consisting of six attorneys and five support staff members. Represented clients in family and criminal law matters. Represented minor children in custody disputes and alleged disabled persons in guardianship proceedings when appointed by the Court.

The Law Offices of Pilar Nichols, LLC, Rockville, Maryland

Principal (September 2008 – June 2010)

Defended clients charged with criminal offenses of all severities; represented clients involved in personal injury suits, general civil litigation, administrative proceedings and domestic matters.

The Law Offices of Futrovsky, Nitkin & Scherr, Chtd, Rockville, Maryland

Associate Attorney (March 2007 – August 2008)

Prepared and litigated cases defending clients charged with criminal and traffic offenses before administrative and judicial bodies. Appeared regularly in state and federal courts.

Prince George’s County State’s Attorney’s Office, Upper Marlboro, Maryland

Assistant State’s Attorney (March 2006 – March 2007)

Represented and advocated on behalf of the citizens of State of Maryland in Prince George’s County in criminal proceedings. Prosecuted felony, misdemeanor, and juvenile criminal cases on behalf of the State of Maryland in both the District and Circuit Courts of Prince George’s County before Judges and juries.

National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors, Alexandria, VA

Legislative and Regulatory Counsel (October 2005 – March 2006)

Analyzed and advised organization on public policy, advocacy, legislative and regulatory activities on Capitol Hill and the Federal Communications Commission.

Bar Admissions:

Maryland (admitted 2005)

District of Columbia (admitted 2007)

United States District Court for the District of Maryland (admitted 2007)

United States Supreme Court (admitted 2009)

United States District Court for the District of Columbia (admitted 2011)

Languages:

Fluent in Spanish

Professional Affiliations:

Maryland State Bar Association (MSBA), member (2005 - present)
Board of Governors (2022 – 2024)
Family Law Section Council (2019 – 2024)
Diversity and Inclusion Committee (2016 – 2023), Co-Chair (2020 – 2023)
Leadership Academy Committee (2018 - 2023)
Membership Committee (2018 - 2020)
Local and Specialty Bar Liaison Committee (2011 - 2016)
Leadership Academy Fellow (Class of 2011)

Bar Association of Montgomery County (BAMC), member (2007 - present)
President (October 2023 – present)
President-Elect (May 2023 – October 2023)
Executive Committee (2013 - 2015), (2021 – present)
Bar Association and Bar Foundation Rebranding Committee (2021)
Executive Director Search Committee (2020)
Family Law Section Co-Chair (2017 - 2019)
Circuit Court Bench Bar Committee (2017 – 2019)
Judicial Selections Committee (2014 – 2017), (2018 – 2021)
Specialty Bar Associations Committee (2013 – 2016)

Maryland Hispanic Bar Association, member (2007 - present)
President (2011-2012)
Board Member (2008 – 2019)
Judicial Nominations Committee (2010 – 2023), Co-chair (2010 – 2015)

Women’s Bar Association for Montgomery County, member (2010 - present)
“Preparing for Success” Fall Forum organization committee (2007 - 2017)

Montgomery County Inns of Court
Barrister (2011 – 2020)
Master of the Bench (2021 – present)

Maryland Bar Foundation, Fellow (2013 – present)
Executive Committee (2022 – present)
Legal Excellence Awards Sub-Committee (2013 – 2017)
Awards Committee (2021 – present)

Bar Foundation of Montgomery County, Fellow (2013 – present)
President-Elect (October 2023 – present)
Executive Committee (2023 - present)

Training and Certifications:

Advanced Child Counsel Training (2020)
Basic Mediation Training (40 hours) (2015)
Parenting and Child Access Divorce Mediation Training (20 hours) (2015)
Property and Financial Issues Divorce Mediation Training (20 hours) (2015)
Representing Alleged Disabled Persons in Guardianship Proceedings (2013)
Representing Children in Contested Custody Cases in Maryland (2012)

Honors:

Washingtonian Magazine Top Lawyers, Family Law (2021, 2022)
Best Lawyers in America, Family Law (2018 – 2024)
Super Lawyer by the Maryland Super Lawyers Magazine (2016 - 2025)
Super Lawyer by the Washington DC Super Lawyers Magazine (2020 - 2024)
Top 100: Maryland Super Lawyers by the Maryland Super Lawyers Magazine (2019-2025)
Top 50: Women Maryland Super Lawyers by the Maryland Super Lawyers Magazine (2019 – 2025)
Top 100: Washington D.C. Super Lawyers Magazine (2020 - 2023)
Top 50: Women Washington D.C. Super Lawyers Magazine (2020 - 2023)
Daily Record’s “Leadership in law” award (2020)
Daily Record’s “Leading Women” award (2019)
Bethesda Magazine's Top Attorneys, Family Law (2019, 2023)
Rising Star by the Maryland Super Lawyers Magazine (2012 - 2015)
Outstanding Leadership award by the MSBA Young Lawyers Section and University of MD, Francis King School of Law (2012)

Legal Community Involvement:

Faculty: Family Law University, Administrative Office of the Courts, Judicial College of Maryland (2015 - present)
Faculty: Making the Leap from Big Firm Practice to Solo or Small Firm Practice, MSBA Solo & Small Firm Symposium (2024)
Panelist: The Role of the Best Interest Attorney, BAMC (2024)
Presenter: Creating a Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Plan is not the End Game, MSBA Legal Summit (2022)
Presenter: Tips Navigating the Complexities of (Potentially) Illegally Obtained Audio Recordings, MSBA Legal Summit (2022)
Panelist: Paramount Considerations in Representing Children and Working with BIAs, BAMC (2021)
Presenter: Law Student Coffee Talk - Diversity & Inclusion Segment, MSBA (2020)
Presenter: 2020 Hot Tips in Family Law – A Multi-Disciplinary Approach to Your Practice, MSBA (2020)
Presenter: Making Yourself Relevant: How to Thrive as an Attorney in Turbulent Times, MSBA (2020)
Presenter: Peace Orders/Protective Orders and The Crossover With/Impact on Pending Family Cases, BAMC (2019)
Presenter: I Offer This into Evidence: A Fourth Wall Breaking Practicum on Admitting Evidence at Trial, BAMC Law Day (2019)
Volunteer: Committee to Retain the Sitting Judges of Montgomery County, Maryland (2014, 2018, 2020, 2022, 2024)
Presenter: Look Both Ways: Practicing at the Intersection of Family Law and Criminal Law, BAMC (2017)
Presenter: Guardianships in Maryland, Law School for the Public (2016)
Panelist: Law Enforcement & the Latino Community, MD Legislative Latino Caucus Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration (2016)
Presenter: Legal Process of Divorce and Separation, Montgomery County Commission for Women (2013, 2016)
Presenter: Solo Practice – From Start to Finish, BAMC Law Day (2015)
Panelist: Advice from the Bench: Real Talk and Tips for Aspiring Maryland Judges, BAMC (2013)
Cast and organizational committee member: Bar Review, Bar Foundation of Montgomery County (2007-2013)
Presenter and volunteer: Preparing for Success Fall Forum, Women’s Bar Association (2007 – 2013)
Presenter: Nuts and Bolts of Practicing Law, BAMC Law Day (2011)
Panelist: Attorney Voices: Overcoming Challenges Minorities Face in the Legal Workplace, MSBA (2012)
Volunteer Attorney: Casa De Maryland Pro bono Fair (2011, 2012)
Volunteer Attorney: Casa De Maryland Pro Bono Legal Clinic (2011, 2012)
Presenter: Nuts and Bolts of Practicing Criminal Law, BAMC (2010)

Education:

Catholic University, Columbus School of Law, Washington, DC

J.D. and Certificate, Institute for Communications Law Studies, May 2005

Associate Writer, “CommLaw Conspectus: Journal for Communications Law and Policy”

“Extra Mile Award” recipient for “outstanding service to the law school community”

Activities:

Executive Board Member - Student Bar Association
Voting Member - Academic and Faculty Policy Committee
Voting Member - Admissions Committee
Treasurer - Communications Law Student Association
Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity
Latin American Law Students Association

The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA

Bachelor of Science in BioBehavioral Health; Spanish minor May 2002

Bunton-Waller Scholar and Academic Scholarship recipient

Dean’s List

Activities:

Sigma Kappa National Sorority
Undergraduate Supreme Court Justice
Hispanic Students Association
IFC/PHC Dance Marathon Committee
Spanish Tutor

Universidad de Salamanca, Salamanca, Spain

Spring 2001: Completed Spanish minor requirements for The Pennsylvania State University