

Introduction to the 2026 Edition

The 2026 Edition of *New York Matrimonial Practice* covers developments in matrimonial legislation, practice, and policy since the last edition. It is a unique resource that guides practitioners and their assistants through the process of handling matrimonial matters. In this 2026 Edition, we have, among other things, updated the materials to reflect changes regarding child support and maintenance cap increases, decriminalizing adultery, the self-support reserve and poverty level income increases, imputing income and the ethical use of artificial intelligence. *New York Matrimonial Practice* is a valuable guide to divorce in New York. The book provides an overview of the matrimonial case and sets out step-by-step instructions for matrimonial practice. The material covered in the text is divided into chapters by the stages of a matrimonial action from the initial conference through post-judgment motions and appeals. In addition, the book includes, among other valuable resources, current forms, sample letters, uniform court rules, and selected statutes. We have endeavored to be as comprehensive as possible, with the admittedly ambitious goal of providing a single desktop reference for attorneys, paralegals, law secretaries, and others whose work brings them in contact with litigants seeking a divorce. The 2026 Edition's co-authors come with extensive experience in the field: Professor Deseriee A. Kennedy is a professor at Touro Law School who teaches family law and family violence, having previously taught at the University of Tennessee College of Law. She practiced law in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and Los Angeles, California, prior to entering teaching. Professor Danielle I. Schwager-Pammer has been a member of the New York Bar for over 24 years who practiced in this area of the law for over 18 years and is currently the Principal Law Clerk to a New York State Supreme Court Judge. With these voices, the 2026 Edition offers a deeper perspective and richness to the text on many levels. Endeavoring to provide a complete review of the law in any area is always a challenge. We by no means expect that this treatise does, or can, cover every corner and every aspect of matrimonial law in New York or otherwise. This 2026 Edition, like the editions before it, will remain a work-in-progress, and updated yearly. Finally, we remain grateful to the original author of this treatise, Willard H. DaSilva who had the vision to write an accessible and helpful resource on matrimonial practice that is practitioner friendly. His work has built the foundation for our 2026 Edition, and he remains an inspiration as we continue the mission.

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