

## STEVE BENMOR

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### EDUCATION

**2023 Intensive Training in Mediation**

Harvard Law School

**2008 Master of Laws in Family Law**

Osgoode Hall Law School

**1992 Bachelor of Laws**

University of Windsor

**1989 Bachelor of Science (Human Biology)**

University of Toronto

### CERTIFICATION

**2017 Certified Parenting Coordinator Specialist**

Family Dispute Resolution Institute of Ontario

**2015 Certified Family Mediator**

Alternative Dispute Resolution Institute of Ontario

**2013 Fellow**

International Academy of Family Lawyers

**2006 Certified as a Specialist in Family Law**

Law Society of Ontario

**1994 Member of the Bar**

Law Society of Ontario

**1993 Canadian Securities Course**

Canadian Securities Institute

## **EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

- 1997-present**     **Principal & Family Law Specialist**  
Benmor Family Law Group, Barristers & Solicitors
- 2009**             **Adjunct Professor of Family Law**  
Osgoode Hall Law School
- 2004-2012**       **Panel Lawyer**, Office of the Children's Lawyer  
**Panel Lawyer**, Office of the Public Guardian & Trustee
- 1996-1999**       **Part-time Professor of Family Law**  
Seneca College of Applied Arts & Technology
- 1994-1996**       **Lawyer**  
Haffey, Sherwood, Hunt, Barristers & Solicitors

## **LEADERSHIP**

- Director (2023-present), ADR Institute of Ontario
- Member (2022-present), Toronto Lawyers Association, Estates & Family Law Committee
- Chair of the Board (2018-2020), Humewood House
- Chair (2017-2018), Ontario Bar Association, Elder Law Section
- Chair, Walsh Family Law Appellate Moot (2015-2019)
- Chair (2013-2015) & Executive Member (2006-2015), Ontario Bar Association, Family Law Section
- Founding Director (2009) and Treasurer (2013-2015), Ontario Chapter, Association of Family & Conciliation Courts
- Chair (2011-2013), Treasurer (2002-2004) and Director (2002-2013), Access for Parents and Children of Ontario
- Member (2013-2015), Toronto Family Court Bench & Bar Committee
- Member (2013-2015), Canadian Bar Association, National Section's Executive Committee
- Member (2012-2013), Organizing Committee, Walsh Family Law Moot
- Director (2009-2013), Ontario Chapter, Association of Family & Conciliation Courts
- Director (2009-2012), Ontario Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse
- Member (2010), Expert Advisory Group on Family Justice Improvements to Attorney General, The Honourable Chris Bentley
- Family Law Instructor (2000-2005), Bar Admissions Course, Law Society of Upper Canada
- Member (2005-2008), Area Committee at North York, Legal Aid Ontario

- Director (2000-2004), Jewish Family and Child Service of Toronto
- Member (2000-2002), Bench and Bar Committee, Ontario Court of Justice at North York
- Chair (1997), Young Professionals Division, UJA/Federation
- Member (1994-1995), Canadian Jewish Congress, Community Relations Committee

## PRESENTATIONS

- Speaker, “Litigation Project Management”: The Advocates Society, November 18, 2022
- Speaker, “Recent Changes to the Divorce Act and their application in the courts”: Law Society of Ontario Family Law Refresher, February 28, 2022
- Speaker, “RIP Custody & Access: The New Language of Parenting Orders”: North York Family Court Education Committee, November 12, 2019
- Speaker, “Stress-Free Litigation – A Myth?”: The Advocates Society, July 21, 2017
- Master of Ceremony, 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of Access for Parents and Children of Ontario, June 15, 2017, Westin Prince Hotel
- Speaker, “Assessment of Accounts: Understanding the Process & Procedures”: Ontario Bar Association, June 6, 2017
- Speaker, “Serving Pro Se Litigants: Adapting Our Practices to the World of Consumer Users”: Association of Family & Conciliation Courts, 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, June 1, 2017
- Speaker, “Stress-Free Litigation”: The Advocates Society, July 21, 2017
- Moderator, “Cultural Nuances in Family Law”: The Commons Institute | LAWfm, January 11, 2017
- Chair, “Taking Care of Business: Starting Your Own Practice”: Ontario Bar Association, November 18, 2016
- Keynote Speaker, “Costs in Family Court”: The Waterloo Law Association, November 17, 2016
- Chair, “Law and the Older Adult Client”: Ontario Bar Association, November 16, 2016
- Speaker, “The Expert Valuation of Business Interests in Family Law”: The Commons Institute, February 10, 2016
- Speaker, Roundtable Panel on Business Valuation: The Canadian Institute Of Chartered Business Valuators, December 1, 2015
- Speaker, “Mediation-Arbitration Course”: Family Dispute Resolution Institute of Ontario, November 26, 2015
- Speaker, “Mastering Winning Discovery Techniques”: The Advocates Society, October 29, 2015

- Speaker, “Ethics & Legalities for Psychotherapists”: Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association, October 20, 2015
- Speaker, “The Intersection of Family and Criminal Law”, Durham Law Association & Ontario Bar Association, June 16, 2015
- Speaker, “Expert Witnesses in Family Law”, Simcoe County Family Law Conference, June 12, 2015
- Speaker, “Family Violence”, Canadian Psychological Association, Ottawa, June 4, 2015
- Speaker, “Practice Management Essentials: Managing Your Way To Trial Success”, The Advocates Society, April 30, 2015
- Speaker, “What Every Counsellor and Psychotherapist in Ontario Needs to Know About Family Law”: Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association, April 22, 2015
- Speaker, “Lawyers and Psychologists: Opportunities for Collaboration in Dealing with Families in Distress”: Ontario Bar Association, April 14, 2015
- Speaker, “When Estates and Family Law Matters Overlap: How to Spot Trouble and What to Do”: Toronto Lawyers Association, March 26, 2015
- Speaker, “Custody & Access Issues: Discussion with a Lawyer, Psychologist & Family Physician”, Ontario Psychological Association, 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, February 21, 2015
- Moderator, “How to Prevent Complaints, Build a Thriving Practice and Feel Rewarded”: Association of Family & Conciliation Courts, Ontario Chapter, February 13, 2015 (Ottawa)
- Speaker, “The Drafting of a Marriage Contract”: The Commons Institute, 240 Minutes on Family Law, January 21, 2015
- Speaker, “Ethics While At Trial”: The Advocates Society, Conduct of the Family Law Trial, October 31, 2014
- Chair and Speaker, “Ethics and Professionalism Issues for Family Lawyers: Enhance Your Practice and Maximize Client Satisfaction”: Ontario Bar Association, September 19, 2014
- Speaker, “Legislative Update: Pre-Retirement Death Benefits Following Recent Pension Benefit Act Amendments”: Ontario Bar Association, September 3, 2014
- Speaker, “Supervised Access and Custody Exchange Services: Part of the Solution”: Association of Family & Conciliation Courts, 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference, May 31, 2014
- Speaker, “How to Prevent Complaints, Build a Thriving Practice and Feel Rewarded”: Association of Family & Conciliation Courts, 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference, May 30, 2014
- Speaker, “How to Prevent Complaints, Build a Thriving Practice and Feel Rewarded”: Ontario Chapter, Association of Family & Conciliation Courts, April 23, 2014 (Milton)
- Speaker, “Social Work Law Talks”: Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto, February 25, 2014

- Speaker, “Family Law Practice Basics 2014”: Law Society of Upper Canada, February 20, 2014
- Speaker, “Child Support Update”: Jarvis Open Bar Series, February 3, 2014
- Speaker, “The Family Law MBA: How to Operate a Profitable Family Law Practice”: Ontario Bar Association, November 21, 2013
- Speaker, “The Family Justice System as a Multi-Professional Process”: Ontario Chapter, Association of Family & Conciliation Courts, October 17, 2014
- Chair and Speaker, “Family Law and Trusts and Estates Law: Meet Ontario’s Children’s Lawyer”: Ontario Bar Association, November 16, 2012 (Timmins), April 25, 2013 (Sudbury), May 10, 2013 (Sault Ste. Marie) and May 24, 2013 (Owen Sound)
- Speaker, “Navigating Ethical Dilemmas At Trial”: The Advocates Society, Conduct of the Family Law Trial, March 2, 2012
- Chair, Court of Appeal for Ontario: Family Law Round Table Discussion, Reception and Dinner, November 4, 2010
- Speaker, “cha-cha-cha-Changes: How To Win Your Motion To Change”: North York Bench & Bar Committee, June 21, 2010
- Speaker, Family Information Session, Superior Court of Justice at Toronto (2009-2011)
- Chair, 2010 Family Law Institute, Ontario Bar Association, February 16, 2010
- Chair, “Family and Criminal Law: A Complex Marriage”: Ontario Bar Association, November 6, 2008
- Speaker, “Giving the Case the Attention it Deserves: Dispositions Without Trials”: Jarvis Open Bar Series, December 3, 2003
- Family Law Workshops in the community at shelters, community agencies, support groups

## **PAPERS**

- “Maximum Contact Versus Maximum Child Support: Which Is More Important?”, Canadian MoneySaver, January 2016.
- “Crafting a marriage contract that sticks”, LIANswers Newsletter of The Lawyers’ Insurance Association of Nova Scotia, Issue 30, November 2014.
- “Navigating Ethical Dilemmas At Trial”: The Advocates Society, Conduct of the Family Law Trial, March 2, 2012
- Chapter 36: “Family Law”: The Trusted Advisor’s Survival Kit, LexisNexis Canada Inc., March 16, 2011
- “Is There A Place For Therapeutic Justice In Family Law”: Osgoode Hall Law School, LLM Research Paper, December 18, 2006
- “Uncontested Orders”: 311 Jarvis Open Bar Series, Giving the Case the Attention it Deserves: Dispositions Without Trials, December 3, 2003

## COUNSEL OF RECORD

- Lease Mart Systems Corp. v. Tehranchi, [2005] O.J. No. 1770 (Court of Appeal for Ontario)
- Kokanova v. Kokanov, [2005] O.J. No. 2229 (Court of Appeal for Ontario)
- De Coito v. De Coito, [2009] O.J. No. 4843 (Court of Appeal for Ontario)
- Maslic v. Maslic, [2013] O.J. No. 3433 (Court of Appeal for Ontario)
- Parrish v. Navarro, 2014 ONCA 856 (CanLII) (Court of Appeal for Ontario)
- Navarro v. Parrish, [2014] O.J. No. 5733 (Court of Appeal for Ontario)
- Hart v. Fullarton, 2021 ONCA 438 (CanLII) (Court of Appeal for Ontario)
- Bakhsh v. Merdad, 2022 ONCA 130 (CanLII) (Court of Appeal for Ontario)
- Ferguson v. Charlton, [2001] O.J. No. 6282
- Rapp v. Wagman, [2001] O.J. No. 4322
- Palmer v. Palmer, [2003] O.J. No. 1088
- David v. David, [2004] O.J. No. 5022
- Charlton v. Ferguson, [2004] O.J. No. 2155
- D.N. v. S.C., [2004] O.J. No. 2068, 70 O.R. (3d) 658
- David v. David, [2005] O.J. No. 1308
- K.J.B. v. S.M., [2006] O.J. No. 1090
- Sava v. Sava, [2006] O.J. No. 2485
- Isombe v. Johnson, [2007] O.J. No. 5263
- Ferguson v. Charlton, [2008] O.J. No. 486
- Karkar v. Karkar, [2009] O.J. No. 3976
- De Coito v. De Coito, [2009] O.J. No. 1542
- Spence v. Sly, [2010] O.J. No. 4721
- Krane v. Krane, [2010] O.J. No. 1009
- Hilliard v. Popal, [2010] O.J. No. 5726
- Spence v. Sly, [2010] O.J. No. 4721
- Spence v. Sly, [2010] O.J. No. 5133
- Hilliard v. Popal, [2010] O.J. No. 5726
- Kumar v. Kumar, [2010] O.J. No. 1348
- McMahan v. Sharaput, [2011] O.J. No. 3708
- Sharma v. Sunak, [2011] O.J. No. 5929
- McMahan v. Sharaput, [2011] O.J. No. 2768
- Rondelet v. Neff, [2011] O.J. No. 3911
- Karkar v. Karkar, [2011] O.J. No. 3776
- Rondelet v. Neff, [2011] O.J. No. 2105
- Karkar v. Karkar, [2011] O.J. No. 2765
- Paiva v. Corpening, [2012] O.J. No. 771
- Askalan v. Taleb, [2012] O.J. No. 3947

- Maslic v. Maslic, [2012] O.J. No. 5203
- Bandas v. Demirdache, [2013] O.J. No. 2463
- Cozzi v. Smith [2013] ONSC 3190
- Bandas v. Demirdache, [2013] O.J. No. 5577
- Navarro v. Parrish, 2014 ONSC 3589 (CanLII)
- Cozzi v. Smith, 2014 ONSC 6189 (CanLII)
- Goryn v. Neisner, [2015] O.J. No. 1897
- Jurewicz v. Juewicz, [2015] O.J. No. 6539
- Jurewicz v Jurewicz, 2015 ONSC 7563 (CanLII)
- Goryn v. Neisner, 2015 ONCJ 318 (CanLII)
- Cozzi v Smith, 2015 ONSC 3626 (CanLII)
- Goryn v. Neisner, 2015 ONCJ 191 (CanLII)
- Cozzi v. Smith, 2015 ONSC 396 (CanLII)
- Vinnik v. Berman, [2015] O.J. No. 5522
- Cozzi v. Smith [2016] O.J. No. 1949
- Spry v. Esteves [2016] O.J. No. 2221
- Simmons v. Ryder [2016] Milton Court File No. 340/11
- Hornibrook v. Hornibrook 2016 ONSC 3605
- Michelin v. Ryder, [2016] O.J. No. 2781
- Mackey v. Rerrie, [2016] O.J. No. 3739
- Ferrara v. Bertolin, [2017], O.J. No. 1953
- Flowers v. Eickmeier, [2017], O.J. No. 4526
- Nifco v. Nifco, 2017 ONSC 7475 (CanLII)
- Levine v. Levine 2018 ONSC 4620 (CanLII)
- Nifco v. Nifco, 2018 ONSC 4567 (CanLII)
- Nifco v. Nifco, 2018 ONSC 2603 (CanLII)
- Flores v. Flores, 2018 ONSC 1786 (CanLII)
- Lopatowski v. Lopatowski, 2018 ONSC 824 (CanLII)
- Bembenek v. Bembenek, 2018 ONSC 4709 (CanLII)
- Levine v. Levine, 2018 ONSC 4620 (CanLII)
- Singh v. Singh, 2019 ONSC 6264 (CanLII)
- Bembenek v. Bembenek, 2019 ONSC 5978 (CanLII)
- Bembenek v. Bembenek, 2019 ONSC 4050 (CanLII)
- Cronish v. Cronish, 2019 ONSC 2185 (CanLII)
- Young v. Khaira, 2019 ONSC 1466 (CanLII)
- Hart v. Fullarton, 2020 ONSC 6804 (CanLII)
- Mohamed v. Mohamed, 2020 ONSC 6567 (CanLII)
- Kasperski v. Politis, 2020 ONSC 6505 (CanLII)
- Kasperski v. Politis, 2020 ONSC 5839 (CanLII)
- Lakhtakia v. Mehra, 2020 ONSC 2670 (CanLII)
- Walia v. Walia, 2021 ONSC 8605 (CanLII)
- Levine v. Levine, 2021 ONSC 4420 (CanLII)
- Pinnock v. Pinnock, 2021 ONSC 4155 (CanLII)

- Hart v. Fullarton, 2021 ONSC 2559 (CanLII)
- Hart v. Fullarton, 2021 ONSC 263 (CanLII)
- De Faria v. Nedeltcheva, 2021 ONSC 181 (CanLII)
- Begum v. Klippenstein, 2022 ONSC 3606 (CanLII)
- Sloss v. Liscomb, 2022 ONSC 1396 (CanLII)
- Lakhtakia v. Mehra, 2022 ONSC 201 (CanLII)

## **AWARDS**

- 2012, Distinguished Service Award, Ontario Chapter, Association of Family & Conciliation Courts
- 2022, Voted Top Lawyer by Post City Magazine
- 2023, Finalist for Family Law Firm of the Year, Canadian Law Awards
- 2023, Voted Top Lawyer by Post City Magazine

## **ARTICLES QUOTED IN**

- “Judge orders costs in lawyer-versus-lawyer dispute”: Legal Feeds, April 20, 2016
- “A domestic abuse allegation can become a trial within a trial that has great influence on custody and support battles”: The Lawyer’s Weekly, Vol. 35, No. 45, April 8, 2016
- “MAG, LSUC launch family law review” : The Law Times, February 15, 2016
- “Judge warns about meritless LSUC complaints against opposing counsel”: Law Times, October 19, 2015
- “The Building Blocks of a Successful Career”: The Lawyer’s Weekly, Vol. 35, No. 18, September 18, 2015
- “Second Opinions Should be Handled with Care”: The Lawyer’s Weekly, Vol. 35, No. 15, August 28, 2015
- “Grey divorce is all about the math”: Canadian Lawyer, March 2015
- “Judge writes simple and ‘inspiring’ legal decision for repeat offender”: Toronto Star, March 6, 2015
- “Insurance for support obligations a hard sell”: The Law Times, February 23, 2015
- “Best interest of the child: Who decides”: The Lawyers Weekly, Vol. 34, No. 38, February 20, 2015
- “Inside the new age of rainmaking”: The Lawyer’s Weekly, Vol. 34, No. 26, November 14, 2014
- “Plotting the path from separation to sold”: The Lawyer’s Weekly, Vol. 34, No. 26, November 14, 2014



- “Adoption reforms leave children, parents in limbo”: The Law Times, November 3, 2014
- “Crafting a marriage contract that sticks”: The Lawyers Weekly, Vol. 34, No. 19, September 26, 2014
- “Spying on your spouse”: The Lawyers Weekly, Vol. 34, No. 4, May 30, 2014
- “Separated Parents Don’t Always Share Tax Credit”: The Lawyers Weekly, Vol. 33, No. 38, February 21, 2014
- “Managing the financial impact of divorce”: The Toronto Star, February 8, 2014
- “When Orthodox religion goes to court”: The Lawyers Weekly, Vol. 33, No. 19, September 20, 2013
- “Not all expenses are created equal”: The Lawyers Weekly, Vol. 33, No. 12, July 19, 2013
- “Door to assess a lawyer’s accounts remains open”: The Lawyers Weekly, Vol. 32, No. 38, February 15, 2013
- “Case considers angry text messages, e-mail as violence”: Law Times, February 11, 2013
- “New concept trickling through estates”: Law Times, February 11, 2013
- “Complaints cause assessors to withdraw from cases”: Law Times, October 15, 2012
- “Courts turn to wire justice in push to cut costs”: The Globe and Mail, May 15, 2012
- “Family law case to feature testimony via Skype”: Law Times, April 23, 2012
- “Family practitioners targeted by protest”: Law Times, March 19, 2012
- “New approach eclipses traditional trust claims”: The Lawyers Weekly, Vol. 31, No. 38, February 17, 2012
- “Delay in Family Law Case ‘Extreme and Rare’”: Law Times, October 24, 2011
- “Self-represented family law litigants pose challenges”: The Lawyers Weekly, Vol. 31, No. 19, September 23, 2011
- “Ontario law to treat violation of restraining order as criminal offence”: Canadian Press, November 2008
- “Restraining Order violation soon criminal offence in Ontario”: National News, November 25, 2008
- “Ontario unveils family law reform”: Toronto Star, November 25, 2008
- “Can a teenage child be disciplined with force”: Toronto Lawyers Association Newsletter, July 8, 2008
- “Child support payments to increase in May 1, 2006”: Soo News Wire, April 25, 2006
- “Are the Child Support Guidelines fair”: Canadian Money Saver, May 2005
- “Lawyer works pro-bono on women’s and family issues”: Town Crier, May 2005

- “Can a marriage contract protect your assets”: Canadian Money Saver, September 2004

## LIVE MEDIA

- “Family Responsibility Office & Ontario’s Ombudsman”: CBC Radio’s Ontario Today with Rita Celli, November 22, 2016
- “Judge's written decision being hailed as a unique, inspiring and empathetic legal ruling”: CTV’s Canada AM with Beverly Thomson, March 9, 2015
- “Justice Shaun Nakatsuru is winning praise for a unique ruling in the case of a young aboriginal man”: CBC Metro Morning with Matt Galloway, March 6, 2015
- “Overcoming Your Ex is an Obstacle to Settlement”: Divorce Source Radio, April 16, 2013
- “When should a couple discuss a Marriage Contract”: Money Talk Radio TV, May 10, 2010
- “How do parenting plans meet the changing needs of children”: First Take Live, July 17, 2008
- “What steps are being taken to address the underfunding of legal aid”: First Take Live, March 19, 2008
- “Does Ontario law respect same sex marriages”: First Take Live, February 20, 2008
- “Why would I use an Arbitrator instead of a Family Court Judge”: First Take Live, December 12, 2007
- “How do you make the children’s Christmas break stress-free”: First Take Live, November 15, 2007
- “At what age does a child decide the custody & access schedule”: First Take Live, 2007
- “What is Collaborative Family Law”: First Take Live, 2007
- “Child Support Increases On May 1, 2006”: CKLW AM, April 26, 2006
- “How should lottery winnings be divided”: Durham Today, January 4, 2006
- “Sharia Law”: Durham Today, October 5, 2005
- “Paws Clause & Pet Custody”: Durham Today, April 6, 2005
- “Are You in an Abusive Relationship”: Goldhawk LIVE, April 13, 2004

## **MEMBERSHIPS**

- International Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers
- Ontario Bar Association
- American Bar Association
- The Advocates Society
- Toronto Lawyers Association
- Family Lawyers Association
- Association of Family & Conciliation Courts
- ADR Institute of Canada
- Family Dispute Resolution Institute of Ontario
- International Academy of Collaborative Professionals