



Jason G. Adess

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Age: 37

Law School: DePaul University College of Law
Practice Area: Family Law

Few cases bring out more raw emotions than do those dealing with family law and divorce. Attorneys specializing in this area must see through these emotions to help parties achieve fair results.

This is where Jason Adess shines.

Adess, a partner with the Chicago law firm of Berger Schatz, is recognized as one of the city's top matrimonial specialists. Clients seek him because he brings a calm, rational presence to the cases he handles, which involve multi-million-dollar estates and complicated child custody matters, and he works tirelessly to help his clients achieve the best possible results.

"In an area of law that often layers raw human emotion on top of complex legal issues, Jason is able to calm his clients, speak to them honestly and help them find the right solution," said James Gardner, an attorney with the Chicago law firm of Neal, Gerber & Eisenberg LLP.

Few who have followed Adess' legal career are surprised that he has emerged as a top specialist in his field. Early in his career, Adess worked on many of the most complicated matrimonial law cases at Berger Schatz, where, his fellow attorneys say,

he quickly demonstrated an ability to defuse emotional situations.

This early success led to a quick rise to partner status at his firm.

"His ability to handle unique, difficult cases has grown exponentially, and he now stands at the upper rung of the firm," said Michael Berger at Berger Schatz. "Jason's integrity is also above reproach. Make no mistake: He represents his clients forcefully and with every tool at his disposal.

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However, he also treats opposing counsel and judges with respect, and helps his clients feel comfortable in an atmosphere that is often difficult and distressing."

Adess' peers praise him for the steady, rational demeanor he brings to the courtroom. His calming influence is important, they say, in helping both sides of divorce and family law cases reach fair agreements.

Too often, the parties involved in matrimonial cases let their personal antagonism toward each other prevent them from reaching the best resolution. With Adess at their side, clients do not fall into this trap.

"Mr. Adess is an attorney who does not add fuel to this fire," said Howard Rosenfeld, with the Chicago law firm of Rosenfeld Hafron Shapiro & Farmer. "In even the most intense negotiations and evidentiary proceedings, he works hard to steady the situation and stay focused on the issues at hand."

Of course, Adess' calming presence would be worth little if he was not also a top-level scholar in his field. Here, too, though, Adess shines. His peers say Adess has few equals when it comes to knowledge in his specialty. Adess is an avid reader and writer, they say, and is a frequent speaker on a large number of legal topics.

Thanks to these skills, Adess has become a frequent presenter before legal organizations, including the Chicago Bar Association, Illinois State Bar Association, Lake County Bar Association and DePaul University College of Law. *