

THE HSBA'S NEW 2015 HAWAII DIVORCE MANUAL

The Hawai'i Divorce Manual (or just "the Manual" as it is commonly known) is the HSBA's most popular-ever practice aid. First published in 1975, the Manual has now been completely updated on the occasion of its 40th anniversary.

Contents of Manual The new 2015 Manual consists of (a) an introduction, (b) a global overview of the substantive law of divorce, annulment, legal separation, common-law marriage, civil unions, reciprocal beneficiary arrangements, alimony, premarital agreements, marital agreements, divorce agreements, rights and responsibilities of still married spouses, divorce appeals, and post-divorce enforcement of Family Court divorce orders, with case citations, (c) sixteen (16) subject specific sections (child custody, property division, retirement assets, real estate assets, valuation of assets, child support, spousal support, divorce and taxes, divorce and paternity, divorce and older people, divorce and the military, divorce and bankruptcy, family violence, divorce ethics, divorce ADR, and divorce appeals), (d) separate sections on divorce cases, divorce statutes, divorce rules, Family Court forms, and practice aids, and (e) a searchable DVD containing copies of the Manual, and all earlier versions of the Manual going back to 2000. Only in the Manual can you find (a) searchable digests of over 440 citable appellate decisions affecting divorce since 1952, (b) detailed subject specific sections on all aspects of divorce, (c) a complete collection of divorce practice forms, and (d) most if not all of the policy memoranda governing divorce practice and procedure ever issued by all of the Family Courts. Only the Manual includes the approximately 142 of memorandum opinions, summary disposition orders, and other citable disposition orders of the ICA and the Supreme Court affecting divorce practice issued since July 1, 2008 which comprise nearly 82% of over 174 of all citable appellate decisions for that period of time. This is the 26th time in its history that the Manual has been updated or completely revised. The 2015 Manual is the 22nd consecutive annual supplement or new edition. The authorities in the 2015 Manual are current through August 31, 2015. Planning is already underway for the 2016 Supplement to the Manual. The hard copy of the 2015 Manual consists of over 2,000 pages. There are thousands of image pages on the DVD.

Contributing Authors Nearly two hundred (200) attorneys, judges, mental health professionals, financial experts, and other family law professionals have contributed to the Manual over the four (4) decades of its existence. Twenty-eight (28) prominent local and national family law professionals worked together as lead authors for the 2015 Manual.

The Essential Practice Aid The Manual has become an indispensable resource for anyone going through divorce, and anyone helping them. The instructions for both uncontested divorces without children, and uncontested divorces with children, issued by the Family Courts of the First (Oahu), Third (both Hilo and Kona) and Fifth (Kauai) Circuits published on the Judiciary's website direct everyone who has questions with respect to divorce law and procedure in Hawai'i to refer to the Manual. Each year the Supreme Court Library acquires copies the Manual or the Supplement to the Manual for distribution to various judges and justices. The Manual has been cited as an authority on many occasions in Hawai'i appellate case law. The mediators from the Mediation Center of the Pacific, Hawai'i's largest provider of community mediation services, use the Manual as a resource in their work. Mediators and arbitrators from Dispute Prevention & Resolution, Hawai'i's largest provider of private practice divorce ADR services, are among those who have contributed to the Manual. Mental health professionals, financial planners, accountants, and other professionals helping those through divorce refer to it. Every attorney representing a divorcing client, without regard to his or her level of experience, should have the Manual.

Cost and Availability There will be a presentation on the Manual at the HSBA Bar Convention on Friday, October 23, 2015 from 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM. For those who purchase the Manual by then, the cost is \$210.00. Thereafter, the cost is \$295.00. Purchasers may pick up the Manual at the Bar Convention prior to the presentation, or at the HSBA thereafter.

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