

Spring 2014 Newsletter

Sponsored by Feinberg Mindel Brandt & Klein, LLP

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[Feinberg Mindel Brandt &
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Founders



Ziva Sirkis Naumann
Ethel Levitt (1911-1995)
Grace Quinn (1915-2006)

Mission

To provide affordable legal representation in family law matters to low-income families of Los Angeles County to ensure stability for children and their families in the face of legal difficulties

Important Dates

June 23rd & July 12th 2014
**Trial Tech Family Law
Advocacy Training**
[\(Click here\)](#)

A Message from the President and Executive Director

Levitt & Quinn has launched a new project focused on helping children at risk of losing their relationship with a parent. Thanks to Jason Patric and the Stand Up for Gus foundation that he created, Levitt & Quinn has received funding for an attorney to provide free legal services to parents seeking to be more involved in their children's lives. Jason is a committed father who understands from personal experience how painful it can be for a parent and child who are separated in the midst of a custody dispute. Jason created Stand Up For Gus with one of its goals being to assure that all parents, rich or poor, will have their day in court with a good lawyer at their side. Levitt & Quinn's Stand Up for Gus Project has been operating less than two months and has already assisted almost a dozen families. The project's very first client lost and was reunited with his child in a week thanks to the representation made possible by this project. You can read about this client [here](#).

Levitt & Quinn is quickly growing in size and scope of services. Our staff now includes seven family law attorneys providing legal representation to low and moderate income families. Levitt & Quinn provided more than 1,200 families with legal assistance in 2013. Over 100 families seeking to adopt received services, and Levitt & Quinn attorneys appeared in court on behalf of clients 307 times. More and more of our clients are very low income and in 2013 more than a third of our clients lived below the federal poverty level of less than \$1,300 monthly for a parent and child. In response to this growing need we have created three new attorney positions focused on providing free services to our financially neediest clients since October 2013. Please help Levitt & Quinn Family Law Center continue to provide free and affordable legal representation to families by making a charitable [donation](#) today. Thank

September 27, 2014
2014 Stand for Justice Gala
Skirball Cultural Center
For early sponsorship
information
[click here](#) or contact:
ckowalczyk@levittquinn.org

5th Annual Tory Burch
Shopping Benefit

Special thanks to Tory Burch and everyone who came out to support Levitt & Quinn. This year, we raised more money than ever before, thanks to our wonderful hosts Zhanna Fish, Steve and Stacey Henning and Juliet Markowitz. Check out our Facebook page for more [photos from the event](#).



Alejandra Valenzuela sporting her Tory Burch dress and sunglasses

Major Donors

To read about donors who share our vision click [here](#)

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you to all of our supporters, whose generosity makes the work we do possible.

Kindest Regards,

Dinah Ruch

Tai Glenn

Stand Up for Gus Project Reunites Father and Child

Levitt & Quinn's Stand Up for Gus Project made a strong start with its very first case on behalf of a parent seeking the return of his young child. The project was funded by the [Stand Up for Gus Foundation](#) which provides free legal services to parents seeking greater involvement in their children's lives. In April, Levitt & Quinn attorney Jenny Skoble appeared in court on behalf of the projects very first client, Joe.* Joe's child had been taken out of state without his permission or knowledge over the previous weekend. He is very low income and could not afford an attorney. He is not sophisticated, educated or articulate, but he is a loving father and was the primary caretaker of his young daughter who lived with him.

On a Saturday, the child's mother asked Joe to bring their daughter to the park to spend some time with her and he did. A few hours later, Joe received a call from the mother. She left a message letting him know that she had moved to Las Vegas with their daughter and he need not pick her up. Joe spent the weekend distraught and unable to obtain assistance from the police. He had no idea where his daughter was, if she was okay and was unable to speak with her. That Wednesday, Levitt & Quinn appeared in court and obtained an order for the return of Joe's child. She was back with her father by the weekend. The hearing was so complex and extended that Ms. Skoble came back to the office during the court's lunch break to prepare additional pleadings. The father could not have successfully represented himself in court. Without the legal assistance of Levitt & Quinn made possible by Stand Up for Gus, Joe's daughter would not have been returned so quickly and perhaps not at all.

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*Not client's real name.

Volunteer Dwayne Anderson



Dwayne Anderson began volunteering with Levitt & Quinn Family Law Center in 2004 at which time he assisted in finalizing adoptions at the Edmund Edelman Children's Court. More recently, he has provided legal services on contested adoption and family law matters. Dwayne has interviewed and prepared clients for hearings, drafted motions and pleadings, sat second chair for trial, and represented clients at citation and

finalization hearings.

In summarizing his volunteer work, Dwayne says, "it is rewarding to see the effect my work has on the lives of peoples who ordinarily may not have access to the caliber of legal services provided by Levitt & Quinn. It has been a pleasure and a great learning experience working with such a dedicated and talented group of people."

Feinberg Mindel Brandt & Klein, LLP Supports Levitt & Quinn's Spring eNewsletter



The Levitt & Quinn Spring Newsletter was made possible by the contributions of Feinberg Mindel Brandt & Klein, LLP. FMBK has long-supported Levitt & Quinn's mission to provide affordable legal representation in family law matters for low-income families in Los Angeles County.

"As the economy is still recovering from the economic downturn of 2009, it is important that organizations like Levitt & Quinn are able to provide sliding scale legal resources to families in need, allowing them the opportunity to be represented in court," says Managing Partner Steve Mindel. "We are proud of the work that Levitt & Quinn provides, and are happy to donate our time and resources towards such an impactful cause."

Feinberg Mindel Brandt & Klein, LLP is a seventeen attorney Southern California law firm with a reputation for high-caliber legal representation. FMBK concentrates on the following areas of law: Civil and Real Estate Litigation, Family Law, Family Law Mediation, Estate

Planning, Probate and Trust Litigation, and Business Transactions. The firm's goal is to achieve the best results for clients as efficiently, fairly and painlessly as possible.

How You Can Support Levitt & Quinn Family Law Center

In many ways, Levitt & Quinn Family Law Center can be measured by the overall financial commitment and participation of its donors. More than half of Levitt & Quinn's operating budget is from law firms, corporations, foundations and individuals. By contributing to Levitt & Quinn, you ensure that we can fulfill our mission today and in the future. Every gift, whether \$10,000 or \$10, makes a difference. There are many ways to give:

- *Cash Gifts
- *Gifts of Stock, Bonds & Mutual Funds
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- *Matching Gifts from employers
- *Planned Gifts and Bequests.

To learn more about giving to Levitt & Quinn contact Tai Glenn, Executive Director at [\(213\) 482-1800](tel:2134821800) or ortglenn@levittquinn.org. To contribute online, please visit our secure donation page [here](#).

Levitt Quinn
A Nonprofit Family Law Center