

Family Law Section Upcoming Events

[May 30, 2008 – Family Law Panel](#)

[April 11, 2008 – Committee Meeting](#)

[March 7, 2008 – Committee Meeting](#)

February Meeting

The Honorable Richard Bernhardt spoke to the members of the Family Law Committee about closing a domestic case. He gave a few examples of what he believed to be poor closings, highlighting what he felt should be included in a closing argument. Foremost, he looks for each attorney to tell him what he/she believes the results should be, including being specific about things such as custody arrangements and support amounts. He felt that if an attorney cannot determine what he/she feels is the appropriate amount of child support and alimony (including how much for how long), why should that attorney believe that the judge should be able to? Further, he supports the use of the Maryland Rule 5-1006, which provides that, when the documentary evidence is voluminous, with timely notice to the other parties, a summary of the contents of the evidence can be prepared and used in court. He also noted that the judges prefer that proposed orders be submitted timely after the close of a trial.

Next month, the Family Law Committee will hold its meeting on Friday, March 7, 2008 at 12:00 noon, with the Honorable Lenore R. Gelfman discussing how to effectively file exceptions.

Master Mary Kramer also announced that new hours for the Howard County Circuit Court Supervised Visitation Center, which is open for supervised visits and monitored exchanges from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Fridays and from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. on Sundays. The Center is located at the North Laurel-Savage Multi Service Center at 9105 All Saints Road, Laurel, Maryland. To find out more about the Center, you can contact Lisa Mohink, the family Law coordinator at 410-313-2225.