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AUSTIN LEADERS IN LAW

Opening New Doors

Bustos Family Law, PLLC guides families through the divorce process and empowers them to begin bright futures.



In its first five years, Bustos Family Law became one of the area's most respected law practices. *Austin Monthly* named the firm among the city's Top Attorneys for 2022 and 2023. Bustos joined the ranks of Super Lawyers® in 2023.

Never Hopeless

Through education and empowerment, Bustos encourages clients to approach divorce strategically. While walking people through their "divorce roadmap," she remains empathetic to the pain and special needs of the families she serves, but she never sugarcoats reality. "When you can take a step back from the hurt and understand the likely outcome of your case, you can participate in planning the most advantageous tactic. You can play chess, not checkers," she explains. "The best course of action is the one that is pragmatic and allows families to move forward unencumbered."

Positioning families to thrive drives Bustos' ethos. In negotiations, she emphasizes giving every partner a voice. When everyone feels heard, long-term resolutions become easier to settle, minimizing the need for adjudication and future modifications.

In the courtroom, Bustos shines as a skillful communicator and is respected by judges for her mastery of the law. From day one, Bustos begins preparing for the courtroom, just in case negotiations fall short. Gathering the pertinent facts of the case and the applicable law, she boils down well-thought-out legal arguments in order to achieve the best outcome possible for her clients.

"Don't look at the final divorce decree as your goal," says Bustos. "Your family's future deserves a path forward."

On paper, the couple's planned divorce agreement appeared completely equitable. They carefully divided their combined assets, including two homes. Both sides of the ledger were balanced. But the plan would have caused one spouse to bear a significant tax burden.

"Whether considering the division of assets or the many intangible details, even amiable divorces require professional guidance. Whether hotly contested or friendly, divorce is almost always a complicated legal process," explains Lisa Bustos, family law attorney.

Founder of Austin-based Bustos Family Law, PLLC, Bustos says she often sees new clients who delayed getting help

early on. Many felt they should know how to move forward because divorces are a common fact of life. "But few enter marriage planning for a divorce. You're not supposed to know what to do," she says.

The first member of her family to become a lawyer, she graduated from Saint Louis University School of Law in Missouri. While there, she was vice president of the Phi Delta Phi's honor society and a member of the Hispanic Law Student Association Moot Court Team, an experience that sparked a love for litigation. Her excellent academic record opened career doors as she returned to her home state of Texas to begin practicing family law in 2012. Six years later, she founded her own firm.



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