

As Seen In... Forbes, March 26, 2007

OUTLOOK

MICHIGAN LEGAL

Special Advertising Section

The Law Offices of Richard S. Victor, PLLC

Protecting Families and Children in Difficult Times

Divorce, by its nature, is the end of a relationship. But at The Law Offices of Richard S. Victor, PLLC, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, it does not have to be destructive to the family involved. As two of Michigan's leading matrimonial attorneys, Richard S. Victor and his son, Daniel Victor, bring compassion to the most difficult of cases. Indeed, they recognize the importance of respecting both sides, always with the utmost concern for children, without ever compromising their clients' interests.

"We don't operate with a scorched earth philosophy," Daniel Victor says. "Some divorce lawyers cause irreparable harm to the family. We don't believe in that."

By vigorously defending what's right and challenging what's wrong, this father-and-son legal team strives to attain reasonable settlements, regardless of circumstances. As experts in family law, tax law and finance, they are particularly adept at handling complex prenuptial agreements and divorces involving property and large sums of money.

For example, one legal concept for which Richard S. Victor laid the groundwork is known as *high income child support deviation*. It is a strategy by which wealthy individuals can be protected against paying unreasonable child support.

"Child support is usually based on income," Richard S. Victor says. "If you earn more than \$300 thousand a year and you're getting a divorce, you could be hit with child support that is excessive in terms of what the child actually needs. You want an attorney who understands how to protect the child, but not give a tax-free windfall to the other parent."

Another area of concern for many high-income individuals is corporate executive compensation packages, which often consist of salary, stock options, benefits, foreign allowances and reimbursement of expenses. It can all become quite complicated when calculating alimony and child support.

"We realize that when we are finished with a case, what we have done will have an impact for generations."

— Richard S. Victor, Attorney

"I was recently involved in a case of an automotive executive working overseas," Richard S. Victor says. "In these types of cases, you want to make sure your attorney understands total compensation packages and tax laws in order to obtain the fairest settlement."

New Standards in Family Law

Throughout Michigan and beyond, the name Richard S. Victor is synonymous with family law. In more than 30 years of practice, he has won precedent-setting cases establishing visitation rights for grandparents and stepparents. Three of his cases served as the basis for motion pictures. He has received many awards, and is the author of *Michigan Family Law and Practice*, a three-volume set of textbooks that is



Richard S. Victor and Daniel Victor with legal assistant Kathleen Germaine

standard in most courtrooms and law schools. Richard S. Victor is also known as the co-creator of Start Making It Livable for Everyone (SMILE), an educational program for individuals seeking a divorce, now offered in 48 states and mandatory in various counties throughout Michigan.

"We never lose sight of the awesome responsibility family law attorneys have," Daniel Victor says.

"We realize that when we are finished with a case, what we have done will have an impact for generations," adds Richard S. Victor.

For more information, call
248.646.7177

or visit www.richardsvictor.com.



Richard S. Victor

Best Lawyers in America, 2007
Fellow of the Year Award
— American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers
Meritorious Service to the
Children of America Award
— National Council of Juvenile
and Family Court Judges
Champion of Justice Award, 2004
— The State Bar of Michigan
Michigan Super Lawyer
— Super Lawyers® magazine
Lifetime Achievement Award
— Family Law Section, State Bar of Michigan

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