
Sarah A. Chussler

PARTNER



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This biography is provided for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice.

PRACTICE AREAS

- Guardianships
- Becoming a Guardian
- Mental Health Law

Sarah A. Chussler is a Partner at Abrams Fensterman, LLP and is a member of the firm's Mental Health Law Practice Group. Her practice focuses on Mental Health and Elder Law, representing private clients, healthcare professionals, and major hospital systems in Article 9 proceedings for involuntary psychiatric treatment and retention hearings, Kendra's Law applications (Assisted Outpatient Treatment), Mental Hygiene Warrants, as well as in elder planning matters. These include the preparation and execution of Advanced Directives and Article 81 Guardianship proceedings.

Ms. Chussler's interest in elder law began when she was young and volunteered and later worked in nursing homes. Her prior legal experience in elder law, Medicaid planning, matrimonial law, and civil litigation allows her to identify potential issues which may arise within the context of a Guardianship proceeding to best guide clients and advocate for their interests. Ms. Chussler frequently receives court appointments pursuant to Part 36 of the Rules of the Chief Judge of the New York State Unified Court System in Guardianship matters in multiple counties as Court Evaluator, Counsel for Alleged Incapacitated Persons, and Counsel to Guardians.

Ms. Chussler obtained her Juris Doctor from the University of Miami School of Law. While in law school, she served as a Judicial Intern to the Honorable Arthur M. Diamond of the Supreme Court of Nassau County. Following law school, Ms. Chussler served as a Fellow with the 15th Judicial Circuit in and for

Palm Beach County, Florida. She received her B.A. from the Pennsylvania State University and interned for the Pennsylvania Attorney General's Office while in college.

Ms. Chussler was selected as a "Rising Star" in New York Elder Law by "Super Lawyers" in 2019, 2020 and 2021. Each year, no more than 2.5% of the lawyers in the state are selected by the research team at Super Lawyers to receive this honor. Ms. Chussler was selected to the Best Lawyers "Ones to Watch" for Elder Law each year from 2021 through 2025, and for Health Care Law each year from 2021 through 2025.

Ms. Chussler is admitted to practice law in the State of New York. She is a member of the New York State Bar Association (NYSBA) where she is a member of the Elder Law and Special Needs Section and the Health Law Section. Within the Elder Law and Special Needs Section, she is a member of the Executive Committee and is the Co-Chair of the Mental Health Law Committee, a past Vice Chair of the Elder Abuse Committee, and a member of the Guardianship Committee. Ms. Chussler is currently serving as the Co-Chair of the Elder Law Committee for the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York (WBASNY).

BAR ADMISSIONS

- New York, 2013
- Florida (inactive), 2011

EDUCATION

- University of Miami School of Law, J.D.
- Pennsylvania State University, B.A.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- New York Metro Super Lawyers "Rising Stars", 2019-2021
- Best Lawyers "Ones to Watch", 2021-2025

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS

- New York State Bar Association; Health Law Section member, Elder Law and Special Needs Section, current Mental Health Law Committee Co-Chair and Executive Committee member, immediate past Mental Health Committee Vice-Chair, and former Elder Abuse Committee Vice-Chair.
- Nassau County Bar Association, Elder Law Social Services Health Advocacy Committee member.
- Women's Bar Association of the State of New York – current Co-Chair of the Elder Law/Trusts & Estates Committee, New York Women's Bar Association (NYWBA) member.

PUBLICATIONS

- [Assisting Individuals in Need of Mental Health Services Through a Guardianship Lens, NYSBA Elder and Special Needs Law Journal](#) (2024 Vol. 34, No. 3), Co-Author
- [Psychiatric Advanced Directives in Mental Health Planning](#), Nassau Lawyer (March 2022), Author
- [Mental Health Toolkit: Part 1 – Remedies for Stabilization and Safety](#), New York Women’s Bar Association, (October 2023), Co-Author
- [Mental Health Toolkit: Part 2 – Ensuring Stability and Support](#), New York Women’s Bar Association (November 2023), Co-Author
- [Legal Tools to Respond to Mental Health Crises](#), 3.1 New York State Bar Association Women in Law Section (“WILS”) Connect 14-15 (February 2022), Co-Author
- [When Decisions by Authorized Representatives are not in the Patient’s Best Interest](#), MD News Long Island Edition, (February 2018), Author

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

- “Article 9 Hearings, Psychiatric Advanced Directives, and the Article 81 Guardian’s Role In Inpatient Psychiatric Care”, Continuing Education Course, NYSBA, Trusts and Estates Section and Elder Law and Special Needs Section, Presenter, September 2024
- Adult Continuing Education, Massapequa Public Schools: “Estate Planning with a Heart”, Speaker, October 2018

FEATURED PUBLICATIONS

- **Abrams Fensterman Panelists for NYSBA Joint Meeting of Trusts & Estates and Elder Law & Special Needs Sections**
<https://www.abramslaw.com/media/events/moriah-adamo-douglas-stern-sarah-chussler-panelists-nysba-joint-meeting-trusts-estates-elder-law-sections>
- **9 Abrams Fensterman Attorneys Recognized in Best Lawyers® 2025**
<https://www.abramslaw.com/media/awards/9-abrams-fensterman-attorneys-recognized-in-best-lawyers-2025>
- **Assisting Individuals in Need of Mental Health Services Through a Guardianship Lens – Sarah Chussler and Carolyn Wolf Co-Authors**
<https://www.abramslaw.com/media/publications/assisting-individuals-in-need-of-mental-health-services-through-a-guardianship-lens-elder-and-special-needs-journal-sarah-chussler-and-carolyn-wolf-co-authors>
- **Legal Tools to Respond to Mental Health Crises – New York State Bar Association Women in Law Section**
https://www.abramslaw.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/202227125525_000.pdf
- **Sarah Chussler & Douglas Stern Named Co-Chairs of NYSBA Mental Health Law Committee** — 06/30/2025
<https://www.abramslaw.com/media/events/sarah-chussler-douglas-stern-named-co-chairs-of-nysba-mental-health-law-committee>
- **NYWBA Features Abrams Fensterman on Mental Health Law** — 10/06/2023
<https://www.abramslaw.com/media/news/nywba-features-abrams-fensterman-on-mental-health-law>
- **Congratulations to Our 2020 Super Lawyers & Rising Stars** — 11/30/2020
<https://www.abramslaw.com/media/announcements/congratulations-to-our-2020-super-lawyers-rising-stars>