

CURRICULUM VITAE

**KRISTOPHER JOHN KEST**

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Year of birth: 1976  
Place of birth / hometown: Orlando, Florida  
Marital Status: Married to Brooke Battaglia Kest  
Children: Antonina and Savannah Jane

Employment Background:

Kest Family Law, P.A.: February 2015 – Present.

Founder and attorney.

Lowndes, Drosdick, Doster, Kantor & Reed, P.A.: August 2005 – February 2015.

Patrol officer with Fulton County Police Department in Atlanta, Georgia: December 1999 – July 2002

Education:

Florida State University, College of Law, Tallahassee, Florida; Juris Doctor (with honors) 2005

3L Class Representative to Student Bar Association, 2004 – 2005

Teaching Assistant for Legal Writing and Research, 2003 - 2005

Summer Externship, Legal Services of North Florida, Tallahassee, Florida, Summer 2004

Member of Florida State University Business Review, 2003 – 2005

Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana; B.A. (sociology and psychology) 1999

Tulane Emergency Medical Services

Member (EMT – Basic) 1995 – 1999; Supervisor 1997 – 1999; Director 1998 – 1999

Bar Admissions:

Florida Bar, September 29, 2005

United States District Court, Middle District of Florida, 2007

Law-Related Activities:

Orange County Bar Association

Member, 2005 - Present

Executive Council, 2012 – 2021 (elected in 2018 to a three-year term)

Chair, Bylaws Committee, 2019 - 2020

Chair, Mentoring Program, 2014 - Present

Member, By-Laws Committee, 2017 - Present

Member, Professionalism Committee, 2012 – Present

Board of Directors, Young Lawyers Section (YLS), 2008 – 2012

Founder and Chair, YLS-Law Student Mentoring Program, 2009 - 2012

Co-Chair, YLS Evening with the Judiciary, 2008

Chair, YLS Afternoon at the State Courthouse, 2007 and 2008

Legal Aid Society of the Orange County Bar Association

President-elect, 2019-2020

Treasurer, 2018-2019

Board of Trustees, 2016 – Present

Chair, By-laws committee, 2017 - Present

Chair, Building committee, 2019 - Present

Pro bono guardian ad litem, 2006 - Present

The Florida Bar, Ninth Judicial Circuit Grievance Committee “A”

Member, 2015 – 2018

Chair, 2018

Vice Chair, 2017

Ninth Judicial Circuit Local Professionalism Panel (Admin Order. 2014-07)

Member, 2014 – 2015

Georgia C. Young First Central Florida American Inn of Court, Member, 2007 – Present.

The Central Florida Family Law American Inn of Court, Member, 2014 - Present

Justice Teaching, participant teacher (Westridge Middle School), 2007, 2011 – Present

Orange County Teen Court Advisory Board, 2016 –Present.

Honors and Awards:

Orange County Bar Association’s Lawrence G. Mathews, Jr. Young Lawyer Professionalism Award, 2016.

Legal Aid Society of the Orange County Bar Association, “New Attorney Award of Excellence” for pro bono work, 2010 and 2012.

Ratings and Listings:

[Martindale-Hubbell, AV Rated.](#)

[Super Lawyers,](#)

2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, Rising Star

2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 Family Law

Florida Trend’s Legal Elite,

2009 & 2011, Up & Comer

2016-2017, Marital & Family Law

Community Activities:

Brookshire Elementary School, School Advisory Counsel, 2013 – Present

Business / community representative, 2016-Present.

Glenridge Middle School, School Advisory Counsel, 2018 - Present

Business / community representative, 2018 - Present

Tulane University Alumni Club of Orlando, 2005 - Present

President, 2005 – 2010 and 2014 – 2016.

YMCA Wilderness Adventure Princesses (Father/Daughter), Tonkawa Federation, Fox Nation Princesses, Timucua Tribe.

Chief, 2016-2017.

Assistant Chief, 2015-2016.

Orlando Health Foundation, Level One Trauma Center “One Night” event, Committee Member, 2007 – 2015.

WMFE, 90.7 FM, Community Advisory Board, 2012 – 2014.

Chair, 2014.

Winter Park Public Library, Board of Trustees, 2009 – 2012.

Chair, Governance Committee, 2011.

Chair, Strategic Plan Committee, 2010.

Publications, Presentations, and Speeches:

Orange County Bar Association, Bench Bar Conference, Moderator, Hot Ethical Topics in Family Law, 2016.

Pizza and Professionalism Seminar at Barry University, Panelist, presented by the Professionalism Committee of the OCBA, October 22, 2014.

CFAWL Luncheon, presentation on mentoring in the legal profession, August 1, 2014.

OCBA Bench Bar Conference, moderator for “Domestic Violence and Advanced Evidence” judicial panel and “Judicial Assistants” panel, April 11, 2014.

Ethical Issues in GAL Representation, Panelist, presented by Legal Aid Society of the Orange County Bar Association, March 18, 2014.

"Where Do I Turn Now For Jurisdiction? Illustrations of the UCCJEA", published in The Matrimonial Strategist, Nov. 2013, Vol. 31, No. 11, [www.ljnonline.com/ljn\\_matrimonial](http://www.ljnonline.com/ljn_matrimonial)

“eDiscovery -- The Now and Soon to Be”, presented to the Orange County Bar Association Technology Committee, Spring 2012.

“eDiscovery Readiness – Getting ahead of the curve”, presented to meeting of the Retirement Housing Council, Spring 2011.

“Underwater/Upside Down Mortgages”, presented for Winter Park Public Library, Money Matters Financial Literacy Series, November 2010.

Certifications / Licenses:

Open water I SCUBA Diver, NAUI, 1994, Instructor #14760L.

Hunter Education Program, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, 1991, Certification #9950173.

Interests:

In-shore and freshwater fishing; SCUBA diving; snowboarding; wakeboarding; sand volleyball; reading non-fiction; Florida history.