

Andrew Clark Sommers, Esq.

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**Employment
Experience**

Sommers & Sommers, LLP, Albany, New York

Partner, January 1985 - present

General practice and litigation law firm.

Experienced Trial Attorney in Supreme Courts, Family Courts, and Justice

Courts.

Areas of concentration include:

- # Matrimonial and Family Law
- # Personal Injury
- # Real Estate
- # Traffic
- # Contract

Town of Colonie, Colonie, New York

April 2005 - present

Town Justice

- # Preside over all phases of civil, criminal, and traffic cases

January 2002 - April 2005

Vehicle and Traffic Prosecutor

- # Handled several hundred tickets monthly and tried dozens of cases

Bruno and Sommers, Esqs., Albany, New York

Associate. September 1982 - December 1984

General practice and litigation law firm.

- # Represented clients in Court proceedings and appearances
- # Researched and drafted legal memoranda and pleadings
- # Researched, drafted, and argued an appeal to the Appellate Division
(Third Department) of New York State Supreme Court

Albany County District Attorney's Office, Albany, New York

Law Clerk. Summers 1980 and 1981

- # Co-authored and co-researched a petition for writ of certiorari
to the United States Supreme Court
- # Researched and drafted briefs to the Appellate Division (Third
Department) of New York State Supreme Court

Professional

More than 22 years of litigation experience in many courts. Started a partnership

Experience

with my father and partner, Donald H. Sommers, in January 1985. Handled some extremely unique and interesting cases, including the following:

successfully forcing the permanent return of a child to New York State and the Capital District for a client in an international divorce and custody matter after his spouse refused to return the parties' child from Ireland, utilizing the Hague Convention Rules for Service of Process, and working with a Solicitor in Ireland.

relocation cases,
Division appeal in

successfully representing numerous clients in custodial including prevailing after a Third Department Appellate

Matter of Pagnillo v. Paul, 13 AD3d 971 (December 23, 2004). The Court reversed an adverse Schoharie County Family Court decision, following a three (3) day trial, on the facts and on the law. Also including a victory in a five (5) day relocation trial in Schoharie County Family Court in

March, 2003.

representing several clients with interstate custody disputes.
representing a client in a Bad Faith lawsuit against a major insurance company after that insurance company refused to negotiate a settlement in an accident case in which my client had been a defendant saddled with a large excess judgment, and successfully negotiating the satisfaction of the excess judgment.

and lost the

obtaining a very substantial settlement for a woman involved in a two (2) car motor vehicle accident who sustained multiple fractures partial use of her left arm.

deceased child in a

obtaining a substantial settlement for the mother of a wrongful death case. The landlord did not provide a smoke detector in the rented premises, and without an early warning, the child died in a fire.

Trained Part 137 Rules Arbitrator

**Education
Legal**

Boston University School of Law, Boston, Massachusetts
Juris Doctor, May 1982

Clinical Experience: Boston University Student Defender Program,
September - December 1981.

Criminal trial practice in the Bench Division of the Boston

Municipal Court
through trial
hearings, complete
dismiss,

Was fully responsible for defense cases, from arraignment
Duties included interviewing of all witnesses, bail
investigation, motions for discovery, motions to suppress and
and dispositional hearings.

Activities: Second Year Stone Appellate Moot Court Competition,
selected to thirty-eighth Annual Homer Albers Moot Court Competition.

Undergraduate

University of Rochester, Rochester, New York
Bachelor of Arts, **cum laude**, May 1979

Major: Political Science

Honors: Dean's List (5 semesters)

Activities: Two one-year terms on Student Senate; Sportscaster for
student radio station.

Awards

**New York State Bar Association,
Law, Youth & Citizenship Program Award.**

Memberships

**New York State Bar
Association (and Family Law
Section), Albany County Bar
Association (Sustaining
Member), and Capital
District Trial Lawyers
Association, Inc.**

Town of Colonie Republican Committee - 1992 - April 2005

Associations

Steamer 10 Theatre - Board of Directors member - 1996 -
1998

Legal Education

Appeared as a featured guest on the Girvin & Ferlazzo Law Show
radio program

Programs

on WROW 590 AM on March 1, 2003. For 30 minutes, answered
calls from listeners and provided insight on matrimonial/family law
matters.

Lectured on two (2) different topics to attorneys at a Family Law
Seminar presented by Lorman Education Services in June, 2001.

Attended the following seminars:

Program

Town and Village Justices Continuing Judicial Education

(April, 2005):

Judicial Ethics 1

New York Penal Law Misdemeanors: A Review and Update

Criminal Jury Instructions
Creative Sentencing
Administrative Issues

Other Seminars:

Update on Evidence (2005)
Uninsured/Underinsured Automobile coverage
Electronic Traffic Ticketing
Update on Evidence (2004)
No-Fault/Serious Injury Update 2004
Matrimonial Practice Update 2004
Collateral Estoppel
Ultimate Update 2003
Part 137 Rules Arbitration
Update on Evidence (2003)
Update on the Serious Injury Threshold
Ethical Issues for the Practicing Attorney
The State of the Third District
Ultimate Update 2002
Matrimonial Update: Recent Decisions
Practical Ethics
Update on Evidence (2002)
CPLR Article 16
The New Mandatory Fee Arbitration Rules
New York State Seatbelt Defense
Serious Injury Update
Ultimate Update 2001
Section 1031 - Real Estate Exchanges
Ultimate Update 2000
 Insurance - Bad Faith Seminar
 New York Legal Ethics and Malpractice
Update on Evidence (2000)
New York Practice Update
Valuation of Closely-Held Businesses and Professional Practices
Ultimate Update '98
Practical Skills - Tort and Insurance Law Practice

Diversions

Cycling, formerly participated in the MS Cycling Series (Top 10 Fund Raiser 1996-2001), and weight training.