

401 WEST A STREET SUITE 2600 SAN DIEGO, CA 92101-7910 PHONE: (619) 236-1551 FAX: (619) 696-1410 HIGGSLAW.COM



#### PRACTICE GROUP

▶ Family Law

#### **EDUCATION**

- ► J.D., Southwestern University School of Law (2000)
- ►B.A., State University of New York at Plattsburgh (1995)

### **ADMITTED TO PRACTICE**

▶ California

## **CERTIFICATIONS**

 Certified Specialist, Family Law, State Bar of California Board of Legal Specialization

## **AFFILIATIONS**

- ▶ State Bar of California
- San Diego County Bar Association
- San Diego Family Law Bar Association
- ▶ Italian American Bar Association of San Diego, Secretary (2017-2019)
- ► National Italian American Bar Association

# **CHRISTINE DE SANTIS**

Certified Family Law Specialist Partner Christine De Santis has been helping families in San Diego navigate all types of difficult and complex family law matters for over 20 years. Her practice includes divorce, domestic violence, paternity, custody, visitation, support, move-away cases, high asset cases, as well as stepparent adoptions, and she represents clients across all professions and socioeconomic levels.

Ms. De Santis' considerable experience and understanding of the nuances of family law allow her to work efficiently, which helps the families she works with resolve their legal issues expeditiously so that they can move forward quickly. Often Ms. De Santis works with active-duty members of the military and their families, as she has a deep understanding of their particular needs, and she offers a discounted hourly rate for active-duty military and their spouses.

In addition to serving as counsel and advocating on behalf of her clients, Ms. De Santis is a trained mediator. Whether she is serving in the role of an advocate or as a neutral, Ms. De Santis employs a compassionate and collaborative approach to dispute resolution. This approach has proven particularly successfully when Ms. De Santis is mediating, as she aims to help all parties find mutually agreeable solutions.

Ms. De Santis has been designated as a Certified Family Law Specialist, a distinction from the State Bar of California earned by a small percentage of attorneys who have demonstrated broad-based and comprehensive experience and understanding of family law. She has also been named one of the Best Lawyers in America© for 2021 and 2022, and as a Thomson Reuters Super Lawyer for 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022. In 2012, Ms. De Santis was honored as one of San Diego's Top 40 Under 40 by *San Diego Metro* magazine. She is an active member of the National Italian American Bar Association, the San Diego County Bar Association, and the San Diego Family Law Bar Association.



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# **AWARDS & HONORS**

- Recognized by Best Lawyers in America© (2021-2026)
- San Diego Super Lawyers® (2018-2022)
- San Diego Best Lawyers®, Family Law (2021-2022)
- Metropolitan Magazine's "40 Under 40"