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New Book Provides Handy Guide to Premarital Agreements

BETHESDA, MD., September --, 2009 -- Premarital agreements aren't just for the famous or the affluent, say family law attorneys Linda J. Ravdin and Marcia C. Fidis. Divorced people planning to remarry, older couples with children from a prior relationship, entrepreneurs and those with inherited wealth or the expectation of a future inheritance – all of them are good candidates for a premarital or domestic partnership agreement.

Noticing the increased popularity of premarital agreements, and the need for unmarried couples creating families to establish their property and support rights, Ravdin and Fidis realized that this was the right time for experienced attorneys in the field to write a guide to premarital and domestic partnership agreements in Maryland, the District of Columbia, and Virginia, so they wrote one.

Their new book, *Premarital and Domestic Partnership Agreements*, was recently published by MICPEL, Maryland's leading source for continuing legal education. The book is intended for estate planners, divorce lawyers, and business attorneys who may be called upon to advise their clients about a premarital or domestic partnership agreement or to draft one.

Ravdin and Fidis, both partners at Pasternak & Fidis in Bethesda, point out that unmarried domestic partners, including those in gay and lesbian relationships, often find that a written agreement can be useful and important. The book addresses those issues in some detail.

Ravdin and Fidis, both partners at Pasternak & Fidis in Bethesda, are consistently mentioned in media surveys of the region's top divorce and estate planning attorneys. In the book, they offer practical advice on drafting premarital and domestic partnership agreements in all three jurisdictions. They address such topics as the best negotiating strategies, the rights of spouses and domestic partners in the absence of a contract, drafting issues of concern to younger and older couples, and issues concerning the marital home, retirement benefits, children, and tax.

Pasternak & Fidis, P.C. is a 16 lawyer firm located on Old Georgetown Road in Bethesda. Founded in 1980 by N. Alfred Pasternak and Marcia C. Fidis, the firm practices in the areas of estate planning and probate, domestic relations, premarital agreements, business, real estate and litigation.

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