



Divorcing Clients
Need Special Care.

**BE THE FINANCIAL FIRM
THAT CAN DELIVER IT**

|
Empower Your Team.

Enhance Your Practice.

www.theCDStraining.com

What is a Certified Divorce Specialist (CDS®) Aligned Financial Firm?

A CDS® Aligned Financial Firm has staff who have completed the Certified Divorce Specialists (CDS®) Program – a comprehensive training for professionals in various industries who wish to provide better services to their divorcing clients.

The CDS® curriculum consists of a specialized communication skills training with a focus on integrating those skills in a client-session environment. It also highlights specific legal, financial, mental health, and real estate information that are integral to the divorce process.

What does this mean to Divorcing Clients?

It means that the CDS® Aligned Financial Firm has gone above and beyond to make sure that their staff is properly equipped to manage a better experience for all parties involved.

How can your firm stand out to divorcing clients and provide exemplary service?

WHEN YOUR TEAM IS:



DIVORCE EDUCATED



MORE RESOURCEFUL



BETTER PREPARED

CDS® Aligned Financial Firms...

- ☒ Have staff who are educated with a holistic understanding of the entire divorce process and specialized communication skills to provide better outcomes.
- ☒ Represent themselves to prospective clients as a business that is better equipped to handle their divorce needs.
- ☒ Establish strong connections with an international network of CDS® legal, financial, mental health, and residential professionals, offering valuable resources, exposure, and opportunities for collaboration.
- ☒ Receive personalized marketing materials to stand out to prospective clients.

OUR PROGRAM INCLUDES:



DIVORCE COMMUNICATION

The essential communication skills professionals need to understand and work with divorcing clients to build and maintain a productive client relationship.



DIVORCE LANGUAGE & CULTURE

How to understand the unique language and culture of the divorce process and the specific needs and wants divorcing clients may have. From terminology to traditions, the CDS® Program covers a wide range of important topics all divorce professionals should know.



DIVORCE SYSTEMS

The holistic fundamental elements of the divorce process through its various stages, including the instrumental professionals and industries. CDS® Designees know whom, how, and when to bring into the case to help support their divorcing clients.

**CDS® ALIGNED BUSINESSES KNOW THAT
THE BEST INVESTMENT IT TO INVEST IN
THEIR STAFF.**

Become a CDS® Aligned Business and...

- ✓ Improve Internal & External Communication
- ✓ Provide Exemplary Client Experience
- ✓ Increase Productivity
- ✓ Receive Better Reviews
- ✓ Build Stronger Teams
- ✓ Stand out as the Preferred Option



**CFP CE Approved
CDFA CE Approved
FL BAR CLE approved**

PROGRAM DETAILS

The Certified Divorce Specialist (CDS®) Program is a highly involved participatory training that is divided into two sections.

PART I: COMMUNICATION SKILLS

The first section the Certified Divorce Specialist (CDS®) Program consists of specialized communication skills training with a focus on integrating those skills in a client session environment. One of the most challenging aspects of serving divorcing clients is having to communicate and build a professional/client relationship with individuals who are at the beginning or midst of an extremely painful process, both emotionally and financially. In order to help them navigate this turbulent process in an efficient manner, you must be able to communicate in a way that your client has clarity, comfort, and confidence.

TOPICS:

- Introduction to the CDS® program
- CDS® Benefits
- Levels of Learning
- NLP Communication Model
- Emotional State Management
- Perceptual Positioning
- Avoiding resistance and maintaining co-operation with your clients
- Effective methods of information gathering and precision questioning
- Managing Expectations
- The Seven Stages of the Professional/Client Session Cycle

PART II: FUNDAMENTAL ELEMENTS OF DIVORCE

In the second section of the Certified Divorce Specialist (CDS®) Program, you will learn specific information regarding the Legal, Financial, Mental Health, and Real Estate fields that are essential to the divorce process. If you are providing a service to a divorcing individual, couple, or family, it is imperative for you to familiarize yourself holistically on ALL the parts that are involved and that your client will need help with.



LEGAL SECTION

- The Legal Professional
- Different Types of Divorces
- Divorce Process Options
- Important Factors in a Divorce Settlement
- Parenting Plan
- The Importance of Staying Up-to-Date with the Latest Laws (Both Federal and Local)
- Same Sex Divorce
- Military Divorce



RESIDENTIAL SECTION

- The Residential Professional
- How Does Divorce Affect An Individual's Ability to Buy or Sell a Home?
- How Divorce Affects A Client's Credit and Their Ability to Qualify for a Mortgage/Loan
- How the Client's Living Situation Affects the Process
- Residential Options When Going Through Divorce
- How the Selling of a Home Affects the Child Going Through Divorce



FINANCIAL SECTION

- The Financial Professional
- The Financial Affidavit
- Insurance for Alimony and Child Support
- Loans to Help Cover Divorce Costs
- Taxes
- National Alimony Tax Reform
- Property Division
- Splitting up a 401K in divorce



MENTAL HEALTH SECTION

- The Mental Health Professional
- The Emotional Stages of Divorce
- Signs of Depression
- The Narcissistic Client
- Domestic Violence & Divorce
- How Divorce Affects a Child
- Self Care - How to Avoid Professional Burn-out



**CERTIFIED
DIVORCE
SPECIALIST**

Marketing Materials

PROVIDED TO YOUR STAFF (CDS® DESIGNEES)

CDS® Directory Profile Page




Debra Whitson

Debra Whitson began her career as a prosecutor and, for the last 18 years, has specialized in family law. She is a mediator, divorce attorney, and expert in domestic violence matters. Debra believes that divorce is painful and strives to help her clients experience it safely. When court is necessary, she aims to make the process less stressful. Experience: Cornell University Graduate, Pace University School of Law.

Profession Title : Attorney & Mediator

Profession Category : Legal

Email : debra@whitsonlawfirm.com

Phone : 516-433-0200

Address : Elizabethtown, New York

State : New York

CDS® SEAL



CDS® Brochure for Prospective Clients



What is a Certified Divorce Specialist (CDS)?

A CDS is one who has completed the Certified Divorce Specialists (CDS) Program – a comprehensive training for professionals in various industries who wish to provide better services to their divorcing clients.

The CDS curriculum consists of a specialized communication skills training to help foster a successful and productive professional/client relationship. It also highlights specific legal, financial, mental health, and real estate information that are integral to the divorce process giving the professional a holistic understanding of their clients experience.

What does this mean for Divorcing Clients?

It means that the CDS Alumni has gone above and beyond to make sure they are equipped with unique skills and divorce-specific information to manage a better experience for all parties involved.

 **DIVORCE EDUCATED**
 **MORE RESOURCEFUL**
 **BETTER PREPARED**

Why hire a Certified Divorce Specialist (CDS)?

If you are contemplating, or in the midst of a divorce, make sure you work with professionals who:

- Have a holistic understanding of important legal, financial, mental health and residential implications on the divorce process.
- Are equipped with unique tools to help communicate more effectively with all parties involved.
- Are aware when the many legal, financial, mental health and residential professionals might be needed for your case.
- Have access to fellow CDS Alumni from across the country that can be valuable resources.
- Know the various stages you will be experiencing based on the type of divorce process you have chosen, such as mediation, collaborative or litigation.
- Understand the implications divorce has on children and are committed to consider their best interest throughout the process.
- Recognize the emotional distress divorce causes and believe in supporting clients with empathy and individualized attention.
- Are consistently connecting with and learning from other divorce professionals to stay up-to-date.

Call us now:



Designated Certified Divorce Specialists (CDS) are dedicated to providing divorcing clients special care

CDS Name:

CDS® Social Media Graphic



**CERTIFIED
DIVORCE
SPECIALIST**

DESIGNATED CDS®



Debra Whitson

Attorney & Mediator

Has completed the Certified Divorce Specialist (CDS®) Program and is dedicated to providing special care to divorcing clients

WWW.THECDSTRaining.COM



CERTIFIED
DIVORCE
SPECIALIST

Marketing Materials

PROVIDED TO CDS® ALIGNED FIRMS

CDS® Aligned Business Directory Profile Page



Whitson Law Firm

Whitson Law Firm specializes in a comprehensive range of family law matters, including divorce, mediation, custody, child support, prenuptial and postnuptial agreements, and more. Our experienced team of attorneys and mediators who are also native Spanish speakers, is here to guide you.

We serve residents in Essex, Clinton, Warren, Albany, Schenectady, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schoharie, Greene, Franklin, and Washington Counties.

With a commitment to providing effective solutions, our legal professionals bring a combination of legal expertise, courtroom experience, and problem-solving skills to assist clients both in and out of court.

Recognizing the emotional challenges associated with family law issues, we understand the emotional challenges that come with family law issues, and our focus on compassion and empathy ensures the best experience for you as our client.

Understanding the urgency of resolving legal matters, we are dedicated to efficiency, working diligently to remove the financial impact on our clients. For personalized assistance relevant to your unique situation, contact us today. We eagerly anticipate the opportunity to collaborate with you throughout the legal process.

Company Website : www.whitsonlawfirm.com

Profession Category : Legal

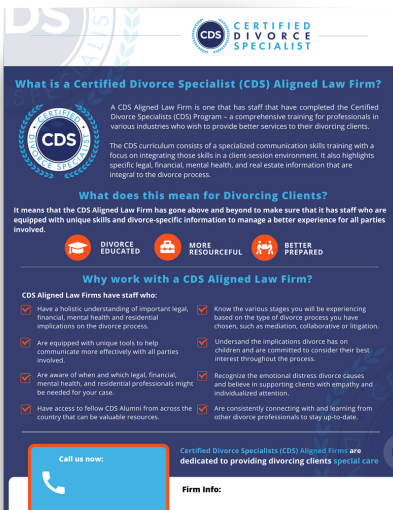
Email : info@whitsonlawfirm.com

Phone : 518-472-4070

CDS® Aligned Badge



CDS® Aligned Brochure for Prospective Clients



What is a Certified Divorce Specialist (CDS) Aligned Law Firm?

A CDS Aligned Law Firm is one that has staff that have completed the Certified Divorce Specialist (CDS) Program - a comprehensive training for professionals in various industries who wish to provide better services to their divorcing clients.

The CDS curriculum consists of a specialized communication skills training with a focus on integrating those skills in a client-session environment. It also highlights specific legal, financial, mental health, and real estate information that are integral to the divorce process.

What does this mean for Divorcing Clients?

It means that the CDS Aligned Law Firm has gone above and beyond to make sure that it has staff who are equipped with unique skills and divorce-specific information to manage a better experience for all parties involved.

Why work with a CDS Aligned Law Firm?

CDS Aligned Law Firms have staff who:

- ✓ Have a holistic understanding of important legal, financial, mental health and residential implications on the divorce process.
- ✓ Are equipped with unique tools to help communicate more effectively with all parties involved.
- ✓ Are aware of when and which legal, financial, mental health, and residential professionals might be needed for your case.
- ✓ Have access to fellow CDS Alumni from across the country that can be valuable resources.
- ✓ Know the various stages you will be experiencing based on the type of divorce process you have chosen, such as mediation, collaborative or litigation.
- ✓ Understand the implications divorce has on children and are committed to consider their best interest throughout the process.
- ✓ Recognize the emotional distress divorce causes and believe in supporting clients with empathy and individualized attention.
- ✓ Are consistently connecting with and learning from other divorce professionals to stay up-to-date.

Call us now

Firm Info:

Certified Divorce Specialist (CDS) Aligned Firms are dedicated to providing divorcing clients special care.

CDS® Aligned Social Media Graphic



CDS® ALIGNED

Has team members who have completed the Certified Divorce Specialist (CDS) Program and are dedicated to providing special care to divorcing clients.

Have your staff trained as
Certified Divorce Specialists (CDS®)
and become a **CDS® Aligned Firm.**



Testimonials



Debra Whitson
Attorney/Owner
Whitson Law
New York, USA

"After taking the CDS® training myself, I decided that everyone in my firm, whether they are answering the phones, client support, paralegals, attorneys, and even my marketing team, needed to go through this program! Now that all my staff is certified, becoming a CDS® Aligned Law Firm has elevated my practice in ways that I never imagined. In addition to all of us being more effective when communicating with our divorcing clients, we are also much more efficient with our time!"



Don Schapira
Mediator/Owner
Fresh Start Mediation
Alberta, CA

"One of our CDS® mediators was able to help our client avoid making a serious mistake that would have cost them thousands of dollars. She would not have been able to detect this potential disaster if it weren't for the Certified Divorce Specialist (CDS®) Training! I highly recommend this program for businesses or practices who work directly with divorcing clients."



Paul Riley
Lawyer/Managing Director
The Riley Divorce & Family Law Firm
Toronto, ON

"We pride ourselves on delivering quality legal services to our clients so last year we had all of our staff CDS® Certified and are now a proud CDS® Aligned firm. I cannot say enough about this transformational program that has made our team more effective communicators who can listen with empathy and deliver information in a way that makes our clients feel, seen, and heard. The skills adopted during this training have improved the quality of legal representation we provide by building our clients' trust and confidence in our team, quickly and effectively. All professionals who work with divorcing clients would benefit from the communication skills gained through the CDS® program."

**Elevate your firm with the
Certified Divorce Specialist (CDS®)
Aligned Program**



**CDS Corporate Training is available
in three different formats:**

- ☒ **In- Person**
- ☒ **Live-Online**
- ☒ **On-Demand**

To schedule a consultation:



**support@thecdstraining.com
1-888-623-7365 ext 3**

www.theCDStraining.com