



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ACADEMY OF ADOPTION AND ASSISTED REPRODUCTION ATTORNEYS
UNIFIES TWO ORGANIZATIONS WITH ONE MISSION
AND IDENTITY AS IT HELPS BUILD FAMILIES**

Heather M. Strickland of MyersStrickland, PLLC is a Fellow of AAAA which provides comprehensive legal resources and access to industry expertise in adoption and assisted reproductive technology (ART) law

(TUCSON, ARIZONA, MAY 10, 2018) – The Academy of Adoption and Assisted Reproduction Attorneys (AAAA), which has a local presence in Tucson with Heather M. Strickland of MyersStrickland, PLLC, announced today that it launched a refreshed brand identity including new, single online presence during its 2018 Annual Conference, “*Forging New Directions in Family Formation*”, held in Kansas City, Missouri. Heather M. Strickland of MyersStrickland, PLLC focuses on adoption and assisted reproduction technology law and is a Fellow of the newly branded organization. Heather M. Strickland is one of AAAA’s 470 attorneys, law professors and judges who are recognized as Fellows and practice adoption law, assisted reproductive technology (ART) law or both.

This is a significant next step in the Academy of Adoption and Assisted Reproduction Attorneys’ evolution and the unification of two *organizations*, The American Academy of Adoption Attorneys (AAAA) and The American Academy of Assisted Reproductive Technology Attorneys (AAARTA). The new name represents one Academy of attorneys guiding, advocating, and protecting all parties in adoption and assisted reproduction matters.

“Thanks to my Fellowship status with AAAA for more than 4 years, my clients have access to a host of resources that help me guide them in making the most educated and best decisions for their adoption, foster care, or assisted reproductive journey,” said Heather M. Strickland, attorney. “AAAA’s new web presence, re-brand and merger is an exciting next step for this internationally recognized organization.”

Retaining the acronym “AAAA”, the Academy of Adoption and Assisted Reproduction Attorneys provides a credentialed presence in the law of family formation and is the largest professional organization of its type dedicated to advancing the security of children through permanent adoption, the protection of children through safe and secure foster care with appropriate permanency planning, and the recognition of intended parents as legal parents for those using modern technology to build families through assisted reproductive technology.

Located around the globe – including the United States, Canada, Australia, Argentina, Israel and the United Kingdom – Fellows of AAAA are considered legal thought leaders and are a highly-vetted, experienced group. AAAA Fellows like (attorney name) use best legal practices and have helped thousands of clients through their family building journey. Admission to AAAA is a selective process that requires no less than five years of legal practice, at least 50 adoption or assisted reproductive technology proceedings, a referral for admission by a current AAAA member, and rigorous review for high ethical standards and competency by the board of directors.

Embarking on this latest chapter, AAAA created a new logo and a single domain and website adoptionART.org to reflect and support its mission throughout the United States and abroad. In addition to offering an easy-to-use and comprehensive Find an Attorney Directory, the website features expanded content designed to help guide families, donors, surrogates, birth and adoptive parents in adoption and assisted reproduction law while serving as a resource for Adoption, ART and partnering professionals. “When unifying under one organization, our continued goal was to ensure the **protection and security of children through equality in adoption, foster care, and assisted reproductive technology** while providing guidance and access to both adoption and assisted reproductive legal resources,” said Eric Stovall, Esq., President of AAAA. “Now with our new, just launched identity and single online presence via adoptionART.org, we are able to provide an even more user-friendly and accessible experience to streamline the family building process so all options are available to families from the start.”

About the Academy of Adoption and Assisted Reproduction Attorneys (AAAA)

The Academy of Adoption and Assisted Reproduction Attorneys (AAAA) is a credentialed, non-profit organization dedicated to the competent and ethical practice of adoption and assisted reproduction law. It advocates for laws and policies to protect the best interests of children, the legal status of families formed through adoption and assisted reproduction, and the rights of all interested parties. It is represented by 470 attorneys or “Fellows” from the United States, Canada, Australia, Argentina, Israel and the United Kingdom who specialize in adoption law, assisted reproductive technology law (ART) or both. AAAA is headquartered in Greenwood, Indiana. For more information, visit us at adoptionART.org

MyersStrickland, PLLC is a boutique law firm focusing its practice on family building through adoption and assisted reproductive technology. They have the privilege of working on more than

three hundred adoptions a year – more than any other law firm in the state. Their expertise allows them to provide exceptional representation in all types of adoptions – whether clients are pursuing an independent adoption, working with an adoption agency, are a stepparent or relative, or adopting a child from foster care. They are committed to the ethical and compassionate representation of expectant parents or prospective adoptive parents.

When making a baby becomes more complicated, MyersStrickland, PLLC is there to assist with the legal aspects of donated sperm, eggs or embryos, and relationships with a gestational carrier. They guide you through the legal landscape in Arizona and help you develop the best journey to parenthood for you and your family.

MyersStrickland, PLLC values and welcome ALL families.

Attorney Heather M. Strickland is a native Tucsonan and has been practicing adoption, assisted reproductive technology and family law in Arizona since 2005. She is a proud Fellow of the Academy of Adoption & Assisted Reproduction Attorneys and a recipient of a 2017 Angels in Adoption award from the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute (CCAI) for her dedication to positive child welfare practices.

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