

EXTRA

TOP 50 WOMEN LITIGATORS

Stacy Phillips

Family law is considered an emotionally brutal practice area.

Feelings often run high, but that's fine with Los Angeles attorney Stacy Phillips, 44, who says she specializes in this field because she wants to represent people "with a heartbeat."

She declines to name any current high-profile clients because she wants to protect their privacy. However, past clients include professional baseball player Darryl Strawberry in a paternity suit and Erin Everly, former wife of Guns N' Roses singer Axl Rose, whom she sued for battery.



Phillips, a Manhattan native, is co-founder of eight-attorney Phillips, Lerner & Lauzon. Last year, the Century City Chamber of Commerce Women's Business Council chose the Columbia Law School graduate for its "Women of Achievement Award" based, in part, on her community activism.

She created her firm's Adopt-A-Center program, which donates time and money to a different charity every year.

Phillips co-wrote legislation, passed in 1995, that extends the statute of limitations for victims of domestic violence to sue their abusers from one year to three years.

A guest commentator on such TV programs as "Hard Copy" and "Inside Edition," Phillips is writing two books on divorce.

— Eron Ben-Yehuda