

Janet Neustaetter is the Director of Appeals, Writing, and Paralegal Support at The Children's Law Center. Janet has been an appellate attorney at CLC for the past 20 years, and has supervised the writing/appellate unit for the past 13 years. During that period, she has written and edited briefs, and presented oral arguments in connection with several thousand appeals to the Appellate Divisions in the First and Second Departments, in family law-related cases involving issues of custody, visitation, guardianship, paternity and equitable estoppel, child support, family offenses, neglect and abuse proceedings, and other related topics. She also has been involved in writing countless trial-level documents for submission in the Family Courts in the Kings, Bronx, Queens, and Richmond County Family and the IDV Courts, and has spent many hours strategizing with CLC trial lawyers regarding the myriad legal issues that arise when representing children in the Family Court. In 2018, Janet received the New York City Bar Association's Kathryn A. McDonald award for Excellence in Service to the Family Court.

Prior to her years at CLC, Janet was a law clerk for the Hon. Lawrence W. Pierce on the Second Circuit Court of Appeals, and for the Hon. John S. Martin, Jr., on the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York. She also worked for the law firms of Davis Polk & Wardwell and Schulte Roth & Zabel. Before going to law school, Janet was a social worker at the Legal Aid Society, Juvenile Rights Division, and for Henry Street Settlement