

Partner Matheu Nunn Selected as a Finalist for New Jersey Law Journal Attorney of the Year

Einhorn Barbarito is pleased to announce that Partner [Matheu D. Nunn](#), a resident and the Deputy Mayor of Morris Township, has been selected for the second year in a row as one of three finalists for the *New Jersey Law Journal's* 2018 "Attorney of the Year Award."

"To understand the magnitude of Mat's back-to-back nominations as Attorney of the Year, you have to bear in mind that there are over 41,000 active attorneys in New Jersey according to the American Bar Association," says [Patricia M. Barbarito, Esq.](#), Managing Partner of Einhorn Barbarito.

According to the *New Jersey Law Journal*, its editorial staff along with the help of an outside panel of distinguished practitioners select three attorneys from the state who made "his or her mark on the profession, and in the law, with an achievement that goes beyond service to the client." Nunn's 2018 selection (for contributions to the law in 2017), makes Nunn the first two-time nomination for this award in New Jersey.

In 2017, the New Jersey Law Journal selected Nunn as one of its finalists for the "Attorney of the Year Award" (for contributions to the law in 2016). His selection stemmed from his role in two New Jersey Supreme Court cases, *Quinn v. Quinn*, 225 N.J. 34 (2016) (a case involving termination of alimony based on cohabitation); *In re Adoption of a Child by J.E.V.*, 226 N.J. 90 (2016) (a contested adoption case of first impression); and an appellate level decision in *Bisbing v. Bisbing*, 445 N.J. Super. 207 (App. Div. 2016) (a case involving relocation of children from New Jersey following a divorce).

"Considering Mat's contributions to the law in 2016, it would be difficult to imagine him contributing something even *greater* in 2017, but that is exactly what Mat did," says Barbarito.

On August 8, 2017, the Supreme Court of New Jersey issued its opinion in *Bisbing v. Bisbing*, 230 N.J. 309 (2017). In *Bisbing*, Nunn represented a father who opposed his ex-wife's relocation of their twin

daughters to Utah. Nunn prevailed on behalf of his client at the Supreme Court; but, “winning and losing does not tell the entire story,” says Barbarito. The Supreme Court’s landmark decision in *Bisbing* reversed *sixteen years* of Supreme Court jurisprudence in an area of law – the relocation of children from New Jersey – that Barbarito says “can only be described as hotly-contested and emotionally-charged.” As a result of Nunn’s winning argument, judges in New Jersey deciding relocation disputes must focus only on the best interests of the child, without any deference or preference being given to either of the parents.

“As a matrimonial attorney who has handled difficult relocation cases for over 30 years, I can tell you that matrimonial attorneys have been trying for nearly two decades to get the result Mat obtained in *Bisbing*. Although attorneys within the matrimonial bar are surprised it took this long, I am unsurprised Mat is the one who finally convinced the Supreme Court to change course,” says Barbarito.

Barbarito says that Nunn, who co-chairs the Firm’s Appellate Practice Group and handles divorce and adoption litigation, derives his success from “his thoughtful, dedicated approach and expansive view of the law. Here at the firm he is a leader with enormous creativity.”

At 36, Nunn has been selected for inclusion on the New Jersey [Super Lawyers](#) Rising Stars List in appellate practice, family law, and criminal law. He has also received an AV Preeminent Rating from [Martindale-Hubbell](#) (the highest possible rating). In 2015 the *New Jersey Law Journal* named Nunn as one its New Leaders of the Bar (formerly the “Top 40 Under 40”).

Nunn and his fellow nominees will be honored at the Professional Excellence Awards Dinner on Thursday, June 21, at the [Brooklake Country Club](#) in Florham Park. The winner will be announced during the evening’s events.