

## FAMILY LAW SYMPOSIUM

# Unequal Aftermath: Women's Economic Vulnerability During and Post Divorce

Join us for a timely and informative symposium examining how divorce impacts financial stability for caregivers and economically vulnerable partners. Hear from Keynote Speaker Dr. Adrienne Adams about her cutting-edge empirical research on economic abuse in marriages, how it is handled in divorce, and the implications for post-divorce financial outcomes. Legal practitioners, scholars, and advocates will analyze how Massachusetts law is adapting to address economic disparities caused by divorce and provide insights and practical tools for practitioners and advocates.

### WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

#### The True Cost of Divorce

Understand how the divorce process and inequities in earnings and retirement savings can deepen financial insecurity for economically dependent women.

#### Recognizing Financial Abuse

Gain insights from Keynote Speaker Dr. Adrienne Adams, a leading academic expert on identifying and assessing financial abuse in intimate partner relationships.

#### Legal Reforms and the Road Ahead

Examine how recent Massachusetts caselaw, the 2025 updates to the Child Support Guidelines, and proposed legislative changes may help reduce economic vulnerability.

#### Putting Law into Practice – Let's Talk About the Money

A financial expert and legal practitioners will role-play an evidentiary hearing to demonstrate ways to litigate for a fair financial judgment and provide strategies to advocate for equitable outcomes.

### WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- Judges and court personnel
- Family law attorneys
- Domestic violence advocates
- Financial counselors and social workers
- Policymakers and legal researchers



#### KEYNOTE SPEAKER

**Dr. Adrienne Adams, Ph.D., Community Psychology**

*Professor of Psychology and Director of the Program Evaluation M.A. & Certificate Programs at Michigan State University*

Dr. Adams is a nationally recognized expert in economic abuse and the economic effects of intimate partner abuse on survivors. She developed and validated the first measure of economic abuse, as well as an updated version of the instrument, and is currently studying the problem of coerced debt—a form of economic abuse that occurs when abusive partners create debt in their partners' names via fraud, coercion, or manipulation.

**Friday, November 14, 2025, 12:30PM to 4:30PM**

**Suffolk University Law School**

**120 Tremont St, Boston, MA 02108**

**To Register: [massfamily.org/register](https://massfamily.org/register)**

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