

Fellows Spotlight Anna M. Romanskaya Fellow

Q: What does being a Fellow mean to you?

A: I consider being a Fellow a great honor. I know that my selection required a personal nomination and underwent strict review process, as membership is limited to one percent of lawyers licensed to practice in my jurisdiction. It is a personal career highlight. I also take pride in knowing that my membership supports research that advances justice and the understanding of law and its impact on society.

Q: Where were you born and raised?

A: I was born in Kiev, Ukraine in the former Soviet Union. My family immigrated to the US in 1989 as political and religious refugees. I grew up in Los Angeles, CA and the majority of my family is there today.

Q: What type of law do you practice, and how did you become interested in this area?

A: I am a Partner at a boutique San Diego law firm – Stark & D'Ambrosio, LLP and our services range from personal injury, real property, employment, and business litigation matters. I concentrate my practice on family law exclusively. My background is in crisis intervention and victim advocacy. I gravitated toward family law because I wanted to help people transition through challenging circumstances and provide them with the tools to ultimately better their circumstances.

Q: If you hadn't pursued a career in law, what would you have done?

A: I enjoy community and bar service and have a strong passion for advocacy. I chose to pursue law school and ultimately the practice of law as an avenue for advocating for and empowering individuals. I think if I didn't go into law, I would likely have been in management of a non-profit or maybe a national social services agency.

Q: What do you do when you're not practicing law?

A: The first response that comes to mind is bar and community service! I serve on several local boards, as well as Chair of the ABA YLD. Those activities keep me very busy, particularly with traveling to various meetings. I enjoy the interaction and relationships I am able to foster as a result of my engagement.

Q: Anything else you'd like to share with us?

A: In my *free* time, I enjoy cycling and yoga. I love traveling and exploring new places (and I am an absolute foodie!). I speak fluent Russian as that is my first language and my favorite color is yellow!