



# JENNY BRODY

## MARCH'S SUCCESS STORY

### ABOUT

Jenny Brody is a partner at a law firm she co-founded, Brody Kling PLLC, which specializes in providing high quality, affordable legal representation in family law matters in the DC area. Jenny found her passion for this work while she was out on a 15-year career break to care for her children. When her youngest child started school, Jenny began volunteering to represent victims of domestic violence pro bono. Faced with the enormous unmet need for legal services in this area, in 2008, Jenny joined forces with two other attorneys on career break to form the [DC Volunteer Lawyers Project \(DCVLP\)](#) which provides free legal help for domestic violence victims and at-risk children. The organization is now one of the largest providers of legal services to domestic violence victims in the District. In 2015, Jenny was named a [Washingtonian of the Year](#) by Washingtonian Magazine.


### RELAUNCH STATS

Length of Career Break  15 years

Nature of Career Break  Child care

Time to Relaunch  2 years


### CAREER TRAJECTORY

 Pre-Break Employer and Job Title

Associate Law Firm

 Employer and Job Title at Point of Relaunch

Self-Employed Attorney

 Current Employer and Job Title

Partner  
Brody Kling PLLC

### WHAT WAS THE MOST EXHILARATING OR ENERGIZING PART OF YOUR RELAUNCHER?

For me, it was realizing that, after taking off such a long time from practicing law, I still had legal skills that I could reactivate and use to help others. Being back in the courtroom representing clients was a real confidence booster for me. I didn't know I felt so passionately about my work until I began volunteering. It was not an area I was in any way familiar with or had worked in previously, but once I started representing victims, I discovered that the work was tremendously rewarding and meaningful to me. Knowing that my clients' safety, and that of their children, was at stake motivated me to develop expertise in this area of law.

### WERE THERE CERTAIN TRANSFERABLE SKILLS FROM YOUR CAREER BREAK THAT YOU UTILIZE TODAY?

Absolutely! Because I now represent clients in family law cases, including custody, divorce and domestic violence matters, my experience as a parent informs every aspect of my work. In particular, my understanding of children's developmental phases and needs has been very important in my ability to successfully represent clients in custody proceedings.

### HOW HAS YOUR WORK ROUTINE OR ENVIRONMENT CHANGED AS A RESULT OF COVID19?

Our law firm has never been more busy. COVID has regrettably created and exacerbated a great many issues with domestic violence and family law cases. Home does not always equate to safety - for partners or for children, unfortunately.

So while I miss being in an office with my colleagues, in other respects, there have been a lot of distinct advantages to online court proceedings. As hearings have gone virtual, they're much less expensive for clients because there are no travel costs.

*To read Jenny's full success story, visit [iRelaunch's Success Story Archive!](#)*