

# **SUPER MOM, SUPER LAWYER**

From the President's Column in the September 2007  
newsletter of the Georgia Association for Women Lawyers

By Lee Wallace, President

The Wallace Law Firm, L.L.C.  
2170 Defoor Hills Rd.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30318  
404-814-0465  
[www.thewallacelawfirm.com](http://www.thewallacelawfirm.com)  
[lee@thewallacelawfirm.com](mailto:lee@thewallacelawfirm.com)  
© 2008

We women lawyers sure expect a lot from ourselves. We have a mental image of an imaginary woman who does everything just right. I'll call her Super Mom/Super Lawyer.

She's a partner in her firm, with dozens of big clients. She works eleven hours a day, including Saturdays. She never misses a soccer game, or even a practice. Each morning she wakes up at 5 a.m. to run five miles – she's training for the marathon she runs twice a year. When she gets back to the house, she prepares a hot breakfast for the family. She wins every motion, closes every deal, and captures every client she pitches. After work, she helps the kids with homework, and then prepares a gourmet meal for the family, making a few extra helpings to give out to neighbors and friends in need. She has just been elected President of the PTA for the fourth year in a row, and so she visits the school several times a week to help out. Her children are never dirty, her house is always clean, and her laundry is always washed.

We measure ourselves against this mythical saint, and we always seem to come up short. We spend our days awash in guilt. "I can't believe I didn't sign up to be the Secret Reader at school today. My daughter will be tragically scarred for life!" Of course, the tape plays backwards as well: "I can't believe I signed up to be the Secret Reader today! I should be working. My career is ruined!"

They say Ginger Rogers was a better dancer than Fred Astaire – because she did everything he did, but in high heels and backwards.

Women lawyers are a lot like Ginger Rogers. They churn out legal work all day – *and* they pick up their own dry cleaning, clear the kitchen at the end of the day, do more than their share of carpool, buy clothes for everybody, and worry about what the house looks like. They set out the clothes for the next day, pack the lunches, answer the teacher's emails, bandage the knees, and buy the birthday gifts.

Maybe it's time we gave ourselves a break. We're pretty amazing, when you think about.

It turns out *you* have been Super Mom/Super Lawyer all along!

In honor of you, GAWL is going to be ordering T-shirts that say Super Mom, Super Lawyer. Email [bng@bngiesler.com](mailto:bng@bngiesler.com), and we'll order one for you. (Cost to be determined).

**Lee Wallace**  
**The Wallace Law Firm, L.L.C.**  
**2170 Defoor Hills Rd.**  
**Atlanta, GA 30318**  
**404-814-0465**  
**[www.thewallacelawfirm.com](http://www.thewallacelawfirm.com)**  
**[lee@thewallacelawfirm.com](mailto:lee@thewallacelawfirm.com)**

*Lee Wallace practices personal injury, product liability and whistleblower/qui tam/False Claims Act law in Atlanta, Georgia, in her own firm.*

*Each case is different, and success in one case does not guarantee success in another. The contents of this article: (a) should not be considered or relied upon as legal, financial or other professional advice in any manner whatsoever, (b) may be considered advertising under some states' Bar Rules, and (c) do not establish an attorney/client relationship with lawyer Lee Wallace or The Wallace Law Firm, L.L.C. Unless otherwise stated, this article has not been updated or revised for accuracy as statutory or case law changes following the date of first publication, which precedes the date of the updated copyright. Always consult with your lawyer and/or your other professional advisors before acting. See full disclaimer at [www.thewallacelawfirm.com](http://www.thewallacelawfirm.com).*

© 2008, Lee Tarte Wallace