

Stephanie W. Ferradino, Esq. Partner at Jones Ferradino

Success Magazine: Stephanie, you have enjoyed considerable success in your life. To what do you attribute your successes?

Stephanie Ferradino: Creating balance has always been key for me. It is true that I am passionate about my legal career, but my family comes first. They keep me grounded and laughing. When you strive for balance and you actually enjoy the work you do, professional success is more attainable and rewarding.

SM: Your success did not come easily; it was not handed to you. What motivates you to be successful?

SF: I have always been motivated by the professional challenges in the practice of law. Working with other professionals to unravel some complex legal issues to bring a project to completion is a fulfilling process for me. It is a bit like solving a puzzle; there is often much satisfaction in achieving the results our clients seek.

SM: You are an accomplished attorney, board member and volunteer for not-for-profit



corporations, wife, mother, amateur cook, distance runner, and a woman of distinction. What gives you your greatest satisfaction in life?

SF: Unquestionably, it is my family. My husband is also a lawyer so he has a pretty good understanding of what I do at the office during the day and at night in front of the various land use boards. He is very supportive of my work. Our five year old daughter brings immeasurable joy to our lives. The happiest times are when we are all together—picnicking at SPAC, traveling, or cruising Saratoga Lake on our boat, “Saratoga L’Eagle.”

SM: Why did you choose law as a profession?

SF: I am told at age five I declared my intent to be “a lawyer and a dancer.” Later in life, my father was an enormous influence in encouraging me to go to law school. He has been a judge for over thirty years. When I became a lawyer nearly fifteen years ago, I found that the combination of the intellectual challenge, the gratification of working with other talented professionals for clients I care about, made for an interesting career. I developed a passion for practicing development law early in my career and I can’t imagine an area I would enjoy more.

SM: Your firm was retained by GlobalFoundries to handle the zoning and planning approvals for the new factory in Malta. How has this affected your career?

SF: I have been told that this is the largest privately financed industrial project in the history of New York State and it is currently the largest commercial economic development project in the USA. It was an enormous legal challenge, but one I thoroughly relished. We continue to work with some exceptionally talented people at GlobalFoundries who are doing some amazing things in cutting edge technology. We continue to work on the project, most recently securing approvals for the plant’s expansion. I have enjoyed every minute of it.

SM: Our region has tremendous promise for future success due to GlobalFoundries choosing our area as their location. What future projects do you



expect to see now that GlobalFoundries is under construction?

SF: All of the studies I have examined confirm the need for products and services that will be necessary to support GlobalFoundries. Saratoga County has planned very well to accommodate this growth. We are currently involved in the representation of some of the earliest of these projects and we would expect to see an increasing number of new project announcements over the next six to twelve months.

SM: How do you achieve balance in your life with the demands of your professional and personal commitments?

SF: I am actually a pretty self disciplined person in most facets of my life. I am frequently up very early for a run before work. This gets the day off on the right foot. I am also a pretty good planner, which drives my husband crazy, but it allows me to allocate time between work and family. Too often I have seen colleagues in our profession become too immersed in their work. That is just not healthy for long term happiness and even harder when you have a small child. I love my family and I am inspired by my work. I think finding the right amount of balance will help me continue these diverse passions for a long time.



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