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TOP 40 UNDER 40

California's leading lawyers of 2017

Babrick made a big career shift three years ago, leaving behind entertainment law and high-profile celebrity clients for a caseload that gets much less of a spotlight: estate litigation, wills and trusts and conservatorships.

While her previous role was meaningful, she said she enjoys probate and helping feuding relatives reach agreements during the difficult time of losing a loved one.

"I really try to see if they can work it out and I do try to remind people it's not just a decision for them. It affects a generation or two," Babrick said.

Even when people come to her willing to spend every last penny to fight an estranged family member, she said she works to settle things outside of court. Only about five cases a year at the law firm where she works, Los Angeles-based Weinstock Manion, go to trial.

While the tabloids and famous clientele made her last role sexy, Babrick said the job also taught her how to deal with emotionally charged legal matters. Babrick said one of the favorite parts of her work is entrenching herself with families and their stories that can go back 50 years.

"You really get to know loved ones and their whole family and spend an entire year or two with them," she said. "You learn about relationships with parents and siblings and what's going on; and a lot of the time that makes a story more meaningful."

Babrick said she finds it satisfying to

Jessica G. Babrick



Weinstock Manion ALC	Los Angeles
	Practice: Probate law
	Age: 37

reach the point when individuals tell her they're not worried about her knowing their personal issues because she's earned their trust.

A happy ending may not necessarily be the most financially advantageous one

— sometimes closure is enough, Babrick said.

"It's not so much right or wrong. It's being able to move on because it's very personal for them," she said.

— Arin Mikailian