



McKINLEY IRVIN
FAMILY LAW



We run the business. You practice law.

Our unique environment allows you to focus on what matters most to you—your clients and your career. Our firm works hard to connect attorneys with clients, and to provide unmatched family law practice and career support.



BE THE ATTORNEY YOU WANT TO BE.

Whether you're just starting out, a veteran of the profession, or somewhere in between—excellence is attainable at McKinley Irvin. We invest in our attorneys through training, mentorship, coaching, marketing, and individual business development. We also offer opportunities to develop a sub-specialty, work on complex cases, and develop other knowledge and skills needed in our evolving profession.



EXPERIENCE FAMILY LAW PRACTICE AT ITS BEST.

We represent a wide variety of clients, providing many opportunities to hone or broaden your practice through challenging and intellectually stimulating work. We encourage our attorneys to be entrepreneurial in spirit—to pursue career enhancing opportunities, such as publishing, public speaking, teaching, participating in the firm's R&D projects, and leadership positions.



JOIN A TEAM OF SKILLED AND TALENTED PEERS.

You'll work with a distinguished group of experienced, talented, and fun professionals who are committed to helping one another develop, reach goals, and deliver the best possible service to our clients. We have a culture committed to excellence and continuous improvement. Our lawyers and staff are not just great professionals, they are great people.



"We hire great people and help them reach their full potential. We endeavor to remove obstacles that inhibit our attorneys from delivering the best possible client service, while helping them achieve their career aspirations."

TERESA FOSTER, PARTNER IN CHARGE, VANCOUVER



McKINLEY IRVIN

FAMILY LAW

Unmatched resources and support for attorneys



LEGAL

Full practice support: paralegal, legal assistants, support attorneys, and back office

Attorney non-billable admin tasks are minimized

Talented group of collaborative colleagues

Mentoring and training

Systems and procedures

Online research tools

Fast access to ethics guidance



MANAGEMENT

Professional business management

Department directors/managers

Short and long-term business planning to thrive in a changing marketplace

Law Practice Managing Partner provides 1-on-1 mentoring, case consulting, and practice development

Open door policy with firm management and founders

Best practices and quality assurance programs



MARKETING

Sophisticated marketing and PR

Multidisciplinary team of marketing professionals

Attorney business development coaching

Highly competitive online presence and state of the art web marketing assets

Online client testimonial and review management

Community support through events, sponsorships, scholarships



IT

Secure network with flexibility to work anytime and anywhere on any device

Billing system with productivity and client account dashboards, online pre-bill review, mobile billing, and more

Secure online Client Portal

Dual casefile management—both paper and electronic

In-house IT department

Videoconferencing



ADMINISTRATION

Team dedicated to providing resources and clearing obstacles

Client Services staff matches clients to attorneys, schedules appointments, and manages client intake

Dedicated Client Accounts Manager handles collections

Tracking of CLEs

Client satisfaction surveys

License renewals



GROW. THRIVE. LEAD.

The MI University learning management system provides our employees with the following:

- Open access to MI's shared, collective knowledge
- A place where we teach and learn from each other
- A central repository for informational resources
- Educational resources for all departments
- Professional development opportunities



McKINLEY IRVIN
FAMILY LAW

Opportunity at every level—a career timeline



**BEGINNING YOUR CAREER
AS AN ATTORNEY**

Work with and learn from the best in the business

Access challenging and experience-building casework

Leverage the firm's marketing and reputation-building support

One-on-one mentoring with full-time Law Practice Managing Partner

**MID-CAREER AS A SENIOR
ATTORNEY OR PARTNER**

Take your practice to the next level and beyond

Find and develop a practice niche that interests you

Work with a dedicated team of legal professionals who support you

Grow your reputation as a leader in family law

Leverage firm resources to maximize flexibility and work/life management

**CAREER VETERAN AS PARTNER
OR OF COUNSEL**

Practice the way that you want

Pursue professional leadership positions, inside and outside the firm

Leverage your rainmaking equity

Mentor younger attorneys

Explore post-practice career opportunities in training, quality assurance, and other practice management roles

We'll help plan and manage your retirement transition—relieving you of worry and uncertainty



"If you want to practice family law in the Pacific Northwest, McKinley Irvin is the place to do it. Here, you are surrounded by outstanding colleagues—always ready to share ideas and provide feedback—and a firm that goes above and beyond to support you."

DAVID STARKS, PARTNER



McKINLEY IRVIN

FAMILY LAW

Why McKinley Irvin? Vision and people.



“At McKinley Irvin, we believe that every client, regardless of the size or nature of their case, deserves the highest level of legal representation. Just as large corporations rely on the expertise of premier commercial law firms, individuals navigating family law matters should have access to the same exceptional service and dedication. We are committed to providing family law clients with the same rigorous attention and respect that corporate clients expect from top-tier firms.”

RITA HERRERA IRVIN, CEO & FOUNDER

30+ 

YEARS IN PRACTICE

1000+

**NEW CLIENT MATTERS
OPENED LAST YEAR**

8 

**REGIONAL OFFICES
(AND REMOTE)**

7 

**AAML FELLOWS
ON OUR TEAM**

45+ 

**ATTORNEYS
(AND GROWING)**

24 

**ATTORNEYS LISTED IN
SUPER LAWYERS**

✓ 10

**THE AVVO SCORE
FOR OVER HALF OUR ATTORNEYS**

“We have high standards and look for others who share our same commitment to excellence. We also want to enjoy our work and those we work with, and so we’re not just a firm of great lawyers, we are a firm of great human beings.”

BRENT BOHAN, PARTNER





McKINLEY IRVIN

FAMILY LAW



The family law firm for success.

With over three decades of family law practice, our firm is home to the region's leading family law attorneys. We're known for our compassionate client service and relentless pursuit of successful outcomes.



CLIENT COMMITMENT

We are committed to protecting what our clients value most. Our clients benefit from the comprehensive knowledge and thorough approach of a diverse team of distinguished family law attorneys, paralegals, and legal assistants. Our attorneys are consistently recognized year after year for their leadership in family law and are well-equipped to handle a broad range of family law matters.

In addition to the legal team, our clients have access to a client services, accounts, IT, and firm managers who help provide a client-focused experience.



PRACTICE PHILOSOPHY

Our top priority is achieving successful results for our clients. Our attorneys are each unique in their approach; however, every McKinley Irvin attorney espouses our core practice philosophy:

- Treat every client with compassion and respect.
- Always negotiate from a position of strength.
- Be more professional.
- Be better prepared.
- Always lead the case.



GREAT PEOPLE

The work we do is not possible without great talent. So, we surround ourselves with the best—a team of collaborative, hard-working, and diverse personalities. We are a great fit for people who are self-motivated, lifelong learners, with hardwired compassion for the families we represent.

Our focus is on making McKinley Irvin a place where the best people are empowered to grow and succeed, both personally and professionally.



McKinley Irvin ranked **#2 Best Workplace in Washington** in 2024 by *Puget Sound Business Journal* in the large company category. This recognition is driven by employee feedback, and our firm has been listed for three consecutive years.



McKINLEY IRVIN

FAMILY LAW

Our Distinctions

BEST LAW FIRMS

For 15 consecutive years, McKinley Irvin has been recognized by Best Lawyers® as one of the nation’s “Best Law Firms” in the Tier 1 Seattle Metro category for Family Law.

CHAMBERS HIGH NET WORTH GUIDE

McKinley Irvin was ranked as a Band 1 law firm for Family/Matrimonial High Net Worth in the Chambers and Partners High Net Worth Guide for 2025. Partners Jennifer Payseno and David Starks both earned top individual rankings, Band 1 and Band 2, respectively.

LAWDRAGON

Five McKinley Irvin attorneys were listed in The 2025 Lawdragon 500 Leading U.S. Family Lawyers guide.

BEST LAWYERS & “LAWYER OF THE YEAR”

33 McKinley Irvin attorneys are included in the 2025 edition of The Best Lawyers in America® and Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch. McKinley Irvin is “Top Listed” in Best Lawyers for having the most recognized family law lawyers in Washington State and the cities of Seattle, Kirkland, and Tacoma, as well as the most attorneys recognized as “Ones To Watch” in Washington and nationally.

Four McKinley Irvin attorneys have been named the Best Lawyers family law “Lawyer of the Year” in the Seattle metro region: Gordon Wilcox in 2012, Marc Christianson in 2015, Elizabeth Michelson in 2017, and David Starks in 2022 and 2024.

SUPER LAWYERS & RISING STARS

In 2024, 24 attorneys from the firm’s Seattle, Kirkland, Everett, Tacoma, Vancouver, and Portland offices have been recognized as Super Lawyers and Rising Stars.

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF MATRIMONIAL LAWYERS (AAML)

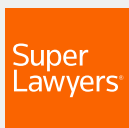
Seven McKinley Irvin attorneys have received the distinguished honor of being named a Fellow in the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers (AAML): Mark Arend, Brent Bohan, Marc Christianson, Janet George, Elizabeth Michelson, David Starks, and Gordon W. Wilcox.

MARTINDALE-HUBBELL RATED AV PREEMINENT®

A law firm is rated AV Preeminent when the aggregate ratings of its partners qualify as AV Preeminent. McKinley Irvin is rated AV Preeminent.

AVVO.COM RATINGS

Over half of McKinley Irvin’s attorneys maintain a 10.0 “Superb” rating on Avvo.





McKINLEY IRVIN

FAMILY LAW

Knowledge and Experience in Complex Family Law Matters



TRADITIONAL AND COMPLEX FAMILY LAW

McKinley Irvin offers comprehensive counsel in both traditional and complex family law matters. Many of our attorneys are skilled in subspecialties of family law, such as international cases and high value property, business, and financial distributions. We frequently collaborate with other professionals in tax, real estate, ERISA, estate planning, financial, employment benefit, and intellectual property matters.

HIGH ASSET/HIGH INCOME DIVORCE
COMPLEX PROPERTY AND DEBT DISTRIBUTION MATTERS
HIGH CONFLICT DIVORCE LITIGATION
CONTESTED CUSTODY/PARENTING PLANS
ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION
LGBTQ FAMILY LAW
MILITARY DIVORCE



HIGH ASSET PROPERTY DISTRIBUTION

We've handled billion-dollar divorces and routinely handle matters with multimillion dollar estates at issue involving an array of unique and nuanced fact patterns. Our cases frequently require the identification, protection, valuation, and strategic distribution of complex and/or high value assets, including the following:

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION
STOCK OPTIONS / GRANTS
PRIVATELY HELD BUSINESSES
FOUNDER'S INTERESTS
BUSINESS INTERESTS
REAL ESTATE HOLDINGS
PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS



INTERNATIONAL AND MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL CASES

Our legal teams work with treaties and the laws of other countries in order to effectively advise and assist clients who have cases involving international issues, including divorce, property division, and child custody. Our team is highly skilled in family law cases that cross borders, requiring experience in the following:

INTERNATIONAL FAMILY LAW
INTERNATIONAL TREATIES
MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL ISSUES (BOTH INTERSTATE AND INTERNATIONAL)
HAGUE CONVENTION ON CHILD ABDUCTION



“Practicing at McKinley Irvin means tackling some of the most intricate family law cases out there. We work with clients whose assets and circumstances add layers of complexity, which keeps the work both intellectually stimulating and deeply impactful.”

JOHN ROSECRANS, PARTNER



McKINLEY IRVIN

FAMILY LAW

Leaders in Family Law

McKinley Irvin is a leader in complex and emerging areas of family law. We provide innovative legal representation and relentlessly advocate for our clients.



MARK AREND
Partner, Tacoma | AAML Fellow



JANET A. GEORGE
Of Counsel, Seattle | AAML Fellow



BRENT BOHAN
Partner, Seattle | AAML Fellow



ELIZABETH MICHELSON
*Of Counsel, Everett | AAML Fellow
Best Lawyers® Family Law "Lawyer of the Year" 2017*



LINDSAY CAMANDONA
Partner, Tacoma



SAMUEL PAGE
Partner, Tacoma



MARC CHRISTIANSON
*Law Practice Managing Partner
AAML Fellow, Best Lawyers® Family Law "Lawyer of the Year" 2015*



JENNIFER PAYSENO
*Partner, Seattle
Past President, King County Bar Association*



HONORABLE SCOTT COLLIER (RET.)
Of Counsel, Vancouver



HILLARY ROBERTS-GRIFFITH
Partner, Everett



CAMERON FLEURY
Partner, Tacoma



JOHN ROSECRANS
Partner, Kirkland



BRIAN EDWARDS
Partner, Seattle



DAVID STARKS
*Partner, Kirkland | AAML Fellow
Best Lawyers® Family Law "Lawyer of the Year" 2022 and 2024*



TERESA FOSTER
Partner in Charge, Vancouver



GORDON W. WILCOX
*Of Counsel, Seattle | AAML Fellow
Best Lawyers® Family Law "Lawyer of the Year" 2012*



OUR ATTORNEYS

- Brandy Andersson
- Mark Arend
- Courtney Bellio
- Erin Blower
- Brent Bohan
- Faye BreitReed
- Lindsay D. Camandona
- Amy Carei
- Marc T. Christianson
- Honorable Scott Collier (Ret.)
- Hillary Dawn
- Caitlin Dennis
- Brian Edwards
- Cameron Fleury
- Teresa L. Foster
- Rainer Frank
- Janet A. George
- Laura Grigore
- David Gross
- Elizabeth A. Hoffman-Graff
- Rita Herrera Irvin
- Nathan Julius
- Ericka Kendall
- Eric Leavitt
- Cindy Lee
- Theresa Lorella
- Jane Malico
- Katie McGinley
- Christa Melton
- Elizabeth Michelson
- Jessica Moore
- Lindsay J. Noel
- Joel Odimba, Jr.
- Samuel Page
- Jennifer Payseno
- Sara Penn
- John Phillips
- Carry Porter
- Margaret Quartararo
- Hillary Roberts-Griffith
- John Rosecrans
- Caitlin Royse
- Casey Sanders
- Kim Schnuelle
- David Starks
- Gordon W. Wilcox



McKINLEY IRVIN
FAMILY LAW

We'd love to hear from you.



"McKinley Irvin is not like a traditional law firm. We're unique. People who work here know that they're part of something big."

JENNIFER PAYSENO, PARTNER

CONTACT US TO LEARN MORE

We have a remarkable team and want to find equally remarkable attorneys to join us, so we can continue to exceed our clients' expectations now and far into the future.

If this has captured your attention, we'd like to hear from you. You are more than welcome to send an email or call us to continue exploring. You can also send along a cover letter, resume, and writing examples. All inquiries will be treated confidentially.

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