



McKINLEY IRVIN

FAMILY LAW

KIM SCHNUELLE

SENIOR ATTORNEY



WASHINGTON SUPER LAWYERS® 2019
RATED AV™ PREEMINENT®

AREAS OF PRACTICE

- Divorce
- Child Custody
- Relocation
- Parenting Plan Modifications
- Child Support Modifications
- Paternity
- QDROs
- Unmarried Couples

CONTACT KIM

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Seattle, WA 98101

A self-described social worker at heart, Kim Schnuelle spends her free time traveling to far-flung destinations, hiking the local Cascades, skiing the slopes of Mission Ridge, or ensconced in her Brewster, WA cabin, writing legal articles.

Avocations aside, this veteran attorney brings that same level of intellectual curiosity and boundless energy to her work. Since 2011, she has employed her considerable negotiation and litigation skills in support of scores of clients at McKinley Irvin. Prior to joining the Northwest's largest family law firm, she served for 17 years as a lawyer with the Family Support Division of the King County Prosecuting Attorney, resolving thousands of cases along the way.

"To be successful in family law, you need to possess a solid grasp of legal issues and statutes, a healthy psychological makeup, and a good heart," says the yoga enthusiast and animal lover. "Book smarts only get you so far. It's important to know who you are as a person and practitioner, so you can provide the kind of exceptional legal representation your clients need and deserve."

For Kim, that means staying abreast of current case law, treating clients (as well as members of the bar and bench) with fairness, kindness, and respect, responding in timely fashion to client calls and emails, and appreciating the unique nature of each legal case.

"Clients facing family law litigation are living through one of the most stressful periods of their lives. As an attorney and advocate, it is my role to reduce that stress by listening actively to their desired goals, then implementing those goals through a strong, well-prepared, and effective case strategy."

Beyond those considerations, says Kim, it's incumbent on good lawyers to continue to improve their work, to refine and sharpen their craft. She adds that working at McKinley Irvin—"a place full of smart, yet really caring folks"—contributes mightily to this effort.

"Kim Schnuelle and her team have done an excellent job representing us in a complicated case. Her strategy kept us out of lengthy and costly legal battles."

— CONSUELO, FORMER CLIENT



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EDUCATION

J.D. University of Washington School of Law
M.A. in Biology, University of California at Los Angeles
B.A. in Paleontology, University of California at Berkeley

DISTINCTIONS

Distinguished as a *Washington Super Lawyer*, 2014-2019
Peer Review Rated AV Preeminent™ by Martindale Hubbell®
Avvo.com 10.0 "Superb" rating & "Clients' Choice" Award

APPOINTMENTS

Commissioner Pro Tempore, King County Family Law Motions Calendar, 2018 - Present

MEMBERSHIPS

Washington State Bar Association
King County Bar Association

IN THE COMMUNITY

Volunteer Attorney, King County Bar Association Family Law Mentor Program
Past Volunteer, King County Bar Association Bilingual Spanish Legal Clinic

LANGUAGES

Spanish

RECENT PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- Author, "Determining Residency When a Couple Splits," King County Bar Bulletin, November 2019
- Author, "Vacating Divorce Decrees When the Scales Tip," King County Bar Bulletin, January 2019
- Author, "One-Sided Wealth: Invading Separate Property," King County Bar Bulletin, October 2018
- Author, "The Interplay of Criminal and Civil Domestic Cases," King County Bar Bulletin, October 2018 (co-authored with Brian Edwards)
- Author, "What Makes a Marriage?" King County Bar Bulletin, June 2018
- Author, "Child Support and Uninsured Medical Costs," King County Bar Bulletin, 2018 (co-authored with Danielle LaBelle)
- Author, "Family Law Discovery: Pushing the Remissive Adversary," King County Bar Bulletin, July 2017

"From the moment I met Kim Schnuelle, I was treated with care, respect, and understanding. Kim has a tenacity and professionalism unmatched. I was kept up to date almost everyday for the grueling ten months of my divorce. The divorce process is not a fun one to say the least, but when you have an attorney of Kim's caliber, things are manageable. You can relax a little because you are heard, respected, involved every step of the way and she takes care of business. I cannot thank her enough."

– MS. HANSEN, FORMER CLIENT

ABOUT MCKINLEY IRVIN

Founded in 1991, McKinley Irvin is the Pacific Northwest's premier law firm focusing exclusively on the practice of family law. Attorneys at McKinley Irvin are acknowledged leaders in a range of traditional and cutting-edge areas of the practice, including divorce matters involving complex financial issues, collaborative law, contested child custody, international family law, military family law, and LGBT family law.



Super Lawyers®



Ranked Tier 1
in the Seattle
Metro in
the field of
Family Law