



# McKINLEY IRVIN

FAMILY LAW

## JENNIFER PAYSENO

PARTNER



BEST LAWYERS IN AMERICA® 2025  
WASHINGTON SUPER LAWYERS®  
2024  
CHAMBERS HIGH NET WORTH  
GUIDE 2024

### AREAS OF PRACTICE

- Divorce
- Complex Divorce (cases involving business interests, complex financial issues, or asset values of \$1 million or more)
- Contested Child Custody
- Relocation
- Child Support Modifications
- Parenting Plan Modifications

### CONTACT JENNIFER

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Seattle, WA 98101

Behind Jennifer Payseno's calm and deliberate demeanor are the intellect and ability of one of Seattle's finest family law attorneys. Affiliated with McKinley Irvin since 1999, Jennifer is highly regarded throughout the legal community for her integrity, courtroom skills, and unwavering commitment to every family she serves.

This veteran professional maintains that the primary keys to a successful family law practice are painstaking preparedness, in-depth legal knowledge, genuine respect for every client, and an ability to identify with each individual's special and specific concerns.

*"For me, it comes down to listening and understanding. My clients come to me during an exceedingly difficult time in their lives. Divorce is a life-altering experience. It's real and it's personal. My capacity to appreciate the uniqueness of every case and every client is an important skill I bring to the table."*

Indeed, one of the most appealing aspects of the practice, says Jennifer, is its exceptional variety.

"Every case is different," notes the outdoor enthusiast who enjoys weekend hikes with her husband and their two dogs. "On any given day, I might be dealing with complex business interests, real estate investments, stock options, parenting plans, or complicated tax issues.

"What never changes, however, are several principles on which I have built my practice: Provide a safe haven for my clients to vent their fears and frustrations and hopes for the future; consistently put the interests of my clients first; and always—always—negotiate from a position of strength."

McKinley Irvin founding partner Sands McKinley is an unabashed admirer of his colleague's skill and savvy.

"We met Jennifer years ago when she was the opposing attorney in a case," he recalls. "She was an extremely tough opponent, exceptionally well prepared, well-respected by the court, and a steadfast client advocate. She understood how to develop case strategy and execute it effectively. In sum, she was—and is—a real pro. We knew she belonged at McKinley Irvin, and we had the good fortune of persuading her to join us."

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*"The guidance from Jennifer and her team was exceptional, leaving nothing to chance and providing me with reassurance that the best possible argument was being prepared."*

– FORMER CLIENT, SEATTLE, WA



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## EDUCATION

J.D., Seattle University School of Law, *cum laude*  
B.A., Georgia Southern University

## DISTINCTIONS

*The Best Lawyers in America*® in the field of Family Law, 2020-2025  
Ranked Band 2 in Chambers High Net Worth Guide for Family/Matrimonial in Washington State, 2023-2024  
The Lawdragon 500 Leading U.S. Family Lawyers Guide, 2024-2025  
*Washington Super Lawyer* by Super Lawyers®, 2010-2024  
Top 100 Attorneys in Washington State by Super Lawyers®, 2023-2024  
Top 50: Women Lawyers, Washington Super Lawyers®, 2023-2024  
Avvo.com 10.0 "Superb" rating  
Peer Review Rated BV Distinguished, Martindale Hubbell®

## APPOINTMENTS

President, King County Bar Association, 2019-2020  
First Vice President, King County Bar Association, 2018-2019  
Second Vice President, King County Bar Association, 2017-2018  
Member, King County Judicial Screening Committee  
Treasurer, King County Bar Association, 2013-2014  
Chair, King County Judicial Screening Committee, 2009-2010  
Trustee, King County Bar Association, 2000-2003  
President, South King County Bar Association 1998-1999

## MEMBERSHIPS

Washington State Bar Association  
King County Bar Association, Family Law Section

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- Author, "Looking to the Future," King County Bar Bulletin President's Page, June 2020
- Author, "Safety and Security Issues at the King County Courthouse," King County Bar Bulletin President's Page, May 2020
- Author, "Serving Justice from Home: Working Remotely During the COVID-19 Crisis," King County Bar Bulletin President's Page, April 2020
- Author, "Seeking New Members for Judicial Candidate Evaluation and Judicial Conferencing," King County Bar Bulletin President's Page, February 2020
- Author, "Our Incredible Neighborhood Legal Clinics Need Your Help," King County Bar Bulletin President's Page, January 2020
- Author, "Preparing for the Future of the Legal Profession," King County Bar Bulletin President's Page, December 2020

*"We went through numerous motions and hearings and even though there is never a real winner or loser in a divorce, Jennifer won every battle for me."*

– FORMER CLIENT, SEATTLE, WA

*"Jennifer and her team went above and beyond for me. Jennifer exudes a combination of compassion and strength which gave me a sense of peace in an otherwise extremely stressful time in my life."*

– JOSIE, 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