



McKINLEY IRVIN

FAMILY LAW

LISA WARD

PARTNER



BEST LAWYERS: ONES TO WATCH,
2023

RISING STARS, WASHINGTON
SUPER LAWYERS® 2022

AREAS OF PRACTICE

- Adoption
- Child Custody
- Child Support
- Collaborative Divorce
- Divorce
- Domestic Violence
- Gay & LGBT Family Law
- Legal Separation
- Relocation
- Third Party Custody
- Unmarried Couples

CONTACT LISA

P 360.448.2631

E contact@mckinleyirvin.com

1111 Main Street, Suite 300
Vancouver, WA 98660

Lisa Ward recalls her parents' divorce as the most impactful event of her childhood. It was a drawn out and litigious process, and although she was very young, she recognized the effects the divorce had on her family, both emotionally and financially.

"The divorce process is powerful. It is a life-defining moment, and how you handle it will impact the rest of your life and your family members' lives."

While Lisa frequently resolves divorces through litigation, she believes that not all divorces have to be combative. She is passionate about alternative dispute resolution, and has extensive training in collaborative divorce and mediation. She enjoys teaching people conflict resolution tools that they can use going forward as they learn to function as a family in a new way. Above all, Lisa wants her clients to be in control of their own destinies.

"Helping people get through conflict that is so close to home is important work. At the end of the day, I want my clients to feel that they were active participants in shaping the decisions that will move their lives forward."

Lisa loves traveling internationally and having the opportunity to speak French. She lived for many years in France and Belgium. However, her favorite place to explore is the Pacific Northwest with her husband in their Airstream trailer. Lisa has two Sphynx cats—a hairless breed—who love to snuggle to stay warm.

"In every situation regarding my case Lisa Ward went above and beyond. In the courtroom Lisa radiates strength, confidence, and gets the job done!"

– JERRY, FORMER CLIENT



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EDUCATION

B.A., Reed College
J.D., William S. Boyd School of Law
LL.M., International Law, Brussels School of International Studies

DISTINCTIONS

Peer review rated AV® Preeminent™ by Martindale Hubbell®
Listed in Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in the field of Family Law, 2021-2023
Distinguished as a Washington Rising Star by Super Lawyers® 2019-2022
Rated “Superb” 10 out of 10 on Avvo.com
Rising Star Award, Clark County Bar Association, 2019

APPOINTMENTS

Executive Committee, Washington State Bar Association, Family Law Section,
2018-Present
Board Member, International Association of Collaborative Professionals Access
to Collaboration Task Force, 2015, 2016
Treasurer, Clark County Bar Association, Family Law Section, 2016
Vice President, Clark County Bar Association, Young Lawyers Section, 2014, 2016
Advisory Board Member, Center for International Studies, 2014

MEMBERSHIPS

Clark County Bar Association, Family Law Section
Washington State Bar Association
Oregon State Bar Association
Two Rivers Institute

IN THE COMMUNITY

Volunteer, Clark County Volunteer Lawyers Program
Volunteer, Community Mediation Services

RECENT PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- Author, Chapter 47: Parenting Plans, Washington Family Law Deskbook, WSBA Continuing Legal Education, 2022
- Author, “Never the Less She Persisted: The Making of Marlene Hansen, Esq.” Clark County Bar Association Newsletter, 2019
- Presenter, “Opening the Case File,” Washington State Bar Association Family Law Section CLE, 2019

“I would highly urge anyone in need of a strong, competent, and ethical attorney to use Lisa Ward. She is extremely capable, intelligent and refreshingly honest. I consider her the finest attorney in SW Washington.”

– GEORGE, FORMER CLIENT

“Lisa Ward was absolutely amazing! She was honest, caring, efficient and worked so hard with great attention to detail. She was my backbone and voice. She always stood up for what was right and fair in my case.”

– COURTNEY, 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