

HONORABLE SCOTT COLLIER (RET.) OF COUNSEL



AREAS OF PRACTICE

- Mediation
- Arbitration

CONTACT JUDGE COLLIER

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Judge Scott Collier (Ret.) joins McKinley Irvin as a mediator and arbitrator after a distinguished career on the Clark County Superior Court bench. During more than 23 years of service to the court as a commissioner and a judge, Judge Collier tried countless cases and cultivated broad expertise in many areas of the law.

Respected by his colleagues on the bench and in the bar for his professionalism and thorough preparation, Judge Collier is also known for his humor, compassion, and sense of duty. He asserts that helping people resolve their problems in their time of crisis was the most rewarding aspect of being on the bench. He is proud that he has helped families throughout his entire career.

"I never forgot that my decisions, no matter how routine, had a dramatic impact on people's lives and their families' lives. I treated every matter with the utmost importance."

Bringing such broad judicial experience, Judge Collier is highly sought after as a mediator in family law negotiations. He applies his strong knowledge of the law to the facts at hand to help families resolve conflicts in a just and practical manner.

Prior to his career in public service, he worked as a general litigator with an emphasis on family law. He started on the bench in 1995 as a part-time court commissioner, later became a full-time commissioner, and was appointed as a judge in 2008. He served as Presiding Judge of Clark County Superior Court for several years toward the end of his tenure and retired from the bench in June 2022.

Judge Collier has served on various community boards, as well as the Vancouver City Council. He is passionate about teaching and frequently instructs other judges at the National and State Judicial Colleges. He has been an adjunct professor at Clark College and at WSU Vancouver, a campus in the Washington State University system that he was also involved in founding.

A life-long resident of Washington, Judge Collier attended WSU and Gonzaga University School of Law. He is a soccer referee and a medical first responder for Mt. Hood Ski Patrol. When he is not serving as a mediator, he plans to have an active retirement of travel adventure with his wife, beginning with the 500-mile Camino de Santiago hike in Spain.

"I personally felt that everyone involved in the case actually cared and enjoyed their job and were fighting for my rights. They definitely felt like family and treated me so."

- Z.N., FORMER CLIENT



EDUCATION

B.A., Washington State University, 1980 J.D., Gonzaga University School of Law, 1983

APPOINTMENTS

Presiding Judge, Clark County Superior Court, 2017–2021

Judge, Clark County Superior Court, 2008–2022

Full-time Court Commissioner, Clark County Superior Court, 1999–2008

Part-time Court Commissioner, Clark County Superior Court, 1995–1999

MEMBERSHIPS

Past President, Clark County Bar Association, 1995–1996 Member, Clark County Bar Association, 1984–present Member, Washington State Bar Association, 1983–present

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Instructor/Facilitator, National Judicial College, 2011-present
Instructor/Facilitator, State Judicial College, 2000-2012
Councilmember, City of Vancouver, Washington, 1987-1990
Chair, Washington State University Vancouver Advisory Board, 1988-1991
Site Selection Committee, WSU Vancouver Advisory Board, 1990
Leadership Clark County Board, 2006-2011
Volunteer Medical First Responder, Mt. Hood Ski Patrol, 2007-present
Board Member, C-Tran Board of Directors
Board Member and Referee, Community Soccer League
Adjunct Professor, Washington State University Vancouver
Adjunct Professor, Clark College

PUBLICATIONS

Author, Committed Intimate Relationships, 2018 Author, Use of 904 Evidence, 2002

PRESENTATIONS

Multiple presentations at Continuing Legal Education seminars, state and local

"Seeking out an attorney can be a nerve racking experience. You have to have representation with integrity, honesty, knowledge and have one's best interest always in mind. I am so very thankful that I chose to work with McKinley Irvin and the wonderful staff they have in place. Highly recommended."

- C.M., 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.









in the Seattle Metro in the field of Family Law