



McKINLEY IRVIN

FAMILY LAW

BRIAN EDWARDS

PARTNER



RATED AV® PREEMINENT
BEST LAWYERS IN AMERICA® 2027
WASHINGTON SUPER LAWYERS® 2026

AREAS OF PRACTICE

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

CONTACT BRIAN

Serves clients in our Bellevue, Seattle, and Everett office locations.

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E contact@mckinleyirvin.com

Brian Edwards started his career in clinical psychology, where he frequently served as a court-appointed counselor for mentally ill patients. And while he found professional satisfaction from helping his clients, he came to realize that he could have more of an impact by advocating for them in the courtroom.

With his well-honed listening and conflict resolution skills from years as a therapist, and driven by a desire to help people through challenging transitions, he chose to specialize in family law.

"This is the area of law that really matters the most. It touches on the most fundamental pieces of people's lives: their family, their children, and their financial security."

Brian connects with his family law clients with genuine understanding, and he is especially effective in high conflict cases. He has significant trial experience and is very comfortable in the courtroom, particularly with matters involving child custody and support. He feels most gratified when he can improve the welfare of children.

Brian and his wife have two energetic and adorable children. They have fostered many kittens, including their own "foster fails," a cat and dog named Scamp and Gizmo. In his free time, Brian enjoys reading fiction, learning guitar, and exploring local restaurants and breweries. He is an adjunct professor at Seattle University School of Law and serves as a court-appointed special advocate for CASA of King County.

"I was very impressed with Brian's knowledge base in family law. He is direct, to the point, and fierce with his representation. He works very hard and is passionate about helping his clients."

– ALANA, FORMER CLIENT



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EDUCATION

J.D., Seattle University School of Law
M.A., Argosy University, Clinical Psychology
B.A., University of California, Santa Barbara

DISTINCTIONS

Fellow, American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers (AAML)
Peer Review Rated AV® Preeminent™ by Martindale Hubbell®
The Best Lawyers in America® in the field of Family Law, 2025-2027
Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America in the field of Family Law, 2021-2024
Washington Super Lawyer by Super Lawyers®, 2023-2026
Washington Rising Star by Super Lawyers®, 2021-2022
Avvo.com 10.0 "Superb" rating
Avvo Client's Choice Award, 2014, 2015
Order of the Barristers, 2012

PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

Young Lawyer Division Liaison to the Family Law Section of WSBA

MEMBERSHIPS

King County Bar Association, Young Lawyers Division
Washington State Bar Association
Domestic Relations Attorneys of Washington (DRAW)

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Pro Bono Adjunct Professor, Seattle University School of Law, 2022
Adjunct Professor, Seattle University School of Law, 2021-present
Court Appointed Special Advocate and Volunteer Attorney, CASA of King County, 2014-present
Volunteer, Seattle Humane Society, 2012-present

ADMISSIONS

United States District Court for the Western District of Washington

RECENT PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- Presenter, "Demystifying the Rules of Evidence: Getting Yours in and Keeping Theirs Out," *McKinley Irvin CLE*, June 2024 (presented with David Gross)
- Presenter, "Effectively Litigating Contempt Issues," *McKinley Irvin CLE*, May 2024
- Author, "The Interplay of Criminal and Civil Domestic Cases," *King County Bar Bulletin*, October 2018 (co-authored with Kim Schnuelle)

"Upon meeting with Brian, I had an immediate sense of relief. He gave a realistic and very honest opinion about my situation. I was left with a clear idea of what my options were, and choosing to move forward with Brian's help was a great decision. He listened well, was quick to respond to any issues, had a good understanding of the challenges we as his clients were enduring, and interacted with us in a manner that left us feeling confident, as opposed to defeated and drained. It's been refreshing to have Brian in our corner and I highly recommend him."

– NICOLE, FORMER CLIENT

ABOUT MCKINLEY IRVIN

McKinley Irvin is the Pacific Northwest's premier law firm dedicated exclusively to family law. For over thirty years, our attorneys have been recognized for their leadership in a wide range of traditional and innovative family law matters, including high-conflict divorces, complex property division, collaborative law, contested child custody, international family law, military family issues, and LGBTQ+ family law.

