



McKINLEY IRVIN

FAMILY LAW

CARRY PORTER

SENIOR ATTORNEY



BEST LAWYERS IN AMERICA® 2025

AREAS OF PRACTICE

- Child Custody
- Child Support
- Divorce
- Domestic Violence
- Legal Separation
- Relocation
- Mediation
- Arbitration

CONTACT CARRY

P 425.588.3700

E contact@mckinleyirvin.com

10220 NE Points Drive, Suite 330
Kirkland, WA 98033

Early in her legal career, Carry Porter worked to bring running water to Native American reservation homes. This work made her feel that she was making a positive contribution in the lives of others. This, in turn, led her to family law as a career choice, knowing that her advocacy on behalf of her clients would enable them to begin a better life.

"Making a concrete difference in the daily lives of others was a major deciding factor in converting to family law. It's a privilege to be able to help people create a life for themselves that is new and exciting."

Carry states that she likes to be "over prepared" for her cases. She makes certain that her clients feel the same way. And while she is a tenacious litigator, she tries to avoid litigation whenever possible.

Passionate about working with domestic violence survivors, Carry has served as a Family Law Fellow with the Eastside Legal Assistance Program. She is gratified when she can help those who are emerging from various forms of abuse when ending a relationship.

"I have found great joy in helping people find their voice, their footing, and themselves again."

In addition to cases involving domestic violence, Carry is a leading practitioner in the area of minor guardianship, formerly referred to as nonparental custody. She wrote the chapter on the new law governing these cases for the Washington Lawyer's Practice Manual and has educated other attorneys on the topic.

On top of her family law practice, Carry is mediator who serves as a neutral facilitator of family law negotiations. She also resolves family law matters as an arbitrator.

Carry has volunteered with the Mountaineers for twenty years teaching climbing, kayaking, and hiking. She also loves motorcycling and is learning how to ride a dirt bike.

"Carry has been an amazing asset to us throughout an ongoing family law battle. She has represented us in court several times and her verbal arguments are always top notch. She has helped us immensely in dealing with a high conflict family court case. Carry is calm, straight forward, detail oriented, sincere and genuine in everything she has done for us. "

– FORMER CLIENT



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EDUCATION

J.D., Seattle University School of Law
B.A., University of Washington

DISTINCTIONS

The Best Lawyers in America® in the field of Family Law, 2024–2025
Washington Rising Star by Super Lawyers®, 2020

MEMBERSHIPS

Washington State Bar Association
King County Bar Association, Family Law Section
Domestic Relations Attorneys of Washington (DRAW)

IN THE COMMUNITY

Volunteer Mediator, King County Volunteer Settlement Program, 2020–present
Pro Bono Adjunct Professor, Seattle University School of Law, 2022
Attorney Mentor, Eastside Legal Assistance Program, 2020–2021
Director at Large, Board of Directors, Mountaineers, 2022–present
Secretary, Board of Directors, Mountaineers, 2022–2024
Vice President of Outdoor Centers, Board of Directors, Mountaineers, 2016–2022
Family Law Fellow, Eastside Legal Assistance Program, 2015–2016
Volunteer Attorney, Washington First Responder Will Clinic, 2010–2016

RECENT PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATION

- Chief Author, “Minor Guardianships,” Chapter in *Washington Lawyer’s Practice Manual*, King County Bar Association, 2021
- Co-chair and Presenter, “Title 11 Minor Guardianship Training,” King County Bar Association CLE, April 2021
- Content Editor, “Domestic Relations Practice,” Chapter 9 in *2019 Washington Lawyers Practice Manual*, King County Bar Association, 2020
- Presenter, “Navajo-Hopi Little Colorado Water Rights Settlement,” Seattle University School of Law, 2012
- Presenter, “Doing Business in Indian Country,” King County Bar Association, 2011

“Carry guided me through a confusing, frustrating process, gave fantastic advice, calmed me down when stressful incidents happened and helped keep moving things in my case along. Her knowledge of the legal process was top notch. She knew what reasonable resolutions were that a court would reach and that gave me the confidence to reach an equitable solution in mediation. She knew what was worth taking to trial and what wasn’t and that helped keep my case out of court. I would re-hire her in an instant.”

– MIKE, 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.



Super Lawyers®

