

Michael Savage

ATTORNEY/OPERATIONS MANAGER



EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science / Psychology

University of Washington, 2010

APR 6 Law Clerk Program

Washington State Bar Association, 2022

MEMBERSHIPS

- WSBA, admitted 2022
- King County Bar Association
- Snohomish County Bar Association
- Family Law Section, WSBA
- Family Law Section, KCBA
- Family Law Section, SCBA

SKILLS

- Legal Writing
- Persuasion/Debate
- Public Speaking
- Negotiations/Settlements
- Litigation
- Mediation/Arbitration
- Automating Work Processes
- Vast Information Technology Skills
- Marketing/Branding/Web Design
- HotDocs/Document Automation
- Human Resources
- Accounting/Bookkeeping
- Trust Management
- Firm Management

ABOUT ME

A skilled attorney with fifteen years of legal/operations experience in family law seeking to grow and improve the legal profession.

While I am a new attorney, I have a wealth of experience/knowledge in family and law firm operations. I bring a fresh new perspective to the practice of law. I am always seeking new ways to improve and grow, and I hope to apply these skills to the profession as a whole to improve the way we practice law.

EXPERIENCE

Attorney

Luminosity Law / Mountlake Terrace, WA / 2022 - Present

Using my significant family law experience and background in psychology, I skillfully navigate my cases and counsel my clients in order to achieve their goals and bring about a swift and amicable resolution to their legal matters without the need for costly litigation. I do not hesitate, however, to litigate in those rare situations where there is no reasonable alternative or when it is in the client's best interests for a third party to resolve their issue.

Operations Manager

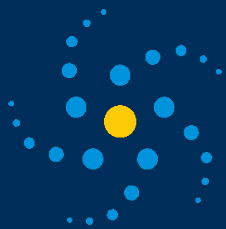
Luminosity Law / Mountlake Terrace, WA / 2011 - Present

While working in a supporting role, I quickly found that I had a knack for optimizing firm operations. Working smart, I used my unique problem-solving skills and proficiency with technology to standardize and automate our firm processes. Eventually, managing all aspects of firm operations, including, but not limited to IT, marketing, accounting, and human resources. I have taken our firm paperless, to the cloud and beyond. I have found that with the right tools, there is no problem that cannot be solved.

Legal Assistant / Paralegal / Law Clerk

Luminosity Law / Mountlake Terrace, WA / 2008 - 2022

I gained a wealth of legal and administrative experience in all aspects of family law. I started at the front desk part-time while I was in college. I enjoyed my work and stayed on full-time after college and obtained my paralegal certification. I quickly took on new responsibilities, gaining experience in all areas of family law. I enrolled in the WSBA APR 6 Law Clerk program to study the law and become an attorney and continued to gain hands-on experience in the practice of law.



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ATTORNEY/OPERATIONS MANAGER



TO: WSBA Family Law Section Members

RE: Executive Committee Position Letter of Interest

Dear Washington State Bar Association Members,

I am seeking to become a valuable member of the Washington State Bar Association Family Law Section Executive Committee. While I am somewhat new to being an attorney, I have worked in family law for fifteen (15) years. Through my experience I gained a vast amount of knowledge in the practice of law and in managing a law firm. In addition, I have a wide range of skills in information and technology that I believe I could use to benefit the legal community at large. In my work as an operations manager, I have accomplished feats such as taking our firm paperless, adopting electronic signatures, automating client intake, adopting cloud phone service, virtualizing our office, developing a responsive website, automating document generation (using HotDocs and other software) most long before other firms (or the pandemic) had required firms to do so. I have also standardized firm processes/procedures, streamlined accounting/payroll, improved the firm's online presence and marketing and much more.

In my practice of family law, I firmly believe that almost all family law matters can (and should) be resolved without litigation. An overwhelming majority of cases settle before trial. Cases should be approached with this in mind. When there are competent attorneys on both sides, chances are they have a good idea of what the likely outcome in court will (or should) be and there is no reason that they cannot work together through strategic debate to negotiate a fair and reasonable settlement that achieves their clients' goals within the confines of the law. There is little to be gained from stirring up unnecessary conflict that needlessly increases the financial and emotional cost, stress, and time for all parties involved. While it might result in more billable hours for that case (to that client's detriment), I think an attorney's time (and mental health) is better spent trying to develop a higher volume of low(er) conflict cases. There is no shortage of family law cases, and, with the right approach and attitude, it should not affect the attorney's profit and could significantly improve their well-being.

As such, in my role on the executive committee, I hope to influence legislation, initiatives, court rules, legal education content and whatever else that would encourage civility and cooperation between opposing counsel in an attempt to resolve their cases as amicably as possible without the need for litigation (even while not working within the confines of collaborative law). Further, I hope to use my background in information and technology in any way that might benefit the legal community.

I appreciate this opportunity and look forward to working with everyone in any way I can, whether or not I am selected. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael Savage