

## Christian M. Lapham

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### PRACTICE AREAS

Domestic Relations

### EDUCATION

George Mason University  
School of Law, J.D., 2001

- Managing Justice, Moot Court Board
- Federal Circuit Bar Journal

University of Virginia, B.A., 1997

### BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

Virginia, 2002

Christian Lapham is a shareholder of Bean, Kinney & Korman and has been practicing law since 2002. He has a diverse background representing clients in domestic relations and civil litigation matters.

As a divorce lawyer, Christian has successfully litigated complex custody matters, including cases involving relocation, mental illness, substance abuse, and parental alienation. He has also handled numerous complex equitable distribution and support matters, including matters involving federal employees and military service members, valuation issues pertaining to businesses and sophisticated asset-tracing issues. A former small business owner himself, Christian appreciates the challenges and nuances of a separation and divorce where one party owns a business.

Christian's approach to family law incorporates three fundamental aspects: education, counseling, and advocacy. As the son of an Arlington elementary school teacher, he believes you cannot make an informed decision unless you are educated on how to understand the legal implications of this decision. Christian is a former founder and current frequent lecturer at Second Saturday, a workshop designed to educate potential clients on the separation and divorce process and is the author of a divorce toolkit, offering open source to potential clients to provide valuable insights into this process even prior to the initial consult. He takes a measured approach to his legal counsel of clients, understanding that decisions made during the separation and divorce process are complex and may have lasting implications for the greater family dynamic. Finally, Christian is a zealous advocate for his clients both inside and outside the courtroom and has been negotiating and litigating family law matters in all Northern Virginia jurisdictions for two decades.

Prior to joining the firm, Christian was a partner at Cooch & Lapham in Fairfax. In his spare time, Christian is busy chasing his two boys around the streets of Arlington and the ski slopes of Snowshoe, West Virginia.

Christian is fluent in German.

## Honors

Virginia Business, Legal Elite in Family Law/Domestic Relations, 2019-2020

Arlington Magazine, Top Attorney - Family, 2019

Virginia Super Lawyers in Family Law, 2014 - 2021

Washington, D.C. Super Lawyers in Family Law, 2015 - 2021

Best Lawyers in America in Family Law, 2014 - 2021

Northern Virginia magazine, Top Lawyer, 2013

AV Rated by Martindale Hubbell

## Experience

- Represented a client to prevent the relocation of the client's youngest daughter to another state in a hotly contested custody and relocation case in Fairfax Circuit Court. The daughter was not relocated.
- Represented a client in the settlement of complex equitable distribution/asset tracing issues involving a large sum of separate assets maintained in trust, thereby saving the client tens of thousands of dollars in litigation expenses.

## Published Articles

ER Doctor's Temporary Loss of Custody and a Possible Path Forward  
April 20, 2020

Coronavirus and Custody: Implications of Stay at Home Orders  
April 20, 2020

Divorce Toolkit - A Guide to Separation and Divorce in Virginia  
March 31, 2020

Coronavirus and Custody: What You Need to Know During the Crisis  
March 29, 2020

Do You Have a Pre-Nuptial Agreement that Has a Provision for Alimony?  
March 2018

The Seven Things You Wish You Knew At the Beginning of Your Divorce  
*BKK Family Law Newsletter*, October 2015

Family Law Attorney *and Counsellor* at Law  
*BKK Family Law Newsletter*, April 2015

Protective Orders in Virginia  
*BKK Family Law Newsletter*, October 2014

New Child Support Guidelines under Virginia Code Section 20-108.2: What do They Mean for You?  
*BKK Family Law Newsletter*, May 2014

## Speaking Engagements

Done with Divorce Workshop

Online, May 19, 2021

Second Saturday Divorce Webinar

Online, April 14, 2021

Second Saturday - Arlington/Fairfax: Free Seminar on Divorce

Navy League Building, 1st Floor, Arlington, Virginia

## News

Fifteen Attorneys from Bean, Kinney & Korman Listed in 2022 Best Lawyers in America and Five Attorneys Listed in Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch

August 19, 2021

2021 Super Lawyers

May 6, 2021

Thirteen Attorneys from Bean, Kinney & Korman Listed in 2021 Best Lawyers in America and Three Attorneys Listed in Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch

August 20, 2020

2020 Super Lawyers

May 7, 2020

Twenty-six Attorneys from Bean, Kinney & Korman Recognized as Top Attorneys by *Arlington Magazine*

October 18, 2019

Eleven Attorneys from Bean, Kinney & Korman Listed in 2020 Best Lawyers in America

August 15, 2019

2019 Super Lawyers

April 18, 2019

Ten Attorneys from Bean, Kinney & Korman Listed in 2019 Best Lawyers in America

August 15, 2018

Bean, Kinney & Korman Attorneys Recognized as 2018 Virginia Super Lawyers, Top 10 and Rising Stars

April 30, 2018

Nine Attorneys from Bean, Kinney & Korman Listed in 2018 Best Lawyers in America

August 22, 2017

Fourteen Attorneys from Bean, Kinney & Korman Recognized as 2017 Virginia Super Lawyers and Rising Stars  
April 13, 2017

Eight Attorneys from Bean, Kinney & Korman Listed in 2017 Best Lawyers in America  
August 15, 2016

Eleven Attorneys from Bean, Kinney & Korman Recognized as 2016 Virginia Super Lawyers and Rising Stars  
April 7, 2016

Eight Attorneys from Bean, Kinney & Korman Listed in 2016 Best Lawyers in America  
August 17, 2015

Twelve Attorneys from Bean, Kinney & Korman Recognized as 2015 Virginia Super Lawyers and Rising Stars  
April 9, 2015

Eight Attorneys from Bean, Kinney & Korman Listed in 2015 Best Lawyers in America  
August 18, 2014

Six Attorneys from Bean, Kinney & Korman Recognized as 2014 Virginia Super Lawyers  
June 13, 2014

John Kelly and Christian Lapham Appointed Equity Shareholders  
January 17, 2014

Eight Attorneys Recognized as 2014 Best Lawyers in America  
August 15, 2013

Christian Lapham Appointed Shareholder of the Firm  
May 2, 2011

## **Professional & Community Affiliations**

Collaborative Professionals of Northern Virginia

Fairfax Bar Association (Family Law Section)

Virginia State Bar (Family Law Section)

Virginia Bar Association (Family Law Section)

Virginia Commerce Bank (Alexandria Advisory Board)

Virginia Trial Lawyers Association (Family Law Section)

Second Saturday – Fairfax (Founder & Lecturer)

SCAN of Northern Virginia (Board of Directors)

Habitat for Humanity (Participant, Global Village Program in Portugal)

## Beyond the Suit

Christian enjoys spending time with his wife and two young children when he isn't in the courtroom. His hobbies include tennis, running and watching football and baseball.