

Julia Ferguson



Julia S. Ferguson

Partner

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Education

University of Colorado Law School at Boulder

J.D. 2001; Legal Aid Award 2001; Member, Journal of International Environmental Law and Policy

Santa Clara University School of Law

Fall 2000 semester; Intellectual Property Law

Colorado College

Cum laude, B.A. in English Literature, with distinction

Admissions

California Bar, 2001

Recognition

- Northern California Super Lawyers (2020, 2019)
- Certified Family Law Specialist by the State Bar of California (since 2012)

Professional Activities

- Association of Family Law Specialists
- Minor's Counsel
- San Mateo County Bar Association
- Santa Clara County Bar Association

Personal Interests

When Julia is not practicing law, she enjoys listening to Giants' games on the radio, reading fiction, attempting to improve her chess game, taking her dog to the beach and spending time with her grown daughter.

As a Certified Family Law Specialist, Julia S. Ferguson is an expert credentialed with one of the most rigorous legal qualifications in California family law. She has extensive experience representing clients, including engineers and technology specialists, in their divorce by litigation, mediation, or as consulting counsel. She serves as a volunteer mediator and judge pro tem in Santa Clara Superior Court.

Julia is a strong proponent of negotiated settlements to achieve the best outcome in family law matters. When settlement is not possible, Julia is courtroom ready and experienced in advocating for her clients' rights in disputes over dissolution of marriage, custody, support, nullities, property division and post-judgment set-asides. She considers each case unique and favors tailored strategies over formulaic, cookie-cutter litigation approaches as the best way to protect and advocate for her clients.

Julia views children as unwitting participants who should be the top priority in cases where parents are divorcing. Even though a parent is her client, Julia seeks to minimize the negative effects to children throughout all divorce proceedings. Julia also serves as minor's counsel, representing the children's best interests in high-conflict cases.

In one of my first court appearances in San Mateo, a family law judge said, 'Children learn how to love based on how their parents treat each other.' This deeply resonated with me and still does. Whenever possible, children deserve to have safe, loving and positive relationships with both of their parents.

Because divorce and family law litigation can be stressful and emotional, Julia invests in establishing a productive and communicative relationship with her clients from the start. During the initial client interview, both Julia and the prospective client can use the opportunity to determine whether they are a good fit. Julia is known for her honest and self-effacing approach—she encourages potential clients to interview at least three family law attorneys prior to engagement. Julia will not hesitate to refer a potential client to another attorney if she believes a client would be better served.

A graduate of the University of Colorado Law School at Boulder, Julia began her legal career practicing in the areas of intellectual property and commercial litigation with the local San Jose law firm of Skjerven Morrill LLP and, later, with the international law firm Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pitman. She is a founding member of Robin, Ferguson & Kempton, LLP.