

# LAURA ELIZABETH YELISH

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## CREDENTIALS

WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION, Admitted  
UNITED STATES FEDERAL TAX COURT, Admitted  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON, Admitted

## AWARDS

NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF ATTORNEYS, ATTORNEY OF THE YEAR, FAMILY LAW 2022  
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF LEGAL ADVOCATES, RISING STAR AWARD 2018  
AWARD, KITSAP LEGAL SERVICES 2018  
PUBLIC SERVICE & LEADERSHIP AWARD, WSBA NEW & YOUNG LAWYERS COMMITTEE 2017  
FUNDRAISING CHAMPION AWARD, KITSAP LEGAL SERVICES 2017

## MEMBERSHIP

WSBA, BOARD FOR JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION REMOTE PROCEEDINGS WORKGROUP (present)  
KITSAP COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION, member (2014- present), Young Lawyer Trustee (2018), Trustee (2019-20), Treasurer (2021), Secretary (2022), Vice President (present)  
KITSAP COUNTY FAMILY LAW PRAC & PRO COMMITTEE, member (2018- present), Organizer (2022-present)  
KITSAP COUNTY FAMILY LAW GROUP, member (2014- present), Organizer (2018-19, 2022- present)  
KITSAP COUNTY DV WORKGROUP, member (2020- present)-[==  
KITSAP LEGAL SERVICES, Executive Board member, Fundraising Committee, CLE Committee (2017- present)  
KITSAP COUNTY YOUNG LAWYER'S ASSOCIATION, member (2014-2019), Vice-president (2016), President (2017)  
KITSAP COUNTY HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE (2016- present)  
AMERICAN INNS OF COURT (BRYANT CHAPTER), Associate (2017- 2019)  
WSBA, PUBLIC SERVICE AND PROBONO COMMITTEE (2017-19)

## VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

TRAFFICKING PREVENTION FOR SCHOOLS, Seattle Against Slavery, Kitsap County, WA  
Trained Facilitator

August 2017

Trained to facilitate four 45-minute sessions to encourage 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade students to create a safe environment to discuss healthy relationships, violence prevention, and social and personal responsibility.

KITSAP COUNTY MOCK TRIAL, Silverdale, WA  
Assistant Coach

Sept. 2016- Feb. 2018

Taught trial advocacy skills and the Federal Rules of Evidence to high school students competing in the YMCA Youth & Government Mock Trial Competition. Foster relationships with members of the legal community leading to increased involvement with students especially as mock trial team advisors and guest judges.

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## PRO BONO EXPERIENCE

KITSAP LEGAL SERVICES, Bremerton, WA  
Volunteer Attorney

2016- present

Assist clients in obtaining domestic violence protection orders and restraining orders. Provide legal advice to low-income individuals in matters related to domestic violence, divorce, child custody, and child support.

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON FEDERAL TAX CLINIC, Seattle, WA  
Volunteer Attorney

2014- 2021

Represent low income individuals in disputes with the Internal Revenue Service, including audits, appeals, collection matters, and federal tax litigation. Assist taxpayers in responding to IRS notices.

## EXPERIENCE

YELISH & BARKER Port Orchard, WA  
Partner  
Managing Partner

July 2019- 2022  
present

Conduct depositions, draft pleadings, negotiate pleas, review warrants and law enforcement reports to determine probable cause, and argue motions for pretrial release/bond. Perform all aspects of litigation preparation and execution, including witness preparation. Represent clients in juvenile dependency, dissolution, child custody, non-parental custody, relocation, and termination trials. Conducted legal research and writing of a wide variety of memoranda of law, motions and briefs on appeal in child custody and dissolution cases.

KITSAP COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT, Port Orchard, WA  
Settlement Conference Judge Pro Tem

present

Guide parties toward private settlement and assist parties to resolve essential issues such as the division of property, provision of spousal support and child support, and child custody matters.

NEWBRY LAW (PLLC) Port Orchard, WA  
Senior Associate Attorney  
Associate Attorney

Jan 2019- June 2019  
June 2016- June 2019

Manage variety of large volume calendars including: dissolutions, domestic violence, family dependency drug court, juvenile dependency, misdemeanors, paternity, and sexual assault protection orders. Conduct depositions, attend arraignments, draft pleadings, negotiate pleas, review warrants and law enforcement reports to determine probable cause, and argue motions for pretrial release/bond. Second chair trial seat criminal felony.

BISHOP, CUNNINGHAM, & ANDREWS, INC. (P.S.), Bremerton WA  
Associate Attorney

Oct. 2014- May 2016

Represented clients in all areas of family law including divorce, paternity, child custody, relocation, child support, spousal support, debt and asset distribution, etc. Conducted legal research, drafted supporting documents, attended hearing, argued motions, managed depositions, and successfully represented clients in child custody and relocation trials.

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EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON LAW SCHOOL, LL.M. in Taxation, June 2015 Seattle, WA  
Activities: Student Attorney, University of Washington Federal Tax Clinic

VALPARAISO UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL, J.D., May 2014 Valparaiso, IN  
Activities: Trial Advocacy  
Justice of Intra-school, International Moot Court  
Justice, Phi Alpha Delta Honors Society  
Honors: Runner-Up Best Advocate, John L. Costello National Trial Advocacy Competition, 2014  
Quarterfinalist, Runner-Up Best Respondent Brief, Niagara Moot Court Competition, 2014  
Honor's A (Cali Award) in Pre-Trial Skills Course

BENEDICTINE UNIVERSITY, B.A. in Political Science, Lisle, IL  
Certificate in Environmental Studies, May 2011  
Activities: President, Phi Alpha Theta Honors Society, 2010-2011  
Professor Preston Aldrich, Research Assistant 2010-2011



Laura E. Yelish  
Partner  
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March 16, 2023

Re: **Statement of Interest**

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Laura Yelish. I have been licensed in the State of Washington since 2014. I currently practice in Kitsap County. My practice focuses primarily on family law. I would like to serve as an “at-large” member of FLEC for several reasons.

I am the current Vice President of the Kitsap County Bar Association, serve on the board of Directors for Kitsap Legal Services, plan the monthly Family Law Group Lunches for the Kitsap Family Law Group, and moderate the Kitsap County Bar Association Family law Practice and Procedure Committee.

I enjoy policy work. I have been heavily involved in drafting the Kitsap County Emergency Family Law Administrative Orders during the Pandemic as well as the amended Kitsap County Local Family Law Rules.

Finally, I believe it is important to set an example for young lawyers, and for my young children, to show the importance of community involvement.

Thank you for consideration.

Very truly yours

Laura E. Yelish