



**Stephen C. Palmer**  
*Attorney at Law*  
Brown, Tarlow,  
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Steve was born in the San Francisco Bay Area but was raised in the Portland Metropolitan area since middle school. He has lived in Newberg for the past twenty years and considers Yamhill County his permanent home. As an attorney at Brown, Tarlow, Bridges & Palmer in Newberg, his practice focuses on Estate Planning, Elder Law and Family Law.

In 1989, he earned his undergraduate degree in Speech Communications from Carroll College. He graduated with honors and while there he earned over 80 trophies at national debate competitions. He obtained his Juris Doctor degree from University of Oregon School of Law in 1994. In addition, Stephen served as Municipal Court Judge pro tempore for the City of Newberg from 1997 to 2010 and served in similar capacities for Sherwood, Dundee, Dayton, Yamhill-Carlton and McMinnville.

When he's not at work, Steve enjoys dirt bike riding, snow skiing and white water kayaking.



**Steve Cox**  
*Attorney at Law*  
Northwest Property Law

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Having spent many years in film and television production, Steve Cox decided it was time for a change and the field of law was particularly appealing to him. A McMinnville attorney, Steve specializes in real estate, land use, landlord/tenant, construction and business law.

A native of Longview, Washington, Steve was awarded a bachelor's degree in speech communication from Whitworth College before earning a master's in film production from Humboldt State University. He earned his law degree from the Willamette University College of Law. Steve enjoys being able to help his clients navigate complex legal problems.

Steve has written, produced and directed a variety of short comedy films and television shows. In 2009, he produced and directed a feature-length documentary detailing the 1969 Seattle Pilots Major League Baseball team. He lives in McMinnville with his wife, daughter and stepdaughter. Steve continues to satisfy his creative side by being active with Gallery Theater.



**Cynthia Kaufman Noble**  
*Attorney at Law*  
Noble Law Firm

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Cynthia Kaufman Noble has a keen sense of fair play and a love of justice, she has a passion to right wrongs and to help others. Her work, in recent years, has been in family and juvenile law. She is dedicated to finding peaceful resolutions that strengthen the community.

Cynthia is an active member of the legal community in McMinnville Municipal Court and Yamhill County Circuit Court. She is a member of the Oregon Bar Association, the Yamhill County Bar Association, Yamhill Justice Center, Oregon Criminal Defense Lawyers Association, Oregon Municipal Judge's Association, and Oregon Association of Collaborative Professionals.

Cynthia received her Bachelor of Fine Arts from Syracuse University in Syracuse, New York and was awarded a Doctor of Jurisprudence from Willamette University College of Law. She and husband, Rick, have three witty, grown children and two reasonably well-behaved malamutes. Cynthia enjoys working with music and the arts, and inspiring others.



**Dianne Haugeberg**  
*Attorney at Law*  
Haugeberg, Rueter, Gowell,  
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Dianne Haugeberg has always enjoyed meeting new people and learning about their lives and families. That's why she is perfectly suited in her role as an attorney specializing in estate and tax planning. At McMinnville's Haugeberg, Rueter, Gowell, Fredricks & Higgins law firm, Haugeberg helps her clients with wills, trusts, tax planning, probate and trust administration.

Haugeberg earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Willamette University in 1997. Three years later, she was awarded her Doctor of Jurisprudence from Santa Clara University. In 2001, Haugeberg graduated cum laude with a Master of Laws (LLM) degree in taxation from the University of San Diego School of Law.

Haugeberg lives in McMinnville with her husband and two young children. In her spare time, she enjoys photography, riding her horse, raising chickens, cooking and reading a good book.



**Karin Moshier**  
*Attorney at Law*  
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Karin Moshier enjoys helping people who are facing difficult situations achieve positive resolutions. Moshier specializes in family law including divorce, custody, child support, parenting time and spousal support at Haugeberg Rueter Gowell Fredricks & Higgins, P.C. in McMinnville.

Moshier earned a Bachelor of Arts in economics from the University of the South in Sevanee, Tennessee. She was then awarded her Doctor of Jurisprudence from Lewis and Clark Law School in Portland. Moshier is treasurer of the Yamhill County Bar Association, a member of the noon Kiwanis Club and serves as secretary of the McMinnville Downtown Association.

Moshier lives in McMinnville with her husband, Robert, and their two daughters. When she is not working, she enjoys hiking, traveling, sports and spending time with her family.



**Samuel R. Justice**  
*Attorney at Law*  
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Sam Justice enjoys finding answers and solving problems. Justice specializes in government, employment and real estate law. He assists clients with transactions, contracts, and with disputes.

After five years in the US Army he studied at Portland State University, earning a B.A. with highest honors in 1989. A law degree followed from Lewis & Clark in 1993. By 1994 he was living and working in McMinnville. Justice served Yamhill County as a prosecutor from 1997 to 2006. He joined Haugeberg-Rueter in 2006 and has been a shareholder in this firm since 2009.

Justice currently serves as secretary of the Yamhill County Bar Association, and as a director of the Lions Club, Lions Club Charitable Foundation and the McMinnville Chamber of Commerce. He is a former president of the McMinnville Downtown Association. He also serves as a "pro-tem" (volunteer) Circuit Court Judge for small claims cases and traffic court.



**Joseph Strunk**  
*Attorney at Law*  
Tankersley, Wright  
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Armed with a lifelong love of learning, the academic challenge of law school was appealing to Joseph Strunk. An attorney specializing in real estate, business and contracts at McMinnville's Tankersley, Wright & Strunk, Joseph enjoys solving problems and helping his clients.

Hailing from the Appalachian mountains in Tennessee, Joseph earned a bachelor's degree in English from the University of Tennessee, followed by a masters in English from the University of Tennessee Chattanooga. Joseph was awarded his doctor of jurisprudence from West Virginia University, where he served as executive publication editor of the Law Review.

Joseph lives with his family in the Yamhill Valley. His wife, Shelly, recently returned to practicing law after focusing on raising the couple's two children.

When he's not working, Joseph is occupied with a busy school and sports schedule. He enjoys spending time with his family, playing outdoors all over Oregon.



**Catherine Wright**  
*Attorney at Law*  
Tankersley, Wright  
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The opportunity to help people, solve problems and make good plans for the future are what drew Catherine Wright into the legal field. As an attorney specializing in guardianships and conservatorships, estate planning, probates and land use at McMinnville's Tankersley, Wright & Strunk, Catherine loves helping clients who thought their issues were insurmountable.

Born in California to British parents, Catherine was raised in England. There, she completed her undergraduate law degree before moving to Oregon. Catherine earned her jurisdoctor from the Willamette University College of Law. She enjoys dual United States/British citizenship.

Catherine lives with her husband in the foothills outside McMinnville. When she's not helping clients, Catherine trains and competes with her dogs and horses. One old horse teaches many kids to ride — and a few adults — and constantly reminds her what a good escape artist he is!



**Chris Brown**  
*Attorney at Law*  
Kinney & Brown PC

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A born problem-solver, Chris Brown loves the challenge of helping his clients work out their dilemmas. As an attorney at Newberg's Kinney & Brown PC, Chris gets to do just that. He enjoys the interactions he has with colleagues, judges, office staff and clients as he works to resolve complex legal issues.

Chris was raised in Covina, California, moving to Oregon when he was in the eighth grade. He earned his law degree from Lewis & Clark Law School and is licensed to practice in Oregon and California. A member of the litigation group with the Oregon State Bar, Chris also practices in federal court and before the court of appeals.

Married for nearly 17 years, Chris and his wife have a six-year-old son who is a bundle of energy. When he's not helping his clients, Chris serves as den leader for his son's Tiger den and sings enthusiastically in his church choir.

# Legal Briefs

## Who's Who Among Yamhill Valley Legal Professionals

One of McMinnville's longtime lawyers says that the rule of law is the very foundation of the liberty that we all enjoy. He's right, of course. And as our country has grown and matured, so have our laws multiplied. Laws are on the books today that address situations now commonplace—issues and scenarios that did not even exist only decades ago.



We think that navigating the complex American legal system requires professionals of the highest caliber. That's why we've put together this directory we're calling Legal Briefs.

In this registry of local attorneys, you'll find the cream of the crop among Yamhill Valley legal professionals. Each attorney profiled here has a unique perspective and has traveled his or her own journey to reach the place he or she occupies today. Most of these professionals have legal specialties, distinct areas of the law in which they have specific schooling. All of them have a profound respect for the laws that form the structure of our society today.

Whatever your legal needs, we think the lawyers profiled here are among the best in the Yamhill Valley, deserving of your business!