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HECKENBACH CARLTON AMMARELL LLP

High-profile Litigators Fight Hard for High-end Divorce Clients

Ending a marriage is never simple, especially when it involves children, significant assets or a successful family-owned business. Understanding the financial complexities and emotional dynamics is crucial to a positive outcome. The attorneys at the Colorado law firm of Heckenbach Carlton Ammarell LLP (HCA) bring a unique combination of sensitivity, sophistication and toughness to high-end cases, as needed.

Many of the firm's lawyers are former prosecutors. One is a former accountant, and another a former member of United States Marine Corps intelligence and military police. Partner Diane Carlton was a former Chief Public Defender and Judge. Working together as a team, they have the skills to analyze tangled financial records, locate hidden assets or, when appropriate, protect assets from unreasonable claims. And, should the need arise, HCA knows how to deal with domestic violence issues.

"Unfortunately, people are often at their worst when going through a divorce," says Partner Dave Heckenbach, a former Chief Deputy District Attorney of Complex Prosecutions in Denver. "Sometimes their emotions take over and they do things that they shouldn't."

"I love figuring out the long-term goals of a case and developing strategies for how best to achieve those goals."

— Dave Heckenbach, Partner

Partner Laura Ammarell, an accomplished lecturer and leader, specializes in working with domestic violence and abuse issues.

No matter which side of a case HCA represents, every detail that could affect the outcome is thoroughly researched. Whether handling matters of divorce, child custody, contested adoption



or prenuptial agreements, the attorneys of HCA seek to resolve cases amicably, but are prepared to litigate as aggressively as their fiercest competitors, if necessary. HCA has a soft side, too, often referring clients for counseling before plunging head-on into gut-wrenching cases.

"Sometimes that's the best service that we can provide, just to get our clients healthy so they can get through this process with a greater level of success and dignity," Ammarell says.



Left to right, Laura Ammarell, Diane Carlton, Dave Heckenbach

- Divorce
- Complex Trial Work
- Paternity
- Parental Responsibilities
- Adoption
- Appeals
- Special Master/
Arbitration
- Post-Decree
Enforcement
- Grandparents' Rights

Children First

Where children are involved, a divorce can have unintended consequences that last for many years. With that in mind, the attorneys of HCA encourage their clients to put their children's needs ahead of their own, as much as possible.

"That is a mantra and a drum that is beaten consistently with our clients," Ammarell says. "Some clients are just naturally good parents and understand their children's needs have to come first. Other people need some help in that respect."

Not only is HCA one of the largest family law and divorce practices in Colorado, it is one of the smartest. The firm has received AV and "preeminent" ratings from Martindale-Hubbell®, the highest possible in the legal profession. Additionally, Heckenbach and Carlton are peer-designated as Super Lawyers®. And Carlton, a member of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, was named one of the top 25 female lawyers in Colorado, and is listed in Best Lawyers in America.

HCA has many reasons to be proud of the top level skills and caring it brings to its clients. HCA looks forward each day to helping clients begin a new chapter in their lives, and to understand that things will get better.



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LLP

8375 South Willow Street., Ste. 300 • Lone Tree, CO 80124
303.858.8000 • www.familylawcolorado.com