

IVAN J. SCHELL

Co-Managing Member, Louisville Office

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HONORS & AWARDS

- The Best Lawyers in America®, 1987-2027, Employee Benefits (ERISA) Law, Trusts and Estates
- 2020-2022 AV Preeminent™ Rating by Martindale-Hubbell®

PRIMARY PRACTICE

Estate Planning and Administration

ADDITIONAL PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

Business and Corporate Law

Healthcare Law

Nonprofit Institutions and Associations

ADMISSIONS

Illinois, 1974

Kentucky, 1976

Federal District Court in the 6th and 8th Circuits

U.S. Tax Court

Ivan Schell is in the business of people, not transactions. With decades of experience in his estate planning and administration practice, he knows that his clients are looking for an attorney who can help them create and pass on a lasting legacy that expresses their ideals for their communities and their affection for loved ones. Ivan's job first and foremost is to guide his clients through that process and assist them in achieving their legitimate goals with compassion and professionalism.

Ivan understands that these types of legal matters naturally come with high emotional stakes and that potential consequences can be devastating on a personal level. That's why he prioritizes caring for his clients, in addition to working for them – he assists with more than just wills and trusts. To every matter, he brings dedicated professionalism, a top shelf legal network, and an empathetic yet realistic approach to planning and problem-solving. He has a passion for providing excellent service and working with the rest of the McBrayer estate planning team to find the most favorable outcome for his clients.

In addition to estate planning and administration, his multifaceted practice includes private foundation and public charity formation and planning; physician practice consultation and healthcare law; employee benefits law; and closely-held corporation planning transitions.

EDUCATION

Butler University, 1968

Michigan Law School, J.D., 1974

CAPABILITIES, SUCCESSES, AND ASSIGNMENTS

- Assists clients with forming and planning private foundations and public charities.
- Advises closely-held corporations on planning transitions.
- Advises individuals on planning transitions of their wealth to their heirs.
- Represented a family foundation in obtaining IRS approval for treatment as a 501(c)(3) public charity.
- Represented multiple families in transferring wealth to subsequent generations while minimizing or eliminating the application of federal estate tax.

Kentucky Leader

- Buckhorn Children and Family Services Board
  Safari Club International, Kentuckiana Chapter
  Kentucky Hunters for the Hungry

Professional Activities

Kentucky Bar Association

Louisville Bar Association

American Bar Association

Illinois Bar Association, Past Member

News

IN THE MEDIA - Fifty McBrayer Attorneys Recognized by *Best Lawyers® for 2027*
August 20, 2026

McBrayer Estate Planning Group weighs in on Kentucky's 2026 Estate Planning Law Changes
July 22, 2026

McBrayer PLLC Achieves Record-Breaking Recognition in *Best Lawyers in America® 2026*
August 21, 2025

New Record Set: 51 McBrayer Attorneys Honored in Best Lawyers 2025
August 15, 2024

Another Record! 49 McBrayer Attorneys Named to Best Lawyers® 2024
August 17, 2023

A Record Number! Thirty McBrayer Attorneys Named to *Best Lawyers® in America* Lists for 2023
August 18, 2022

McBrayer Attorneys Named to *Best Lawyers® in America* List for 2022
August 19, 2021

McBrayer Members Ivan Schell and Sean Mumaw featured in Louisville Business First
Louisville Business First, April 6, 2021

Managing Member James H. Frazier, III, Member Ivan Schell, Senior Attorney Katie Eckert Quoted in The Lane Report
The Lane Report, February 2, 2021

McBrayer Attorneys Named to *Best Lawyers® in America* List for 2021
August 20, 2020

McBrayer's Health Care Law Practice Area Makes Business Lexington's BizList
Business Lexington, November 2019, November 1, 2019

McBrayer Attorneys receive U.S. News Best Lawyers Distinction for 2020
U.S. News – Best Lawyers® in America, September 4, 2019

Our Louisville Office is Growing and on the Move
July 1, 2019

Seminars & Speaking Engagements

Equipping Yourself for Transition - An Educational Event for Healthcare Providers
ARGI, January 30, 2020