

**MICHAEL C. GRIDLEY
ATTORNEY AT LAW**

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SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

I am an experienced, creative, ethical attorney who has excelled as a city attorney and as a trial lawyer. I have a broad and unique legal background that includes municipal government, litigation, mediation, public/private partnerships, tort liability, environmental liability, contracts, real estate, construction, rail-trail building and community visioning. I excel at communicating with all types of people from diverse social, economic and political perspectives and across multiple disciplines. I provide honest, straightforward legal advice, progressive problem solving, and strategic thinking within multi-department organizations and communities. I am a team player who has collaborated with governmental entities and institutions at all levels to find solutions for the community. I am licensed to practice law in Idaho, Texas and the 9th Circuit, and license eligible in the State of Washington.

EXPERIENCE

Self Employed, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 2022 to present

- Private law practice working with public and private clients

City Attorney, City of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, 2002 - 2022

- Originated and co-founded the CDA 2030 Community Visioning Project;
- Devised a unique plan to buy a 5.25 mile railroad right of way and construct a bike trail without grants or city money (\$3+million value);
- Helped create innovative agreements that avoided separation of church and state challenges and allowed the construction of the first Kroc/Salvation Army Community Center (\$35 million gift) on municipal property;
- Helped structure the first constitutionally valid storm water utility in Idaho;
- Supervised criminal prosecutions and created totally paperless criminal prosecution office;
- Tracked legislation impacting City; handled City Council election challenge litigated to the Idaho Supreme Court; first amendment free speech issues; police shooting and use of force cases; wide range of personnel and employee issues.
- Worked with NIC, University of Idaho and the local school district to expand and enhance opportunities for students in Coeur d'Alene.
- Served as city attorney at over 500 public meetings. Extremely experienced in Idaho Open Meeting and Public Records laws.

Self Employed, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, 2000 - 2002

- Private law and family mediation practice

General Attorney, Union Pacific Railroad Company, Houston, Texas, 1989 – 2000

- Trial lawyer for nation's largest railroad. Tried more cases to verdict than any other Union Pacific in-house lawyer;
- Responsible for trial docket that included personal injury, mass tort, environmental and property damage claims; supervised outside counsel;
- Worked with local and state governments to implement railroad and public projects.

EDUCATION

- **University of Notre Dame Law School**, Juris Doctor - 1982
- **Central College of Iowa**, Bachelor of Arts - 1978