

What Kind of Lawyer Do You Want to Be?

That is a good question! It is vital to figure out how to create a career that you will truly enjoy!

Lawyers seeking to become experts in specific areas of law may have trouble deciding which area to specialize in. When you go to law school, you might think that you will eventually work in a renowned and large firm practicing corporate law, but in reality, that may not be the case and you could be directed to another path.

It is important to remember that the law applies to all areas and can be useful in many different situations. [If you need a lawyer for a legal dispute with your partner or to defend your company against a lawsuit, you should hire one.](#) We always need a lawyer when we deal with legal matters. In fighting for their clients, they demonstrated tenacity and audacity.

How to Choose a Practice Area: Know Thyself

In law schools, some students think they know exactly what they want to do (which is not always true, by the way), whereas others have no idea. Before you can determine which career path is best for you, you must understand your interests, goals, and priorities.

To figure out what will make you happy in life (career and otherwise), you have to figure out, well, what makes you happy. It may sound difficult and tedious --but it is not. Ask yourself these questions:

1. What is your ideal practice setting?

Do you work [best in a formal hierarchy or a more casual setting](#)?

How important is on-the-job training or a formal mentor system?

Do you prefer to work as part of a team or individually?

2. Are you interested in a certain practice area?

What subjects appealed to you in your undergraduate studies?

What do you enjoy reading about?

What issues legal or otherwise do you care about?

3. What skills do you most enjoy using?

Do you enjoy research, analysis, and writing?

Is it important to you to have lots of people in contact?

Do you work best with several projects at once or one at a time?

4. What personal commitments do you have outside of law schools/work?

How much time do you want to have for friends and family?

How much control would you like over your work schedule?

How much money do you need to live comfortably?

Where (geographically) do you want to live/work?

5. How do you define success?

Prestige --How important is it to you that others perceive your job as important?

Helping people --Who? How quickly? How many?

Compensation?

Fame?

Power?

Work/life balance?

Deciding What Type of Lawyer Will You Be

For a successful legal career, it is vital to find the right area that is tailored to your personality, experience, and interest. There are many different types of lawyers, and our need for them will depend on their area of

expertise.

Here are the different types of lawyers and what they do, which can help you decide which type of lawyer you will be:

Corporate Lawyer [Business Lawyer]

We are surrounded by different businesses. [Corporate lawyers are needed to manage these businesses without legalities. Those in charge of corporate law will be responsible for business matters such as acquisitions, mergers, and intellectual property laws.](#) Others specialize in forming companies or assisting with legal business matters. Others, however, will be more concerned with employment and taxes.

Business litigation lawyers and business transactional lawyers are the two main types of business lawyers. They differ significantly from each other. [Lawyers who handle business transactions typically handle transactions such as negotiating deals](#) and drafting documents such as employment agreements. Meanwhile, business litigation lawyers handle cases where someone sues a business for violating contractual terms.

Labor and Employment Lawyer

Legal issues relating to employment are handled by labor lawyers. You will need to hire them to make sure the laws of the state and the federal government are followed. A transactional and litigation employment lawyer is like a business lawyer. Lawyers involved in employment litigation go to court when a business violates state law or the terms of an employment contract. Meanwhile, transactional employment lawyers draft employment documents during the hiring process. Depending on the lawyer, they can even perform both tasks.

Family Lawyer

A family lawyer is someone who handles all pertinent legal issues affecting your family. Families in need of assistance for prenuptial agreements, parents looking to adopt, or grandparents asserting a legal right can all benefit from the assistance of a family lawyer. These lawyers are also called divorce lawyers.

A family lawyer is more commonly hired to assist family members with divorce, child custody, and spousal support issues. Based on provisional data from the CDC, we are led to believe that there were nearly 1,000,000 divorces in 2016. Considering that divorce is only one of many family law issues, many Americans require legal counsel from family attorneys every year.

Security and Finance Lawyer

Lawyers of this type specialize in a particular field of law. The majority of issues they handle pertain to individuals and banks that issue money, or to companies that sell stock.

Intellectual Property Lawyer

An intellectual property attorney deals with anything on intellectual property laws. A patent, trademark, and copyright are three types of intellectual property law. It can be extremely difficult to deal with these kinds of cases. There are therefore also divisions of labor involved in this process. Lawyers specializing in IP litigation and those specializing in IP law in general. Lawyers representing IP in litigation go to court to fight their cases. However, ordinary IP attorneys take care of all the paperwork needed to protect your intellectual property.

Tax Lawyer

Many people are not thrilled about paying taxes if any at all. Nevertheless, a tax attorney is an essential lawyer when it comes to paying taxes. The IRS tax dispute process can be particularly challenging for businesses and individuals.

With the help of an experienced tax attorney, you will be able to battle such disputes, as well as similarly complex tax situations, such as a pending divorce, with confidence that you will not make any mistakes. Local, state, and federal tax law is a specialty of these lawyers. A tax lawyer should be consulted as soon as possible if you are experiencing tax problems.

Real Estate Lawyer

A real estate lawyer assists you in any legal matter related to your property. [As well as litigation and transactional real estate lawyers, there are other types as well.](#) These two differ in certain ways. Real estate litigation lawyers take cases to court if they believe a purchase/sale agreement or a contract is being violated, or if landlords or tenants are breaking the law. On the other hand, transactional real estate lawyers deal exclusively with negotiating real estate transactions and drafting corresponding documents.

Estate Planning Lawyers

During the estate planning process as well as throughout the probate court process, estate planning attorneys are extremely helpful. You can rely on them for knowledge of state and federal estate taxes.

An estate planning lawyer specializes in estate planning and probate is an experienced and licensed attorney familiar with state and federal laws that affect the inventory, valuation, distribution, and taxation of an estate after death. An estate planning attorney can guide you through the probate process and answer your questions about it:

- Creating a will

- Designating your beneficiaries

- Establishing a durable power of attorney and medical durable power of attorney

- Finding ways to reduce and avoid estate tax when possible

- Finding ways to avoid the probate court process

- Setting up any trusts you might need to protect your assets, both for your own benefit during your lifetime in the event of incapacity, and for the benefit of your beneficiaries

Criminal Defense Lawyer

A criminal lawyer defends people against prosecution for crimes they did not commit. A reduction in sentence or assistance in staying out of jail is their goal. Lawyers dealing with these disputes handle a wide range of offenses including shoplifting, assaults, and even murder.

Traffic Lawyer

Most states have a lot of traffic violations, so traffic lawyers usually have a lot of clients. Attorneys for traffic offenses go to court to defend you against traffic tickets or provide legal advice to you on whether you can avoid violations for running red lights or speeding.

Digital Media and Internet Lawyer

Almost everyone has access to the Internet. A lot of offenses have been committed on social media platforms. Technology and Internet lawyers handle cases relating to the legal implications of using the internet and technology. The group deals with violations of terms and conditions on websites, infringing copyright laws, and pirating music and movies.

Entertainment Lawyer

Entertainment lawyers specialize in all types of entertainment-related legal matters. They draft and review license agreements, deal with royalties and manage other aspects of the entertainment industry.

Personal Injury Lawyer

Attorneys who specialize in personal injury are often sought out by clients. Any kind of injury or accident is

dealt with by them. Personal injury lawyers will help you if you suffered an illness that was not correctly diagnosed by a doctor, or you suffered some adverse side effects after taking a prescribed drug that was not properly warned. If you find yourself in a motor vehicle accident, it is also necessary to consult a personal injury lawyer.

Lawyers assist their clients in settling insurance claims and dealing with damage after a car accident. An experienced personal injury lawyer knows what to do to achieve the best outcome in the situation

Bankruptcy Lawyer

By navigating the complexities of bankruptcy, bankruptcy attorneys can assist companies and individuals. It is the federal laws that govern bankruptcy rules and procedures since states are not allowed to legislate in bankruptcy cases. Therefore, preparing for bankruptcy proceedings or even knowing how to file is difficult to impossible without the legal assistance of a bankruptcy lawyer.

Debtors receive the advice they need from a bankruptcy lawyer to determine which chapter of bankruptcy is best for filing bankruptcy. Chapter 7, 11, or 13 of the federal bankruptcy laws are the most common options for debtors. Each chapter has its requirements, advantages, and disadvantages.

If you hire a bankruptcy lawyer to assist in this process, you will be able to reclaim your debts much more efficiently and effectively

Immigration Lawyer

The United States presents many challenges to immigrants seeking to settle here. Immigration and Citizenship Services. Immigration lawyers, then, can be a valuable asset in matters from ensuring that the immigration process runs smoothly and handling the heavy paperwork that comes with it.

Families are reunited, clients are represented during deportation proceedings, and similar issues can affect the lives and well-being of immigrants. The paperwork required to resolve immigration legal issues can be quite overwhelming for an immigrant, but an experienced immigration lawyer will help ensure these mistakes are avoided and that reliable legal counsel is provided at all times.

Medical Malpractice Lawyer

Lawyers specializing in medical-legal malpractice have a specific area of expertise. Their main responsibility is to help victims injured by doctors, hospitals, or other medical professionals.

Depending on the state's laws, these attorneys can help victims with every aspect of filing a claim against those who failed to provide a standard of care. Compensation for medical malpractice can be received in most states when a lawyer can show that a doctor's care did not meet the standard that other doctors would provide under similar circumstances and facts.

It is common for medical malpractice to result in scarring and extended injuries that can be fatal. A medical malpractice attorney with experience in recovering damages for injured patients may be recommended for those who have sustained severe injuries.

Civil Litigation Lawyer

Clients can seek civil legal action against parties responsible for civil matters or they will be able to defend themselves against a civil lawsuit.

Civil litigation encompasses disputes over rent, leases, divorce, real estate transactions, and personal injury. In civil litigation, the target is money or some kind of performance rather than criminal sanctions. Outside of criminal law, this is the most common type of legal work.

Consequently, civil litigation lawyers typically specialize in one or two areas of law, although some civil litigators resemble general practitioners. From the initial investigation through the trial, these lawyers can assist in the handling of a lawsuit.

Social Security Disability Lawyer

A Social Security disability lawyer is in some ways more specialized than a workers' compensation lawyer. Social Security disability benefits are often sought by individuals injured at work, which creates a legal overlap.

In addition to handling eligibility issues, denial appeals, and unfair termination and reduction-related issues, these attorneys will guide clients throughout the full Social Security Disability process.

Workers' Compensation Lawyer

A workers' compensation lawyer can help injured workers or survivors of workplace fatalities seek compensation that protects their rights. A workplace injury attorney can analyze your claim for benefits as well as determine the employer's legal liability. Additionally, these attorneys protect workers from wrongful retaliation by employers or unfairly denied claims, benefits, and wages.

Furthermore, these lawyers are crucial to workers who are pursuing Social Security disability benefits and dealing with permanent disability cases. Obtaining these benefits without the help of an experienced attorney is notoriously difficult.

When it comes to receiving workers' compensation benefits, a workers' compensation lawyer can help you cut through the bureaucracy and long waiting times that too many disabled workers face.

General Practice Lawyer

As the name implies, a general practice lawyer can do a little bit of everything, meaning they do not place limits on the type of law they practice. A law firm that represents clients in criminal defense, employment law, and family law would be considered a "general practice" firm. Typically, this type of lawyer works for smaller law firms, such as solo practices.

Furthermore, it is unfair to presume a general practitioner can not handle a case related to your specific legal needs. Most general practice lawyers in smaller communities have significant experience handling a variety of practice areas.

It depends on both the experience of the general practice attorney and the complexity of the legal issue of whether he or she is right for you. In several key legal areas, these firms usually provide their clients with reliable counsel and personalized legal services.

Environmental Lawyer

Throughout our lifetimes, climate change will become more and more important. During this period, legal professionals with experience in this area will be vital to develop regulations that reflect the needed adjustments.

Conclusion

Even many lawyers find it difficult to decide on the type of law they would like to practice. In law schools, students might have the impression that they will be working for large corporations or for litigation firms. To be happy in a legal career, you must find a career that's a good match for your personality and interests.