

### **Joseph D. Weaver, Associate Attorney**

Joseph D. Weaver is an Associate Attorney at Laird Cowley with a background in civil litigation matters and criminal defense for indigent populations. He provides expert legal guidance and representation for Commercial Litigation, Personal Injury Litigation, Professional Negligence, Insurance Litigation, Complex Tort Litigation, Real Estate/Construction Litigation, and Employment Law matters.



Joseph is dedicated to helping Montanans navigate the legal system. In 2020, he received the Norman Hanson Award for Legal Writing while studying at the University of Montana School of Law. During the course of his career, he has worked consistently to support and protect the rights of underserved communities in Montana. He believes that everyone deserves a fair and just outcome to their situation, and to have their rights and interests protected, regardless of their race, socioeconomic status, or background.

Joseph's passion for law and helping others in his community can be traced back to his formative years. He was born and raised in Billings, Montana where he attended high school. As an undergraduate, he attended Wake Forest University in North Carolina, where he studied Economics and Political Science and interned for U.S. Senator Max Baucus in Washington, D.C. Later, he transferred to the University of Montana in Missoula and graduated with his Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy in 2016. The following year, he enrolled in law school and interned for a local civil litigation firm. Later, he became a judicial intern for the Honorable Dana L. Christensen at the U.S. District Court for the District of Montana. In 2020, he graduated with his Juris Doctorate from the Alexander Blewett III School of Law.

Joseph's legal career has been characterized by numerous successes and noteworthy achievements. He held a formal position as a law clerk for the Supreme Court of Montana in Helena, working directly with Justice James Jeremiah Shea. During this time, he assisted in the authorship of judicial opinions on diverse and complex areas of Montana Law. In 2021, he became employed at the Montana State Office of the Public Defender and spent several years representing indigent criminal defendants in Missoula, Ravalli, and Mineral Counties during highly intricate and complex cases, including several jury trials.

Joseph began working as an Associate Attorney at Laird Cowley's Missoula office in September of 2023 and is eager to represent individuals and businesses in the civil world. He believes that as an attorney, he has a unique opportunity to give back to his community and help resolve some of society's most pressing social justice and legal issues. He seeks to be an advocate for his clients and community.

#### **Education**

- Juris Doctorate (J.D.), Alexander Blewett III School of Law (2020)
- Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), University of Montana (2016)

#### **Bar Admission**

- All Montana State Courts