

2017 Distinguished Alumna and Alumnus

Yvonne Cordell, JD'88 and Joseph Cordell, LLM'08

Founders, Cordell & Cordell



Joe and Yvonne Cordell founded Cordell & Cordell in 1990 as a general practice law firm. Today, the firm focuses on family law, specifically men's divorce cases. With more than 200 divorce lawyers in more than 100 offices across the United States and one office in the United Kingdom, Cordell & Cordell is one of the largest family law firms in the world serving men.

Mr. Cordell earned his JD from the University of Texas School of Law and his bachelor's degree in accountancy from Oklahoma State University. He is a graduate of the National Institute for Trial Advocacy and holds a Missouri CPA license. An adjunct faculty member at Washington University School of Law, he is also the past president of the American Academy of Attorney-Certified Public Accountants.

Mrs. Cordell earned her bachelor's degree in political science from Illinois State University and worked in the legal department of American General Finance in Evansville, Indiana, before co-founding Cordell & Cordell. She stopped practicing law in 1996, and now remains active in a number of charitable organizations, including the board of directors for Teen Challenge USA, an international faith-based organization dedicated to helping teenagers, adults, and families with substance abuse and other problems.

Currently, Mr. Cordell speaks at various seminars dealing with topics from domestic relations to estate planning, and Mrs. Cordell is pursuing her master's degree in theological studies at Concordia Theological Seminary. The couple has two daughters, Caroline and Elizabeth, and lives in Wildwood, Missouri.