



**Sarah G. Buitrago**  
Associate

T (757) 417.3610  
F (888) 360.9092  
sgbuitrago@kaufcan.com

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Sarah is an Associate in the firm's Virginia Beach office and a member of the Family Law Practice Group. Ms. Buitrago's practice focuses exclusively on family law matters. She is experienced in handling a wide array of family law matters in Virginia, including divorce, pre & post marital agreements, equitable distribution involving high-asset clients and business valuations, military divorce and drafting of military retired pay orders, retirement/pension division including the preparation of QDROs, child custody and relocation cases, adoptions, post-divorce litigation, protective orders, and support matters.

#### PRACTICE AREAS

- Family Law
- Litigation

#### REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- Represents both service members and the civilian spouse in divorce, necessitating specialized knowledge of the unique issues pertaining to same, including division of active duty and reserve military pensions and the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP), the interplay between Federal and Virginia law concerning the Uniformed Services Former Spouses Protection Act and the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, the treatment of disability pay, the intricacies of the survivor benefit plan, and the rules and regulations pertaining to Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS)
- Represents parties involved in jurisdictional disputes that fall under the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act (UCCJEA)
- Represents parties in contested custody and visitation matters, including cases that involve relocation or the attempted relocation of the custodial parent
- Represents parties in contempt of court proceedings, including contempt related to kidnapping and withholding children across state lines
- Represents individuals that are petitioning for adoption of a minor or adult child, including step-parent adoptions and same-sex couple adoptions for the non-biological parent(s)
- Represents high-income clients in preparation of and negotiation of prenuptial and postnuptial agreements for asset protection

#### RECOGNITION AND HONORS

- Attendee of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers Institute for Family Law Associates, June 2021
- Top Lawyers, *CoVaBIZ*, 2020-2021
- Top 10 Attorneys Under 40 in Virginia, National Academy of Family Law Attorneys, 2018
- Intern, The United States Navy Judge Advocate General's Corps, 2011
- Moot Court Board Member, Regent University School of Law, 2012-2013

## ASSOCIATIONS

- Virginia State Bar's Young Lawyers Conference Annual Bench-Bar Dinner in Celebration of Women and Minorities in the Legal Profession, Sponsorship Committee
- Virginia State Bar; Family Law Section
- Virginia Bar Association; Domestic Relations Section
- Virginia Trial Lawyers Association; Family Law Section
- Virginia Beach Bar Association
- Military Spouse J.D. Network; Founding Member
- James Kent American Inn of Court; Past Member

## ADMISSIONS

- Virginia, 2013

## EDUCATION

- Towson University, B.S., 2010
- Regent University School of Law; J.D., 2013

## PRESS AND PUBLICATIONS

- 40 Kaufman & Canoles Attorneys Named as Top Lawyers 2021 in *CoVaBIZ Magazine*
- 45 Kaufman & Canoles Attorneys Named as Top Lawyers 2020 in *CoVaBIZ Magazine*