

"You never really understand a person until you consider things from [their] point of view."

— HARPER LEE

CALM ADVOCATE

KATHRYN HOMBURGER MICKELSON is an Equity Partner at Beermann LLP and a seasoned litigator and certified mediator with over two decades of experience in family law. After beginning her career in consumer public relations, Mickelson transitioned to law, joining Beermann as a clerk during law school and ultimately becoming the firm's only female equity partner to rise from law clerk to owner. She represents high-profile individuals, business owners, executives, and professional athletes in complex family matters, bringing a practical, strategic approach to cases involving significant financial and personal stakes. Known for her practicality and thoughtful advocacy, Mickelson believes the best representation begins with listening—understanding each client's goals, story, and long-term priorities before determining the best path forward. She also shares her deep knowledge as a faculty member, speaker, and mentor within the family law community.

Your morning ritual? Coffee before anyone else is awake and reflection on what I am grateful for, what I am excited about today, and what is currently bringing me joy.

What's shaping your leadership right now? Calm. Early in my career I thought leadership meant being the loudest voice in the room. Twenty plus years in, I know the opposite is true. The person who can bring the temperature down is the person who controls the room.

A shift in your industry you're watching closely? Prenuptial agreements are losing their stigma, and it is changing everything. Clients now come in wanting to have the hard conversation before the wedding rather than after the collapse. That is not a legal trend, it is a cultural one.

What are you building toward? A practice that does not scale by volume. High-touch, not assembly line—fewer matters, deeper involvement, my own hands on the file. And past my own caseload: I want the path I took, clerk to equity partner, to stop being remarkable. I would much rather be the first than the only.

For more information, visit beermannlaw.com/team/kathryn-homburger-mickelson, katymickelson.com, and [linkedin.com/in/katy-mickelson](https://www.linkedin.com/in/katy-mickelson). You can also follow @chicagodivorceattorney on Instagram and Facebook.

