



## Mark Berry

Mark Berry is a real estate attorney focusing on affordable housing and a former Army JAG officer and HUD attorney. He also played piano and sang in a piano bar in San Francisco and now enjoys singing in the Denver Law Club.

### PROFILE

**Hometown:**

Cedar Rapids, Iowa

**Law School:**

Iowa College of Law

**Lives in:**

Ken Caryl Ranch  
near Littleton

**Works at:**

The Law Office  
of Mark Berry

**Practice Area(s):**

Real Estate

**CBA Member Since:**

1994

**What do you like the most about your practice area?**

Working in real estate gives me the flexibility as a sole practitioner to be mission-driven and to help nonprofits, housing authorities, and other developers provide housing to those in need.

**What is one of the most positive experiences you've had as a lawyer?**

My seven years' active duty and five years' reserves duty as a Judge Advocate General's Corps attorney serving in Germany, San Francisco, Seattle, and Colorado Springs, defending those who defend America, and working as an assistant U.S. attorney on civil and criminal cases.

**What is your favorite memory from law school?**

Playing piano for our law school musical show in which the words of popular songs were changed to relate to navigating through awkward legal issues and difficult cases.

**What organizations are you involved in?**

Various nonprofit boards, HOAs, real estate groups, and the Denver Law Club, a great group of fun lawyers. We have speakers present on various law subjects and put on musical spoofs regarding legal ethics so lawyers can earn CLE credits while having fun!

**Who is your hero and why?**

My dad, because he always just wanted those around him to be happy, whoever they were and wherever he was, even if it was at his own self-deprecating expense.

**What is your favorite place to escape to in Colorado?**

The hogback behind our house or Steamboat. Both offer peace and serenity and an opportunity to reflect and get away from work.

**What do you consider your greatest achievement?**

Being a dad to three great kids.


**What's the best advice you've ever been given?**

"Do all you can with what you have, in the time you have, in the place you are." I heard this in a song by Robert Anderson from Devotion. He was quoting Nkosi Johnson, and Theodore Roosevelt said something very similar.

**What advice would you give a new lawyer?**

It's more important and satisfying to find an area of law you are passionate about and can make a difference in than it is to work in an area that is easily available, more lucrative, or only just suits your skill set. So, keep training and learning about your passion area, and be ready when the opportunity presents itself.

**What is an unconventional lesson you've learned about the practice of law?**

I always used to tell people they should work to live and not live to work, but as I get older these concepts seem to blend together. I believe we all search more for real purpose and a legacy in life toward the end of our career. 

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