

Mary Mitchell Dunn
Partner, CU Counsel
First WHF President

Hometown: Leesburg, VA

Fun Fact: I like playing the violin and riding my horse.

Hobbies: Horses, Music, Painting

How long have you been a member of WHF and what have you gained from being a member?

I helped found WHF because at that time, women were largely excluded from other groups that promoted professionalism and focused on substantive issues. WHF has always been supportive of women, but I think WHF has evolved into a significant organization that is wonderfully inclusive, while still providing great networking and educational opportunities for members.

How do you make the best use of your day?

In October 2015 I helped launch a new law firm. It has been insanely demanding, but very exciting as well. Keeping track of client requests and hours helps to set priorities. I prioritize at the start of the week and then each day, making a list of what I have to address that day. I also keep a schedule for longer term.

What do you love most about what you do?

The legal issues I work on and being my own boss.

What inspires you?

Great violin music, people who persevere against the odds.

What is the best advice you've ever received?

Flexibility is a virtue, confidence is essential, kindness to others will be paid back to you tenfold. Also, don't take business issues personally.

What are you currently reading?

Ron Chernow's book, *Alexander Hamilton*. It is great!

What is your personal philosophy?

Try to improve on something every day, try to promote goodness, and as much as you can, frame yourself, don't let others do it.

Who do you look up to the most and why?

I admire the individuals who created our Constitution. I also admire people in national politics, from both parties, who are smart and try to help people who can't do much to help themselves. Each of the women on the Supreme Court are admirable for their intellect and dedication to interpreting the law reasonably. And ?talented violinists like Anne Sophie Mutter are terrific!