UNDER OATH | MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



PROFILE

Hometown: Durango

Law School: University of Colorado Law School

Lives in: Denver

Works at: Recht Kornfeld PC

Practice Areas: Personal Injury, Civil Rights, Criminal Defense

Pronouns:

He/Him

Would you like to be featured in Under Oath? Email Susie Klein at sklein@ cobar.org for a questionnaire.

Beale Tejada

Beale Tejada is a trial lawyer specializing in plaintiffs' personal injury and criminal defense. In his personal injury practice, he has secured numerous multiple multi-million-dollar settlements for his clients.

Why did you become a lawyer?

To help and advocate for people who are unable to do that for themselves. This calling naturally drew me to indigent criminal defense, and now I have a plaintiffs' side civil practice as well.

What do you wish you had learned in law school?

That while GPAs are important, the practice of law is not a two-week final cram session.

What do you like the most about your practice area?

Representing individuals and developing the client relationship. My clients come to me in some of their worst moments, and I believe it is the profession's goal to assist those people as best we can.

Please share a positive experience you've had as a lawyer.

Obtaining a successful outcome for my clients. This sounds rote, I know, but witnessing the relief someone has when we've overcome their legal challenges makes me genuinely happy for them.

What do you think is the most essential professional skill?

They're all important, but many seem to hinge upon honest communication. Often, adversaries talk past each other but actually have common ground, and disputes can be resolved without litigation.

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

Learn to write without the legalese.

What advice would you give a new lawyer?

Read the statute before asking a question.

What are the greatest challenges you face in your practice, and how do you manage them?

It's the constant work-life balance that most lawyers face. I manage it by being sure that if I'm in a high-work period, I create space for my personal life afterward.

How do you like to spend your free time?

Anything unrelated to the law; a good balance in life is important.

What do you do to maintain health/ wellness?

Exercise, mostly—soccer, rugby, running.

What is your current guilty pleasure? The show *Derry Girls*.

What is your favorite way to unwind? Exercise and vacations.

What is your favorite place to escape to in Colorado?

Southwest Colorado.

If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would you go? Japan.

On your desk right now: Colorado Civil Claims Handbook.

If you weren't a lawyer, you'd be:

Astronaut.

What job would you be terrible at? Astronaut.