



History

Jackson Kelly PLLC is a law firm with a national reputation and a rich history. Since it was founded in 1822, Jackson Kelly has grown from a single office in Charleston, West Virginia, to multiple offices across Colorado, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia.

Throughout its storied history, we have played a role in shaping the legal profession, the region, and the country itself. Among Jackson Kelly's founding members were Benjamin H. Smith, who participated in the West Virginia Constitutional Convention and was appointed United States District Attorney for West Virginia by President Lincoln; James H. Brown, a leader in West Virginia statehood and one of the first Justices of the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals; and Edward B. Knight, a Constitutional Convention delegate and a director of the Statehouse Company, which helped transform Charleston into a capitol city.

Following this illustrious beginning at the turn of the nineteenth century, the firm that would eventually become present-day Jackson Kelly continued to expand its legal practice and geographic reach. Our Firm was integral to the development of the economy of West Virginia, as it was able to count many chemical, manufacturing, and other industries in the Kanawha Valley as clients. One of our lawyers, Homer Holt, was the 20th Governor of the State of West Virginia.

We have experienced our greatest growth over the last 30 years. As our reputation grew and demand for our services spread, Jackson Kelly opened its first office outside of West Virginia in 1985, in Lexington, Kentucky. This office would be the first in our multi-state expansion, which now reaches as far west as Colorado. Along the way, Jackson Kelly's ranks have also grown to over 300 employees, including attorneys, paralegals, and support staff. Our dedicated team is spread across several states, but we operate as one cohesive unit and are committed to providing all clients with the superior service that earned Jackson Kelly its name.