



# Erika E. Cole, Esq.

## The Church Attorney®

**“I know what it is like to have a calling...a strong commitment to helping others and an unwavering, divine connection with men and women of faith.”**

Erika E. Cole, Esq., is the Founding Partner of The Law Offices of Erika E. Cole LLC, and one of only a handful of attorneys in the nation who practices exclusively in the area of Church Law. Known as The Church Attorney®, Erika has dedicated her life to helping churches of all denominations and sizes ensuring that their legal affairs are in order so they can focus on spreading their message, serving their communities, and growing their ministries.

For nearly two decades, Erika has partnered with ministries to address everything from church planting, new leadership transitions, buying and selling property to succession planning, and helping leadership address the spectrum of governance matters. She has also assisted churches and ministries obtain 501(c)(3) tax exempt status with a 100% success rate.

Whether handling an unexpected legal crisis, legal audit or helping churches through the buying, selling and construction of property, Erika's philosophy has remained the same: to provide the same level of excellence, diligence and counsel across the board.

When she isn't serving as General Counsel for her clients, she is teaching the next generation of lawyers and community leaders as a Professor at the University of Baltimore School of Law and Loyola College of Maryland in their MBA Program.

Her calling to support churches and empower its leaders propelled her to join a year-long mission in Latin America where she worked with churches, their members and advanced human rights. Upon returning, she started a mission's ministry at her own church and subsequently participated and oversaw several other mission trips taking missionaries from South Dakota to Namibia.

Erika's reputation as a Thought Leader in the Church Law community has attracted a myriad of opportunities such as:

2011: Appointed to the Panel of Legal Experts for the Commission of Accountability for Religious Organizations.

2013: Appointed to Board of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability.

2013: Opened a second office to better serve a growing client base in a new region.

2016: Admitted to the Bar of the Supreme Court.

Erika and her husband Brien are happily married and are the loving parents of two sons.