

Diana Rosario

Richard J. Daley Center-50 W. Washington Street, Chicago, IL 60602



PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

JUDGE, CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY

December 2014-Present

December 2014 assigned to the First Municipal District (Forcible Entry and Detainer and Civil Non-Jury Trial Courts). 2017 assigned to Juvenile Court Child Protection Division-Abuse and Neglect presiding over child abuse and neglect, child dependency, private guardianship, and termination of parental rights' cases. Presently assigned to the Domestic Relations Division as a trial judge presiding over dissolution of marriage/civil union, pre and post decree matters, contested trials, parentage, child support, maintenance, emergency and plenary orders of protection, custody and visitation (now known as allocation of parental responsibilities).

CITY OF CHICAGO, Chicago, IL

1991 – Present

Staff Attorney (1998 to present)

Represented the Chicago Department of Family and Support Services. Advised management on legal issues pertaining to departmental operations as they are affected by local, state, federal laws and statutes, or contracts. Developed policies and procedures. Provided legal support on issues pertaining to labor matters, federal and state discrimination and civil rights laws and violations. Advised the department on legal issues pertaining to social service program requirements, including but not limited to, (Head Start, Senior Services, Youth Development and Employment, Domestic Violence, Grants, Workforce Development, Juvenile Justice and Homelessness). Participated in court proceedings for program related cases.

- Negotiated and drafted contracts for Chicago Public Schools, Chicago Housing Authority, City Colleges, and Cook County to disperse funding from Federal, State, and City.
- Oversaw mediation between parties during fact-finding conferences. Presided over Administrative Hearings for federal regulatory violations for Chicago's Airport security issues. Testified before City Council Committees.
- Monitored contract compliance to prevent fraud and misuse of funding. Pursued corrective action plans for noncompliant program providers.
- Drafted data sharing agreements with educational and non-profit institutions, (University of Chicago, University of Illinois, County of Cook) to ensure client information is protected.
- Investigated and responded to Federal and State civil rights violations as the Department's Civil Rights Coordinator. In addition, developed policies, procedures, and postings to comply with Civil Rights laws and regulations.
- Liaised with Chicago Corporation Counsel Office to investigate and arbitrate cases, draft interrogatories, declarations, interview witnesses, and testify as an expert witness.
- Researched a wide range of issues (e.g. Homelessness, Head Start, Senior Services) in order to comply with existing laws. Aided in the introduction of ordinances to implement new program initiatives.
- Due to legal background, chosen to act as Freedom of Information Officer for the department. Completed time-sensitive projects (produced affidavits; responded to subpoenas and request for documents pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act; responded to correspondence from funders; investigated and responded to complaints filed by program participants.)
- Investigated and responded to State and City Inspector General requests.

Deputy Commissioner (1995-1998)

Handled and oversaw licensing for businesses in the City of Chicago. Managed staff of 40 people.

Assistant Commissioner (1991-1995)
Prosecuted consumer fraud cases.

COOK COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEYS OFFICE, Chicago, IL **1988 - 1991**
Assistant State's Attorney (1989-1991)

Responsible for pre-trial preparation, investigation, disclosures, settlement negotiations, deposition and motion practice in civil division and branch court.

- Represented the Illinois Department of Health and Family Services in child support issues; enforced orders and parentage cases, represented clients in post-decree courtrooms.
- Coordinated with clients, judges, witnesses, and attorneys; prosecuted in bench trials.
- Extensively involved in strategies, expert discovery, and client contact. Drafted motions and pleadings; reviewed and appealed decisions. Supervised administrative support staff.

Intern (1988)

LAW OFFICE OF ARMENDARIZ AND MAGDZARIZ, Chicago, IL **1989 - 1991**
General Law practice

Associate Attorney

Managed independent caseload of real estate, corporate, business, and family matters.

- Prepared complaints, motions and appeals. Oversaw cases through all phases of discovery and trial preparation, including drafting and presentation of motions, taking discovery depositions (including medical experts and witnesses)
- Participated in pretrial and settlement negotiations.

PRO BONO EXPERIENCE

AFTER SCHOOL MATTERS, Chicago, IL **2005 to 2007**

- Provided counsel on employment issues, hiring, criminal background checks, and the engagement of independent contractors. Reviewed and revised contracts for vendors and independent contractors. Advised on risk management matters and corporate liability issues.

EDUCATION

JD, DePaul University College of Law, Chicago, IL

BA, Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and a Minor in Philosophy, Loyola University, Chicago, IL

BAR ADMISSIONS/PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Admitted: Illinois State Bar, Federal District Court

U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois

Member: Chicago Bar Association

Hispanic Lawyers Association of Illinois

Women's Bar Association of Illinois

North Suburban Bar Association

DePaul College of Law, Alumni Judges Executive Committee Member

Secretary, Illinois Latino Judges Association

Secretary and Executive Board Member, Metropolitan Housing and Development Corporation

Board Member, Puerto Rican Bar Association of Illinois

Hispanic National Bar Association, Region IX Deputy

Illinois Judges Association, Community Engagement Committee Member

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Bilingual English and Spanish