

HON. MELISSA B. DEBERRY

89-17 Sutphin Boulevard

Jamaica, New York 11435



EDUCATION

HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, UNIONDALE, NEW YORK, JURIS DOCTOR, MAY 2000

COLLEGE OF NEW ROCHELLE, NEW YORK, NEW YORK, BACHELOR OF ARTS WITH HONORS, PSYCHOLOGY, JANUARY 1997

BAR ADMISSIONS

New York State- November 14, 2001

HONORS

New York State Regents Scholarship, Law 1997-2000

Macon B. Allen Black Bar Association Scholarship Recipient, 1998

College of New Rochelle Dean's List, 1994-1997

Who's Who American Law Students, Vol. 18, 1998.

You Can Go To College Committee Image Award 2021

National Association of University Women, Queens Branch Woman of the Year 2019

EXPERIENCE

NEW YORK STATE UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM

Judge, Civil Court of the City of New York, Queens County-January 2025 to December 31, 2034.

Responsible for overseeing fair and unbiased legal proceedings in General Civil and Small Claims Court; presiding over Jury and Bench Trials, including the No-Fault Part; conducting Infant's Compromise Hearings, Hearings under Article 6 of the New York State Civil Rights Law (Name/Sex Designation Change Petitions), and, Traverse Hearings. Conferencing cases and motions in the Consumer Credit Part, No-Fault Part and the self-represented Trial Part; legal research and drafting decisions; Court calendar control; and, participation in local school career day events to provide young people with an understanding of the legal system as well as information regarding the legal field.

NEW YORK STATE UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM

Principal Law Clerk-January 2017 to December 31, 2024

Principal Law Clerk to Hon. Chereé A. Buggs, New York State Supreme Court, Queens County, Associate Justice, Appellate Term, 2d, 11th & 13th Judicial Districts. Responsibilities include; assisting in legal research in Appellate Term matters; conferring and advising Justice on confidential legal matters; managing the daily Court calendar and

case inventory; preparing jury charges and verdict sheets; drafting decisions and Memorandum of Law related to motions in limine; reviewing and drafting decisions related to civil litigation including personal injury, no-fault, Labor Law, Medical Malpractice, residential and commercial real estate cases including foreclosure and partition matters; reviewing and drafting Mental Hygiene Law Article 81 Guardianship Orders and Judgments; observing and drafting Memorandum of Law related to Mental Hygiene Law Article 9 matters; conferencing cases and motions with attorneys and *pro se* litigants, in an effort to resolve conflicts; reviewing uncontested matrimonial submissions without children; and, supervising and mentoring the Assistant Law Clerks and Interns.

NEW YORK STATE UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM

Senior Court Attorney Trial Part, February 2010 to 2016

Senior Court Attorney for Hon. Chereé A. Buggs, New York City Civil Court, Queens County. Responsibilities included legal research; advisory support to Judge on legal matters; drafting decisions and Memorandum of Law related to civil litigation and commercial landlord and tenant matters; managing the Court calendar and case inventory; preparing jury charges and jury verdict sheets; reviewing uncontested matrimonial submissions with children; conferencing motions, small claims cases and pre-trial with attorneys and *pro se* litigants to resolve disputes.

NEW YORK STATE UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM

Court Attorney Trial Part, January 2009 to February 2010

Court Attorney for Hon. Chereé A. Buggs, Civil Court Queens County. Responsibilities included legal research; drafting decisions; preparing necessary trial materials including verdict sheets and jury charges; conferencing small claims matters; pre-trial conferencing of motions, bench and jury trials with all litigants in an effort to resolve issues; managing the court calendar; supervising and mentoring Interns.

NEW YORK STATE UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM

Court Attorney, February 2008 to December 2009

Court Attorney for Hon. Chereé A. Buggs, Queens County Family Court. Responsibilities included reviewing legal research and drafting decisions and Memorandum of Law related to Family Court matters, including child support objections; conferencing custody, visitation and Family Offense domestic violence cases between Petitioners and Respondents; preparing cases for Trial; and, supervision and mentorship to Interns.

LAW OFFICES OF MDHALL, Queens, New York, October 2007 to January 2008

Responsibilities included the handling of general legal matters including personal injury and criminal law, including appearances in various Courts in New York State.

RYAN & HENDERSON, P.C., Carle Place, New York

Litigation Associate, May 2005-September 2007

Responsibilities included handling medical malpractice and Insurance defense cases from inception to Trial including appearances at Court conferences; drafting pleadings and discovery demands; depositions; legal and medical research; motions practice; client conferences and Appellate advocacy.

MILBER MAKRIS PLOUSADIS & SEIDEN, LLP, Woodbury, New York

Litigation Associate, February 2003 to May 2005

Responsibilities included handling personal injury and medical malpractice cases from inception to Trial including appearances at Court conferences; drafting pleadings and discovery demands; depositions; legal and medical research; motions; Memorandum of Law; client conferences and Appellate advocacy.

KANTERMAN & TAUB, P.C. New York, New York

Litigation Associate, November 1, 2001 to February 2003

Responsibilities included handling medical malpractice and personal injury defense cases; Appellate advocacy; Court appearances; drafting pleadings, discovery demands and responses; medical and legal research as well as preparing motions and attending client conferences.

LAW OFFICES OF REGINA L. DARBY, New York, New York

Associate, May 2001 to September 2001

Responsibilities included handling civil litigation cases, including personal injury cases and matrimonial actions. Drafted pleadings, discovery demands and responses, and motions.

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT, S.D.N.Y.

Judicial Intern, 1999

Judicial Intern for Honorable Cornelius Blackshear. Researched and drafted a Judicial Opinion regarding the awarding of real estate broker's fees in a bankruptcy sale; observed trial techniques; participated in a foreclosure sale; observed numerous Chapter 7, 11, and 13 hearings.

Affiliations:

Civil Court of the City of New York Judges Association, Queens County Representative;

Civil Court of the City of New York, Queens County Equal Justice in the Courts Committee Member;

Judicial Friends Association, Inc.;

Historical Society of the New York Courts;

Queens County Bar Association;

Macon B. Allen Black Bar Association;

Queens County Women's Bar Association;

Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.;

NAACP Jamaica Branch;

National Association of University Women, Queens Branch.