



An accomplished professional with over 20 years of experience in the legal environment 14 of which as General Counsel and Director of Intergovernmental and Community Affairs for the [REDACTED]. My achievements include collaborating with the Illinois General Assembly leadership to create a Special Recreation taxing district in Chicago raising \$11 million in tax revenue for special therapeutic recreational programs. In addition I have supervised and managed negotiation of multi-million dollar contracts such as those related to the management, renovation, and construction of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] music festival behalf of the Park District. I possess excellent communication skills that include fluent Spanish and the ability to develop solid business relationships.

Professional Experience

12/1999 – 06/2013
[REDACTED]

Positions Held

General Counsel, 07/2002 – 06/2013

Managed the legal affairs of [REDACTED] in the country with oversight of 20 legal staff and a department budget in excess of \$8 million dollars.

Director of Intergovernmental & Community Affairs, 12/1999 – 07/2002

Managed a departmental staff of 11 employees performing duties associated with Intergovernmental and Community Affairs including [REDACTED] Volunteer Program, Special Events, and Park Advisory Councils.

Key Responsibilities

- Key legal counsel responsible for the management, negotiation and supervision of multi-million dollar contracts between [REDACTED] and outside vendors, contractors, and union bargaining units.
- Served as the legal advisor to the Human Resource Director.
- Responsible for the day to day management of the legal department including providing legal opinions on subjects submitted by the [REDACTED] Board President, General Superintendent & CEO, Board Commissioners, Park staff, and Human Resources.
- Administration of the District's issuance of multi-million dollar bond ordinances and warrants as issuer's counsel.
- Functioned as an advisor to [REDACTED] Board of Commissioners in their consideration of ordinances and resolutions during board meetings.
- Conducted and prepared under my supervision Ethics and Personnel training.
- Liaison between the park district and external governmental agencies and departments
- Identified government funding opportunities and collateral legislation to enhance and support the [REDACTED] mission.
- Supervised and managed contracts with outside counsel engaged on behalf [REDACTED] in the handling of legal matters.
- Responsible for the adjustment of claims against the District, including, duty related injuries, personal injuries, and property damage.

Key Accomplishments

- Oversaw the negotiations of private management contracts for the [REDACTED] properties and assets. This included the renovation and management of [REDACTED] parking garages, harbors, and concessions.
- Managed the Intergovernmental Affairs of the [REDACTED] including municipal, state, and federal legislative strategies.
- Secured Federal & State funds for [REDACTED] capital improvement projects.

- Successfully solicited the first U.S. Department of Defense and Transportation Grant on behalf of [REDACTED] in excess of \$2.5 million dollars.
- Collaborated with the Illinois General Assembly leadership to create a Special Recreation taxing district in Chicago with nearly \$11 million in tax revenues to be exclusively earmarked for special therapeutic recreational programs.

Previous Professional Experience

[REDACTED], Assistant Commissioner/Deputy Chief of Staff, 1998 – 1999

[REDACTED] 1996 – 1998

[REDACTED] 1992 – 1996

[REDACTED] 1990 – 1992

[REDACTED] 1989 – 1990

Education

[REDACTED] Juris Doctorate, 1989

Achievements:

(Co-founder of the Hispanic Law Student Organization; Moot Court competition; ABA Negotiation Competition; Recipient of the Dean's Leadership Award; Student delegate to numerous law conventions; graduate of the Coro Foundation's Hispanic Law Student Leadership Program, Los Angeles, CA; Recipient of an Achievement Award from Mayor Bradley, Los Angeles, CA)

[REDACTED] Bachelor of Science, 1985

Major: Public Administrations, Minor: Spanish Literature

National Institute for Trial Advocacy, Midwest Trial Program Participant

Illinois State Bar Association, Completion of Mediation Certification

Professional Awards and Accomplishments

MEF Board Member, Recording Secretary, 2003-Present

2012 Women in Law, Chicago Lawyer Magazine, 2012

25 Women Leaders, Metro Advancement Council, 2011

Chicago Bar Foundation, Making a Difference Award, 2008

Metro Advancement Council Chairperson, 1998 - 1999

El Hogar Del Nino "Government Service" Award, 1998

Midtown Educational Foundation "Volunteer of the Year" Award, 1998

Mexican American Lawyers' Association "President's Award", 1993

Served as the first female President of the Hispanic Lawyer's Association of Illinois, 1996 - 1997

Appointed by Federal District Court Chief Judge Aspen to review the renewal of Federal Magistrates' terms, 1997 - 1998

Served on the Chicago Bar Association's Judicial Evaluation Committee, 1996 - 1999

Invited speaker to the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission's Swearing-In ceremony of new Cook County Attorneys, 1997

President of Mujeres Latinas En Accion's Board of Directors, 1992 - 1993