

EXPERIENCE

U.S. Attorney's Office, Northern District of Georgia, Atlanta, GA

Oct. 2018 – Present

Assistant U.S. Attorney

- Serve as lead counsel representing the United States, its agencies and officials in civil litigation including employment discrimination, Federal Tort Claims Act, Bivens actions, habeas corpus, international judicial assistance, immigration, bankruptcy, student loans, Touhy requests for federal agency documents and witnesses, and affirmative civil rights enforcement
- **Representative Matters:**
 - Successfully moved to dismiss a habeas petition seeking mandamus relief and asserting claims under Fifth Amendment, Privacy Act, and Paperwork Reduction Act; affirmed by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit: *Whitfield v. United States Sec'y of State*, 20-13071, 2021 WL 1099032 (11th Cir. Mar. 23, 2021)
 - Successfully moved to dismiss an employment discrimination complaint asserting claims under Title VII, FMLA, and Rehabilitation Act: *Raich v. Perdue*, USDC NDGA CAF No. 3:19-cv-00010
 - Resolved Federal Tort Claims Act personal injury suit for nominal value after substantially narrowing viable damages through discovery: *Martin v. U.S.*, USDC NDGA CAF No. 1:18-cv-03746

Gwinnett County Magistrate Court, Lawrenceville, GA

July 2017 – Sept. 2018

Senior Staff Attorney

- Provided advice and counsel to 25 Judges of the Gwinnett County Magistrate Court who presided over Superior, State, and Juvenile Court matters by designation; recommended dispositions and drafted orders in complex cases
- Developed special court projects including community outreach, improvement of processes, and access to justice initiatives
- **Representative Matters:**
 - Drafted Order on motion for summary judgment and pre-trial motions for an 11-count commercial lease dispute seeking damages and equitable relief; affirmed by the Georgia Court of Appeals, docket no. A19A1384
 - Created a Bench Card for judges regarding Use of Electronic Devices in Courtrooms and Recording of Judicial Proceedings (revised Uniform Superior Court Rule 22) that is now distributed statewide through the Council of Superior Court Judges of GA, and an accompanying information sheet for court attendees that is widely posted in courtrooms and on court websites throughout Georgia

The Home Depot USA, Inc., Atlanta, GA

Nov. 2016 – June 2017

Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Compliance Manager

- Represented Home Depot in responses to EEO charges through verified answers, position statements, mediations and conciliations, fact finding conferences and requests for information, on-site audits, inspections and witness interviews
- Conducted internal investigations regarding EEO complaints alleging non-compliance with federal, state, and local employment laws; provided guidance to HR business partners on employee relations issues including personnel policies, employee discipline, medical leave and accommodation

City of Atlanta Law Department, Atlanta, GA

Oct. 2013 – Oct. 2016

Senior Assistant City Attorney – Labor & Employment

- Senior litigation counsel in the L&E practice group representing the City of Atlanta and its officials in litigation including Title VII, ADA, ADEA, EPA, FMLA, FLSA, 1st and 14th Amendment, 42 U.S.C. § 1983, and GA Whistleblower Act cases; managed complex caseload in federal and state courts including heavy dispositive motions practice, depositions, written discovery, mediations, hearings, trials, and appeals
- Provided legal advice and counsel to managers, department heads, boards, commissions, and elected officials regarding employment issues; conducted internal investigations of sensitive matters and when litigation was anticipated; handled inquiries and charges from federal, state, and local enforcement agencies as well as pre-litigation demands
- Drafted and reviewed contracts, policies, and legislation; drafted press releases, speeches, and public comments
- Presented CLEs and training on employment law and compliance
- **Representative Matter:** Authored appellate and trial court briefs successfully advocating for the adoption of the McDonnell Douglas burden-shifting analysis in claims brought under the Georgia Whistleblower Act, *Tuohy v. City of Atlanta*, 331 Ga. App. 846, 771 S.E.2d 501 (2015)

L.C. Davis Law, Atlanta, GA

Aug. 2012 – Sept. 2013

Associate to the Special Assistant Attorney General for DHS in Fulton County, Georgia

- Prosecuted civil contempt actions on behalf of the Georgia Department of Human Services; provided legal advice and counsel to the GA Division of Child Support Services regarding judicial enforcement of child support obligations

Fulton County Attorney's Office, Atlanta, GA

May 2008 – July 2012

Staff Attorney – Employment & Finance Practice Groups

- Represented Fulton County and its officials in all aspects of state and federal litigation including motions, depositions, discovery, hearings, mediations, trials and appeals
- Served as in-house counsel in the employment/personnel and finance practice groups: provided legal advice and counsel to department heads, elected officials, boards, and commissions on matters including personnel, taxation, garnishment, pensions, contracts, and elections; responded to EEO charges; drafted and reviewed contracts, policies, and legislation; co-authored a paper for continuing legal education seminar on employment law issues
- **Representative Matter:** Member of three attorney trial team that successfully defended employer at trial in a Title VII reverse race discrimination case resulting in a jury verdict in favor of Defendant Fulton County on all claims, *Isvaradevan v. Fulton County, et al.*, USDC NDGA CAF No. 1:06-cv-02504

Superior Court of Fulton County, Atlanta, GA

Oct. 2000 – May 2008

Judicial Staff Attorney for the Hon. Alford J. Dempsey, Jr.

- Served as a staff attorney in the busiest trial court of general jurisdiction in Georgia; recommended dispositions and drafted orders in civil, domestic, and criminal matters including torts, contract, equitable relief, administrative review, divorce, adoption, real property, habeas corpus, forfeiture, felony, and death penalty cases
- Managed civil docket; prepared jury charges; selected, trained, and supervised legal interns

City of Atlanta Law Department, Atlanta, GA

Nov. 1997 – Sept. 2000

Assistant City Attorney

- Represented the City and its officials in state and federal litigation and administrative hearings; provided legal advice and counsel to client departments; drafted and reviewed contracts and legislation

BAR MEMBERSHIP: Georgia (1997); Courts: U.S. Court of Appeals, 11th Circuit; U.S. Dist. Ct., N.D. Ga.; Supreme Court of Georgia; Court of Appeals of Georgia; Superior and State Courts of Georgia

EDUCATION

Georgia State University College of Law, Atlanta, GA, *Juris Doctor*

May 1996

Internships: Legal intern at the Federal Defender Program and the Superior Court of Fulton County

Leadership: President and Founding Member, GSU Law Asian American Law Student Association

Moot Court: Organized first SE Regional Thomas Tang Moot Court Competition sponsored by the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA)

Pro Bono: Performed intake and translation at monthly *pro bono* legal clinics conducted by the Georgia Asian Pacific American Bar Association (GAPABA); authored a memorandum on the labor rights of agricultural workers under NAFTA for the Florida Legal Services-Migrant Farmworker Project

Georgetown University, Washington, DC, *B.Sc. Languages and Linguistics*

May 1991

Leadership: Georgetown Univ. China Circle: President of student organization promoting understanding of Chinese culture

Activities: CHUMS Language Assistance Program: Volunteer translator for Korean and Chinese speaking elementary school students; D.C. Schools - After School Kids Program: Volunteer tutor for juvenile offenders whose probations were contingent upon satisfactory academic performance

AWARDS/RECOGNITION & PRESENTATIONS

- State Bar of Georgia Labor and Employment Law Section: Award of Achievement for Completion of the Labor and Employment Law Mentorship Academy as a Mentor (2016 – 2017)
- *Recent Developments in Employment Law*, In-house CLE Presentation for the City of Atlanta (2015 & 2016)
- *Recent Developments in Employment Law*, ICLE GA, Co-authored paper (2009)

ORGANIZATIONS & SKILLS

- **LANGUAGES:** Korean (conversational fluency), Mandarin (limited proficiency)
- U.S. Dept. of Justice Civil Rights Division: Volunteer Election Monitor (2018 and 2020)
- State Bar of Georgia: Access to Justice Standing Committee - *Pro Bono* Subcommittee (2017-Present); Labor and Employment Mentorship Academy - Mentor for Inaugural Class (2016-2017)
- The Home Depot: Coordinated EEO department's 2017 charitable giving/fundraising campaign
- Georgia Asian Pacific American Bar Association (GAPABA), Member
- Gwinnett County Bar Association, Member