

MELISSA L. EGGERS (PIETRZYK), ESQ.

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LEGAL EXPERIENCE

State of Florida, Department of Legal Affairs, Office of the Attorney General.

West Palm Beach, Florida

September 2014 – present

Assistant Attorney General assigned to the General Civil Litigation Bureau. Appearing as counsel for state agencies and state employees named as defendants in state and federal civil actions, predominately in the SDFL and the 11th, 17th, 15th and 19th Judicial Circuits.

Areas of practice include wrongful death, employment law, personal injury, prisoner litigation, civil rights violations, claims of public attorney and judicial malpractice, prosecuting civil contempt, termination of foster care assistance, and defending the constitutionality of state statutes. Cases have included securing an order of determination of a vexatious litigant. Developed a concentration in bringing forth civil contraband seizures and civil RICO forfeiture actions on behalf of the state against criminal defendants. Said cases involve ex parte applications to freeze bank accounts, place liens on property, dissolve corporations, and seize and forfeit personal and real property to the benefit of the state or innocent persons and engage. All litigation tasks include drafting pleadings, motion practice, discovery, including e-discovery, depositions, assessments and evaluations for risk adjusters and representing clients in mediation and in settlement negotiations.

Duffy & Duffy, PLLC.

Uniondale, New York

2013 - 2014

Associate in a medium sized plaintiff's medical malpractice firm. Complex cases ranged from failure to diagnosis cancer, wrongful death, to improper prosthetic placement. Responsibilities included depositions, research, motion practice, discovery and trials. Weekly court appearances in New York City and Long Island. Tried three cases, with two to verdict. Argued before the Appellate Division.

Suffolk County District Attorney's Office.

Long Island, New York

2002 – 2013

Prosecuted criminal cases arising within the jurisdiction of Suffolk County. Experiences included presenting in excess of 200 cases to the Grand Jury, daily courtroom appearances regarding arraignments, bail recommendations, conferences and pleas. Engaged in cooperation agreements and had autonomy with negotiations. Responsibilities encompassed motion practice, pre-trial hearings and trials. Tried 16 trials, 12 to verdict. Conducted investigations with various law enforcement officers, governmental agencies and in-house accountants. Investigations included interviewing witnesses, issuing subpoenas, reviewing financial and media material, evaluating undercover police activity, providing legal opinions, planning search warrants and authorizing arrests. Duties also included denying criminal prosecution and referring complainants to civil forums when appropriate.

Labor, Insurance and Revenue Crimes Bureau

2011 – 2013

Prosecuted cases pertaining to fraud in the areas of automotive and health care insurance, workers' compensation, social services, unemployment benefits, Social Security benefits, identity theft and larceny. Pursued and investigated violators of NYS Tax Laws.

Economic Crime Bureau

2008 – 2011

Prosecuted and investigated multi-million dollar Ponzi schemes, fraudulent real estate and financial investments, identity theft, forgeries, employee embezzlements, fraud among company officers, welfare fraud, grand larceny and misappropriation of funds by residential contractors.

Major Crime Bureau 2005 – 2008

Handled felony level violent crimes such as burglaries, robberies, assaults, sexual assaults, fatal driving while intoxicated and criminal conspiracies.

Misdemeanor and low level felony bureaus 2002 – 2005

Resolved felony cases through grand jury presentations or plea negotiations. Prosecuted domestic violence crimes and various misdemeanors, violations and traffic offenses.

Feldman & Schneiderman P.L.

Boca Raton, Florida 2001

As a law school student, researched and drafted motions and memoranda of law regarding trademark registration, statute of limitations issues and contract formation.

STATE ADMISSIONS

Florida
New York

FEDERAL ADMISSIONS

MDFL, SDFL
SDNY, EDNY

EDUCATION

Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Juris Doctorate, 2002.

Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida. Bachelor of Science, 1999.

Palm Beach State College, Palm Beach Gardens, Florida. 1995-1996.