

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES DIVISION
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RICHARD WHITLEY, MS
Director

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AUG 07 2017



August 4, 2017

Clerk of the Nevada Supreme Court 201 South Carson Street, Suite 201 Carson City, Nevada 89701 Sent Via Regular Mail, Facsimile to (775) 684-1601 and Electronic Mail to nvscclerk@nvcourts.nv.gov

Re: Permanent Nevada Statewide Guardianship Commission

To Whom it May Concern:

I would like to be considered for participation on the permanent Nevada Guardianship Commission. I have attended many meetings of the prior commission, read much of the materials, and even presented to the commission in the past. Since that time when I was a private attorney in the field of guardianship and elder exploitation, I have become the Attorney for the Rights of Older Persons and Persons With Disabilities with the State of Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division.

My role with the state is codified in NRS 427A.1234 (as amended by Assembly Bill 31) and I assumed the role Sally C. Ramm, Esq. previously held in January 2017. I have been able to participate in the legislative session as guardianship bills made their way through the process and have been participating with trainings and outreach about the new laws. I am also the state legal services developer under the federal Older Americans Act and therefore have experience with access to justice issues and funding for representation of protected persons.

Part of what brought me to close my private practice in Las Vegas, Nevada and move to Northern Nevada this year was the prospect of preventing guardianship abuses instead of seeing them midstream as I previously had. Having practiced in Clark County primarily since being admitted to the bar 10 years ago, I have the unique perspective of someone who has seen the guardianship crisis first hand. I even successfully represented a protected person against her former guardian, April Parks, and assisted law enforcement with their pursuit of charges against Parks related to other cases.



On the flip side, I have been able to explore the rural areas of Nevada and make contacts with people there since my relocation. I have seen the different issues faced as we strive to allow people self-determination and the ability to age in place. I have participated with groups from the End Abuse in Later Life Grant with the Nevada Attorney General's Office (I am a member of the Coordinated Community Response Team) to the Supported Decision Making Grant Research Team looking at alternatives to guardianship.

I am happy to provide writing samples, articles, or references to assist as you determine members of the Commission. I have enclosed my resume in case that is of use as well. My email address is hwoodrum@adsd.nv.gov and my direct line is 775-687-0582. It would be an honor to serve and I appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely

Homa Sayyar Woodrum Esq. Attorney for the Rights of Older Persons

and Persons With Disabilities

Aging and Disability Services Division

Encl. as stated

ADMISSIONS TO PRACTICE

Oct. 2007 United States District Court, District of Nevada Oct. 2007 State Bar of Nevada . . . Nevada Bar No. 10803

ACADEMIC SUMMARY

2004-2007 Juris Doctorate, William S. Boyd School of Law, University of Nevada Las Vegas

Final Cumulative GPA: 3.17 ... Final Rank: 33 / 143 ... Cum Laude

2002-2003 Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, International Business, University of Nevada Las Vegas

Final Cumulative GPA: 3.90 ... Magna Cum Laude

2000-2002 Associate of Arts, College of Southern Nevada

Final Cumulative GPA: 3.97 ... High Honors

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Jan. 2017- Attorney for Rights of Older Persons and Persons With Disabilities, Aging and Disability Division of Nevada

Present Elder and Disability Rights advocacy position. Includes legislative work, community contact and education, as well as supportive legal advice for the Department of Health and Human Services Aging and Disability Services Division. State

of Nevada Legal Services Developer under the Older Americans Act.

Aug. 2016- (Appointment) Pro Tem Hearing Officer, Eighth Judicial District Court, Family Division (clarkcountycourts.us)

Jan. 2017 Pro Tem Hearing Officer Training in Child Support and Mental Commitment Courts.

Jan. 2016- Adjunct Professor, University of Nevada Las Vegas William S. Boyd School of Law (law.unlv.edu)

May 2017 Professor teaching legal writing course(s) at the University of Nevada Las Vegas, including Lawyering Process III.

Apr. 2015- Of Counsel, Schaefer Law Firm (immigrationnevada.com)

Jan. 2017 Helm of Nevada office for Immigration representation (naturalization, waivers, adjustments of status, visas, etc.) of

clients of Schaefer Law Firm (based in Idaho).

Sep. 2014 - Co-Founder, The Allergy Law Project (allergylawproject.com)

Jan. 2017 Along with Mary Vargas, Esq. and Laurel Francoeur, Esq., co-founded a free legal resource online to provide useful

information to those with disabilities (especially food allergy and celiac disease) under the law. Included co-authoring

articles as well as helming website operation, logo design, and social media management.

Jan. 2014 - Equity Partner, Woodrum Law LLC (woodrumlaw.com)

Jan. 2017 Practicing in the areas of guardianship, wills & trusts, elder law, civil litigation, corporate formation, and immigration

law. Also providing pro bono services through Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada and Nevada Legal Services.

Apr. 2013 - Co-Founder, Food Allergy Bloggers Conference LLC

Dec. 2014 Co-founded and planned a food allergy social media related conference held 2013 and 2014 in Las Vegas. Drafted

agreements regarding speakers and sponsors for a gathering of medical professionals, authors, bloggers, and advocates.

Apr. 2012- Of Counsel, Sidhu Law Firm

Jan. 2014 Practiced in the areas of guardianship, bankruptcy, and immigration law; engaged in client lead generation strategies.

Oct. 2007- Associate Attorney, Larson & Stephens

Aug. 2008 Practiced in the areas of family law, bankruptcy, private and public guardianship, and civil litigation through all case

phases including client contact, discovery, dispositive hearings, appearances, settlement conferences, trial, and post-trial.

Jan. 2007- Judicial Extern, Nevada Supreme Court, Honorable Michael Douglas

Apr. 2007 Cite-checked numerous opinions in anticipation of publication in Nevada Reporters and drafted preliminary documents

for preparation of bench memos in two appellate matters.

Jan. 2006- Law Clerk, Larson & Stephens

Oct. 2007 Drafted documents including research memos, complaints, and motions in areas including bankruptcy, family law,

guardianship, and general litigation. Designed, coded, and maintained firm website.

ARTICLES AND SPEAKING

July 1, 2017 "The Older Americans Act: Access to Justice for Those Over 60 in Nevada"

Nevada Lawyer Magazine, Volume 25 | Issue 7, Elder Law in the Silver State Issue

August 17, 2016 "Discovery and Capacity Determinations" Homa Sayyar Woodrum (Speaker)

NBI – Guardianships from Start to Finish CLE

August 1, 2016 "Representing Adults Facing and Under Guardianship Proceedings" by H. S. Woodrum & A. L. Woodrum

"Guardianship Case Summaries - Minor and Adult Guardianships[...]" by Homa Sayyar Woodrum

Clark County Bar Association Communique Magazine – Guardianship Issue

May 14, 2016 "Food Allergies and the Law: Understanding Issues[...] Homa Sayyar Woodrum (Speaker)

2016 National Food Allergy Research and Education Conference - Orlando, Florida

October 1, 2015 "If You Can Send an E-mail, You Can Start Your Own (Legal) Blog" by Homa Sayyar Woodrum

Clark County Bar Association Communique Magazine - Social Media Issue

September 18, 2015 "Paths to Immigration" Homa Sayyar Woodrum (Speaker)

City of Las Vegas Downtown Cultural Series Community Education Volunteer

September 1, 2015 "Guardianship Legislative Update" by Homa Sayyar Woodrum

Clark County Bar Association Communique Magazine – Legislative Wrap-Up Issue

June 1, 2015 "Warning Signs of Client Exploitation: Practice Tips for Attorneys" by Homa Sayyar Woodrum

Clark County Bar Association Communique Magazine - Family Law Issue

AWARDS, MEMBERSHIPS, AND ACTIVITIES

July 2017Rising Star: Super Lawyers (Mountain States)June 2017Nevada Business Magazine Legal Elite (2017)

2017-present Member, Northern Nevada Women Lawyers Association
2014-2017 Member, Southern Nevada Association of Women Attorneys

2016 Pro Bono Law Firm of the Year, Nevada Legal Services (Woodrum Law LLC)

Dec. 2016

LACSN Pro Bono Award: 100 Hours Club
Dec. 2015

LACSN Pro Bono Award: 100 Hours Club
Oct. 2015

LACSN Pro Bono Attorney of the Month

July 2015 - Dec. 2016 Chair, Eighth Judicial District Court Guardianship Committee Regarding Privacy and Media

June 2015 Nevada Business Magazine Legal Elite

2014 AV Peer Review Rating of 4.7, Martindale-Hubbell

Oct. 2014 Desert Companion Magazine Southern Nevada "Top Lawyer" – Guardianship

2014-2017 Co-Founder, Allergy Law Project

2014-Present Member, National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys

2014-2017 Member, Southern Nevada Association of Women Attorneys

2014-2017 Member, Clark County Bar Association

2013 Las Vegas Walk Committee, Food Allergy Research and Education

Dec. 2013 LACSN Pro Bono Award: 100 Hours Club

2012-2016 Member, American Immigration Lawyers Association
May 2007 Recipient, William S. Boyd School of Law Dean's Award

REFERENCES

Karen Kelly, Clark County Public Guardian

515 Shadow Lane, Las Vegas, Nevada 89106

Mary Vargas, Esq., Stein & Vargas

5100 Buckeystown Pike, Suite 250, Frederick, Maryland 21704

Edward Ableser, Ph.D., Administrator, Nevada ADSD

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