### MICHELLE A. BEATY

3527 Lang Street New Orleans, Louisiana 70131 504-782-9079 mbeatygullage@gmail.com

#### **PROFILE**

#### **Key Skills**:

- Strong communication skills (both oral and written)
- Excellent research and trial skills
- Solid experience in strategic planning, formulating and administering budgets, organizational development and staff management

#### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

#### LOUISIANA JUDICIARY COMMISSION OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL, New Orleans, LA Special Counsel

July 2017-Present

- Provide supervision and direction to a small staff engaged in legal, investigative, paralegal, clerical and other support activities necessary to review, investigate, and prosecute complaints of ethical violations against judges in the state of Louisiana.
- Direct and/or conduct in-depth and confidential investigations of complaints brought before the Judiciary Commission.
- Develop and try cases before the Louisiana Judiciary Commission and present arguments to the Louisiana Supreme Court.
- Prepare and/or assist in preparation of statistical reports for the Supreme Court, judges, state agencies, the state legislature, and the general public.
- Provide continuing legal education and training to judges and justices of the peace.

# BLUE WILLIAMS, LLP, Metairie, LA *Of Counsel/Partner*

February 2015-June 2017 July 2008-February 2014

- Responsible for all phases of litigation of insurance, commercial and business cases from initial suit to responsive pleadings, written discovery, depositions, pre-trial motions, hearings, mediation, settlement negotiations, trial and appeals.
- Created litigation budgets and worked with in-house counsel to successfully manage cases.
- Toxic Tort/Asbestos Litigation

### LOUISIANA JUDICIARY COMMISSION OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL, New Orleans, LA Assistant Special Counsel

February 2014-January 2015

• Responsible for reviewing, investigating and prosecuting complaints of ethical violations against judges in the state of Louisiana.

- Extensive review of documents, interviewing and taking sworn statements of witnesses, and motions practice.
- Litigated cases before hearing officers, the Judiciary Commission of Louisiana and the Supreme Court of Louisiana.
- Extensive and detailed analysis of fact-intensive situations to determine whether behavior is in compliance with ethical canons.

### **NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**, New Orleans, LA February 2003-May 2008 *Executive Assistant District Attorney*

- Managed Child Support Enforcement Division staff of 65, including attorneys, investigators, collection specialists and clerical employees.
- Responsible for formulating and administering annual budget of over \$2 million, implementing and enforcing office policies, and ensuring compliance with state and federal statutes and regulations.
- Worked closely with Louisiana Department of Social Services and other agencies as well as District Court Judges of the domestic division.
- Litigated child support cases at both district court and appellate court level.

## **SPEARS & SPEARS**, New Orleans, LA *Associate Attorney*

August 1999 - February 2003

- Defended State Farm and its insured in cases based on automobile accidents and premises liability claims.
- As a smaller part of practice, handled some criminal defense matters as well as other civil matters ranging from domestic issues to contract disputes.

# LEBLANC, MIRANDA & DELAUP, Metairie, LA Associate Attorney

April 1998 - July 1999

- Defended various insurance companies involved in product liability claims, motor vehicle accident claims, premises liability and asbestos claims.
- Extensive experience in drafting motions and supporting briefs.

# **NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**, New Orleans, LA May 1996 - April 1998 *Assistant District Attorney*

- Gained experience in Child Support, Juvenile, Magistrate and Trials Divisions of the District Attorney's Office. Handled motions, misdemeanor and felony trials in Juvenile, Magistrate and Criminal District Courts.
- Served as First or second chair for more than 20 trials.
- Promoted to Screening Division to review arrest cases for charging or refusal.

## **ELIE, JONES & GRAY**, New Orleans, LA *Intern/Associate Attorney*

June 1994 - May 1996

• Handled personal injury, medical malpractice, employment discrimination, domestic and bankruptcy clients.

### **EDUCATION & BAR ADMISSIONS**

Bar Admission: Louisiana 1994

TULANE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, New Orleans, LA

1994

Juris Doctor

**DUKE UNIVERSITY**, Durham, NC *Bachelor of Arts in Political Science* 

1991

### **PUBLICATIONS**

Blue Williams Newsletter, Vol. 30, No. 1, Expansion of Louisiana Non-Compete Statute (Spring 2009);

Louisiana State Bar Journal, Vol. 59, No. 5, Focus on Professionalism, *Chess, Anyone?* (February/March 2012).

### **PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

Louisiana Association of Defense Counsel, Board Member	2015-2017
Laureate Academy Charter School Founding Board, Board Member	2013-2016
New Orleans Food & Farm Network, Board Member	2012-2014
Defense Research Institute, Member	2008-2017
Diversity Committee	2010-2017
Commercial Litigation Steering Committee	2012-2014
Publications Board	2012-2014
Judge Ad Hoc, First City Court	2001-2002
Assistant Bar Examiner, Constitutional Law	2001-2012
Participant, 36 <sup>th</sup> Metropolitan Leadership Forum	2000
Member, Louisiana State Bar Association	1994-Present
Committee on the Profession	2009-2017
Fellow, Loyola Institute of Politics	1996
First Grace United Methodist Church, Staff/Parish Relations Committee	2018-Present
Crescent City (LA) Chapter, The Links, Incorporated	2019-Present
Krewe of Themis	2020-Present
Ochsner Baptist Medical Center, Board Member	2021-