

CONNIE KAPLAN

connkapl@nsu.edu

BAR ADMISSIONS:

State of Florida

U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida

EDUCATION:

Nova Southeastern University, Shepard Broad College of Law, Fort Lauderdale, FL, Juris Doctor, May 2010

Honors:

Goodwin Scholar - full tuition merit scholarship recipient

ILSA Journal of International and Comparative Law, Editor-in-Chief, 2009–2010

Presidential Management Fellowship Nominee 2010

Jessup International Law Moot Court, Competitor 2009

Florida Bar Public Interest Law Fellow, 2008–2009

Publications:

No End in Sight: The Effects of the Boumediene Decision on the Detainees Held by the United States at Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, 15 ILSA J. Int'l & Comp. L. 183 (2008)

State University of New York, Empire State College, New York, NY, Bachelor of Science, Business Studies, May 2007

PROFESSIONAL/LEGAL EXPERIENCE:

Adjunct Professor of Law, Nova Southeastern University, Shepard Broad College of Law, Davie, FL

Law Office Management, August 2011 to Present

Law Offices of Connie Kaplan, PA, Fort Lauderdale, FL

Attorney in Private Practice, May 2011 to Present

- Solo practitioner in private practice handling almost exclusively immigration matters
- Interview and assess prospective clients' immigration options for both non-immigrant and immigrant visas, temporary status, adjustment of status, consular processing, options for relief from removal, or naturalization, by actively listening to and observing the behavior of the prospective client to determine eligibility
- Research, interpret, and analyze the pertinent sections of the INA, CFR, precedent federal and state case law, Adjudicator's Field Manual, in light of the client's situation to develop strategy with client to obtain the proper result, and communicate it verbally and in writing to ensure a common understanding and cooperation
- Explain to client the pros and cons of each option, the possible outcomes, and the importance of disclosing all facts and being truthful
- Manage the information and documents received from the clients and prepare appropriate filings (applications with USCIS, National Visa Center, DOL, or EOIR)
- Collaborate with criminal defense counsel, psychologists, government agencies, and other professionals to obtain documentation or information that may affect the case
- Litigate in immigration court and Florida criminal courts, including drafting petitions (including post-conviction relief), motions, participating in discovery, taking depositions, and hearings
- As Staff Attorney for the Fraternal Order of Police, Florida State Lodge (FOP), represent clients in settlement negotiations, mediations, and in court; represent police officers in employment arbitrations and officers involved in shootings (at the scene),
- Completed National Institute for Trial Advocacy Training courses: Deposition Skills; Trial Skills
- Completed 107.5 CLE hours (continuing legal education) on immigration topics

Lyons and Sanders Chartered, Fort Lauderdale, FL

Law Clerk, June 2009 to 2013

- Conduct legal research and draft memoranda pertaining to criminal defense and family law issues, and draft appeals.
- File motions in both state and federal court; attend client meetings.
- Prepare CLE material on: passive appreciation of marital assets; handling the media in high-profile sex cases; and cross-examination basics.

Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, FL

Research Assistant to Professor Kathy Cerminara, May 2008 to August 2009

- Conducted research and cited sources for Medicare and Medicaid Hospice Care publication.
- Prepared presentation material on covenants not to compete as they pertain to medical residents and emergency room physicians.

Legal Aid Service of Broward County, Inc., Plantation, FL

Florida Bar Public Interest Fellow, August 2008 to May 2009

- Handled intake for foreclosure clients.
- Researched and drafted administrative appeals (Medicaid).

VOLUNTEER/COMMUNITY SERVICE:

American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Florida, Miami, FL Pro Bono Volunteer, February 2008 to June 2009

- Assisted clemency applicants from various communities with preparing documents and applying for restoration of their civil rights

TECHNICAL AND BUSINESS EXPERIENCE:

Health Insurance Plan of Greater New York, New York, NY

Data Storage Engineer, 2004 to 2007

- Managed day-to-day operations of the open systems disk storage, SAN and NAS on various platforms.
- Responsible for data storage, backup and restore operations, and disaster recovery.
- Evaluated and implemented network attached enterprise-wide backup and data archive solution.

Network Engineer, 1999 to 2004

- Completed migration of 3000 users from Novell to Windows NT.
- Handled crisis management and disaster recovery of the data center, including the aftermaths of the events on 9/11 and the Northeast blackout of 2003
- Designed and executed system updates as required for HIPAA compliance.
- Installed and supported a server farm of over 400 servers.

Jamaica Hospital Medical Center, Jamaica, NY

Systems Coordinator, 1997 to 1999

- Managed all aspects of starting, implementing, and managing a medical collection agency.
- Implemented and managed medical billing application.
- Provided all levels of client technical support and troubleshooting.