

LAURA E. PINCUS, ESQ.

BAR ADMISSIONS

The Florida Bar (1996)

The United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida (2000)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

The School District of Palm Beach County

10/11 - present

Deputy General Counsel

- Provides legal guidance on all issues pertaining to academics, including ESE, 504, student discipline, alternative education, magnet and choice programs, charter schools, contacts, student progression, student records and custody issues.
- Handles all ESE litigation, including administrative hearings.
- Supervises a team of professionals responsible for legal issues pertaining to academics and governance, including attorneys, paralegals and legal secretaries.
- Collaborates with other attorneys on litigation involving students with disabilities.
- Works closely with District personnel to effectively implement all pertinent policies, procedures and regulatory compliance initiatives and requirements.
- Collaborates regularly with General Counsel on all legal issues pertaining to the School District.
- Attends School Board and leadership meetings on behalf of the General Counsel in her absence.
- Negotiates agreements with Florida Department of Education, the Office for Civil Rights and the Department of Justice.

The School District of Palm Beach County

06/07 – 10/11

Director of Exceptional Student Education

Associate Director of Exceptional Student Education

- Ensured legal compliance and oversaw special education, gifted, and Section 504 programming for over 40,000 students.
- Lead a diverse team of professionals including administrators, teachers, ESE Contacts, psychologists, speech language pathologists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, and other special education service providers.
- Worked with parents and school administrators to effectively advocate for student needs and resolve issues as they arose.
- Managed an extensive budget that includes six separate grants.
- Collaborated with advocacy groups, parent support groups and community agencies to provide training to parents and professionals working on behalf of students with disabilities.
- Developed and implemented training and strategies to increase minority participation in gifted programs and decrease the overrepresentation of minorities in special education programs.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools

12/05 – 06/07

Senior Academics Attorney

- Provided legal guidance on all issues pertaining to academics.
- Managed a full and active caseload of ESE cases before the Division of Administrative Hearings.
- Supervised a team of professionals responsible for all legal issues pertaining to academics, including two attorneys, a paralegal and a legal secretary.

The School District of Palm Beach County
Senior Academics Counsel
Associate Academics Counsel
Legal Secretary

02/00 – 12/05

LRP Publications

Legal Editor, Higher Education Law Newsletters
Editor, Hospitality Law, Civil RICO Report, Federal Tort Claims Act News

01/97 – 02/00

GRADUATE FACULTY

Nova Southeastern University
Adjunct Professor
School Discipline Law (Masters in Education Law Program)

01/08 – present

Florida Atlantic University (Associate Graduate Faculty)
Adjunct Professor
Legal Aspects of Special Education (Doctorate Program)

01/09 – present

EDUCATION

Nova Southeastern University Shepard Broad Law Center, Davie, FL
JURIS DOCTOR, Cum Laude
Nova Law Review, Lead Articles Editor
Moot Court Society, Administrative Editor
Best Brief Award, Moot Court Competition

The American University, Washington, DC
MASTER OF ARTS, Elementary Education
BACHELOR OF ARTS, Communications/Print Journalism

ASSOCIATIONS, CERTIFICATION and COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Member, Education Law Committee of the Florida Bar
- Member, Florida School Board Attorneys Association
- Walk Chair 2012, Palm Beach County Walk Now for Autism Speaks
- Legislative Chairman, Florida Council of Administrators of Special Education (CASE)
- Member, Council of Exceptional Children (CEC)
- Member, Alpha Chi Omega Sorority
- Certified Teacher, Exceptional Student Education