

MAHA A. ELKOLALLI, ESQ.

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BAR MEMBERSHIP

State of Florida, September 2010
U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida, 2011

EXPERIENCE

Law Office of Maha A. ELKollali, P.L., Plantation, FL

Managing Attorney September 2011- Present

Litigate family law cases including matters relating to domestic violence disputes, dissolution of marriage, child support, dependency, and post dissolution matters. Review and/or negotiate contracts. Corporate Formation. Civil Litigation. Regularly participate in the annual Ethical Governance Day. Board member of the Florida Muslim Bar Association. Provide the community with free legal talks in various venues including schools, shelters, religious institutions, libraries, etc. Speaker at various Colleges/Universities, including Florida Atlantic University, Palm Beach College, Florida International University, University of Miami, and Miami Dade College. Works with the international community and different entities within the United Nations on various human rights issues to coordinate plans to address those concerns worldwide.

NYC Family Day, Inc., Plantation, FL

Vice President December 2012-January 2017

Planned and coordinated all Islam on Capitol Hill events including the historic Jumuah Prayer events on Capitol Hill in Washington DC, the reception at the Rayburn Center with the assistance of Congressman Keith Ellison, the first Ramadan Iftar Banquet at the United Nations Headquarters, the Tribute to Muhammad Ali at the United Nations, and the United Nations Tribute to Dr. King and Malcolm X.

Colodny, Fass, Talenfeld, Karlinsky, & Abate, Fort Lauderdale, FL

Associate in the area of Children's Rights August 2010 – August 2011

Litigated cases to protect the rights of vulnerable individuals in civil rights cases, personal injury cases, and systemic reform litigation. Prepared cases for trial including preparing complaints and pleadings, taking depositions, conducting discovery, and litigating matters pertaining to the rights of children and persons with disabilities.

Propops Foundation, Incorporated, Miami, FL

National Coordinator January 2009 – August 2010

Prepared and updated the Executive Business Plan and annual budget. Developed job descriptions and structured chapters nationwide. Developed programs for the Foundation. Networked with athletes, entertainers, and community businesses to establish sponsors. Organized fundraising events and reviewed marketing. Arranged meetings with the officers to ensure that chapters met goals. Reviewed contracts and negotiated with vendors regarding events.

Weisberg & Meyers, LLC, Cooper City, FL

Law Clerk January 2010 – April 2010

Prepared Motions to Dismiss and Motions for Summary Judgment. Reviewed case files to prepare for trial. Communicated with clients to complete Affidavits. Prepared exhibits. Researched legal issues relating to consumer fraud, the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, and Foreclosure law in all fifty states.

Shepard Broad Law, Children and Families Clinic

Certified Legal Intern

August 2009 – December 2009

Prepared cases for dissolution of marriage, dependency proceedings, and domestic violence injunctions. Interviewed clients, prepared petitions, financial affidavits, and marital settlement agreements. Represented clients in mediation, court hearings, trials, and depositions.

Department of Homeland Security, Miami, FL

Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Office of the Chief Counsel

Intern

May 2008 – August 2009

Prepared cases for the master calendar, bond hearings, and asylum hearings. Researched and prepared briefs for the court. Researched torture in various parts of the world to assess suitability for asylum. Worked closely with the asylum unit to determine eligibility for the purpose of prosecutorial discretion. Prepared cases for denaturalization trials.

Department of Juvenile Justice, Davie, FL

Bureau of Program Accountability

Quality Assurance

Government Analyst 1

March 2007 – July 2007

Conducted Quality Assurance reviews at Department of Juvenile Justice programs throughout the state of Florida. Prepared quality assurance reports and presented concerns to the Inspector General. Maintained communication with all assigned facilities, providing the necessary guidance to ensure their compliance with Florida Statutes and Department of Juvenile Justice Standards.

YMCA of Broward, Fort Lauderdale, FL

Area Children Services Director

November 2006 – March 2007

Directed 8 aftercare programs for special needs and general population children. Managed over 40 staff members. Ensured that programs complied with standards of Children Services Council, School Board of Broward County, and Child Care Licensing. Hired employees, handled staff meetings, and conducted payroll. Audited staff members' and children's files. Coordinated staff training. Created and maintained an annual budget for aftercare. Created diverse curriculum to address character development, physical fitness, public speaking, career planning, and literacy.

ChildNet, Fort Lauderdale, FL

Child Advocate Supervisor

November 2003- September 2006

Neighborhood Partnership Program Supervisor

Supervised a specialized foster care/protective services unit that focused specifically on serving high risk families in Broward County. Handled up to seventy cases and managed seven Child Advocates at any given time. Responsibilities included: training new employees; reviewing court reports; preparing advocates for trial; presenting cases in court; and conducting ongoing safety assessments of children in care. Named the 2004 Ann Bowden Child Advocate of the Year for the State of Florida.

Florida Department of Children and Families, Lauderhill, FL

Family Services Counselor Supervisor

June 2003- November 2003

Family Services Counselor and Mentor

March 2001 - June 2003

Supervised a foster care/protective services unit. Trained new employees. Gathered and reported findings concerning children in care. Reviewed court reports; prepared advocates for trial; and presented cases in court. Conducted ongoing safety assessments of children in care. Provided services to families to establish stability and permanency. Received extensive training in the areas of domestic violence, sexual abuse, physical abuse, substance abuse, and neglect. Transitioned cases to the private sector when child protective services were privatized in the State of Florida.

Ford Motor Credit, Coral Springs, FL

Customer Service

May 1996- April 1998

Verified auto insurance on leased vehicles. Wrote car insurance policies. Constructed company letters. Signed titles for paid off vehicles. Tracked titles. Assisted Customers who came into the office. Responsible for all mailing in the office.

EDUCATION

Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, FL

Shepard Broad Law Center

Juris Doctor, *Magna Cum Laude*, May 2010

Honors: *Dean's List*
 Goodwin Scholar Recipient
 Nova Law Review, Senior Staff Member
 Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Member
 Over 150 Pro Bono Hours

Activities: *Black Law Student Association, Member 2007-2009*
 American Bar Association, Student Division
 Inter-American Center for Human Rights, Member 2007-2008
 Caribbean Law Student Association, Secretary 2008-2009

University at Albany, Albany, New York

Bachelor of Arts, *Summa Cum Laude*, December 2000

Major: Psychology and Sociology

Activities: *Dean's List (all semesters)*
 Golden Key Honor Society
 Psi Chi

Academy of Finance Broward County, Plantation, FL

Certificate of Finance Studies, May 1997

CERTIFICATION

Certified in facilitating and co-facilitating the Family Team Conference.
Certified field trainer for the Family Team Conference
Certified Child Protection Professional March 2001- 2008

AWARDS

2018 Recipient of the Women's History Coalition of Miami-Dade 2018 Women of Impact Award (March 13, 2018 is Proclaimed Maha A. Elkolalli, Esq. Day by the Miami-Dade Office of the Mayor and Board of County Commissioners)
2018 Greatness of Service Award from the Ali Global Peace Initiative
2017 CAIR Florida Community Service Award
2017 Helping Hand Award
2004 Ann Bowden Child Advocate of the Year Award for the State of Florida

LANGUAGES

Working Knowledge of Arabic