

**UNITED STATES SENATE
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY**

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR NON-JUDICIAL NOMINEES

PUBLIC

1. **Name**: State full name (include any former names used).

Trini Elana Ross (current)

Trini E. Ross (current)

Trini Seals (husband's last name. I never used this, but others have)

2. **Position**: State the position for which you have been nominated.

United States Attorney for the Western District of New York

3. **Address**: List current office address. If city and state of residence differs from your place of employment, please list the city and state where you currently reside.

Office:

National Science Foundation, Office of the Inspector General

2415 Eisenhower Avenue

Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Residence:

Buffalo, New York

4. **Birthplace**: State date and place of birth.

1966; Buffalo, New York

5. **Education**: List in reverse chronological order each college, law school, or any other institution of higher education attended and indicate for each the dates of attendance, whether a degree was received, and the date each degree was received.

State University of New York (SUNY), Buffalo School of Law, 1989-1992

Juris Doctor - May 1992

Rutgers University, 1988-1990

Master of Arts - May 1990

SUNY, College at Fredonia, 1984-1988

Bachelor of Arts - May 1988

6. **Employment Record:** List in reverse chronological order all governmental agencies, business or professional corporations, companies, firms, or other enterprises, partnerships, institutions or organizations, non-profit or otherwise, with which you have been affiliated as an officer, director, partner, proprietor, or employee since graduation from college, whether or not you received payment for your services. Include the name and address of the employer and job title or description.

August 2018 - Present
Director, Office of Investigations, Legal Division
National Science Foundation, Office of Inspector General
2415 Eisenhower Ave
Alexandria, VA 22314
Paid

May 2013 - February 2019 (not consecutive)
Adjunct Professor
Medaille College
19 Agassiz Circle
Buffalo, New York 14214
Paid

October 2007 - December 2009
Assistant Counsel
United States Department of Justice
Office of Professional Responsibility
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20530
Paid, Temporary Detail

January 2006 - May 2007
Adjunct Professor
Canisius College
2001 Main Street
Buffalo, New York 14208
Paid

January 2004 - January 2017 (not consecutively)
Adjunct Professor
SUNY, Buffalo School of Law
John Lord O'Brian Hall
Buffalo, New York 14260
Paid

March 1995 - August 2018
Assistant United States Attorney
United States Department of Justice
United States Attorney's Office, Western District of New York
138 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14202
Paid

August 1995 - December 1995
Adjunct Professor
Niagara University
Niagara Falls, New York 14109
Paid

August 1994 - March 1995
Litigation Associate
Hiscock and Barclay, LLC
3 Fountain Plaza
Buffalo, New York 14203
Paid

August 1994 - December 1994
Adjunct Professor
SUNY, College at Brockport
350 New Campus Drive
Brockport, New York 14420
Paid

August 1992 - July 1994
Appellate Court Attorney
State Supreme Court of New York
Appellate Division, Fourth Department
50 East Avenue
Rochester, New York 14604
Paid

September 1991 - May 1992
Brennan Student Intern
Legal Aid Society, Public Defenders Bureau
50 Delaware Avenue, #4
Buffalo, New York 14202
Paid

May 1991 - August 1991
Summer Associate
Hodgson Russ, LLP

The Guaranty Building
140 Pearl Street, Suite 100
Buffalo, New York 14202
Paid

May 1989 - August 1989
Summer Law Clerk
Erie County Surrogate's Court
92 Franklin Street
Buffalo, New York 14202
Paid

August 1988 - December 1988
Essex Community College
Adjunct Professor
303 University Avenue
Newark, New Jersey 07022
Paid

7. **Military Service and Draft Status:** Identify any service in the U.S. Military, including dates of service, branch of service, rank or rate, serial number (if different from social security number) and type of discharge received, and whether you have registered for selective service.

I have not served in the U.S. military. I am not subject to selective service registration requirements.

8. **Honors and Awards:** List any scholarships, fellowships, honorary degrees, academic or professional honors, honorary society memberships, military awards, and any other special recognition for outstanding service or achievement.

Senior Executive Fellows Program, Harvard Kennedy School, October 2020

Investigation Award for Excellence, Counsel of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency, 2020

Team Impact Award, National Science Foundation Inspector General, 2019

Distinguished Alumni Award for Public Service, SUNY Buffalo Law School, 2016

Values Award Honoree for Openness to Change, Leadership Buffalo, 2016

Prosecutor of the Year, Federal Law Enforcement Association Award, 2015

Women of Influence Award for Public Policy, Buffalo Business First, 2014

Federal Bureau of Investigation Certificate of Accomplishment, Director James B. Comey, 2014

Team Award for Mortgage Fraud Task Force, Federal Executive Board, 2011

Federal Bureau of Investigation Certificate of Accomplishment, Director Robert S. Mueller, III, 2010

Prosecutor of the Year, Federal Law Enforcement Association Award, 2010

Students of Color Distinguished Alumni Award, University at Buffalo School of Law, 2010

Who's Who in Law Education, Academic Keys, 2005

"Up and Coming Attorney" in Western New York, The Daily Record, 2003

Outstanding Service and Innovation in Collection of Restitution and Fines, United States Attorney's Office Financial Litigation Unit, 2003

Department of Sociology Distinguished Alumni Award, SUNY Fredonia, 1997

Student of the Year Award, Minority Bar Association of Western New York, 1990

Under-Represented Minority Fellowship, Buffalo Law School, 1989

Outstanding Community Service Award, Minority Bar Association, 1989

Ralph Bunche Fellowship, Rutgers University, 1988

Sociology Department Student of the Year Award, SUNY Fredonia, 1988

Life member of Alpha Kappa Delta, International Sociology Honor Society, 1988

Arthur O. Eve Scholarship, SUNY Fredonia, 1984

9. **Bar Associations:** List all bar associations or legal or judicial-related committees,

selection panels or conferences of which you are or have been a member, and give the titles and dates of any offices which you have held in such groups.

Character and Fitness Committee, New York State Supreme Court, Fourth Department,
8th Judicial District

Minority Bar Association, Board of Directors (2007)
Recording Secretary (1995 – 1996)

Erie County Bar Association, Judiciary Committee (2005)

Women’s Bar Association of Western New York, Board of Directors (2010 – 2013)

New York State Bar Association

American Bar Association

Federal Bar Association

10. **Bar and Court Admission:**

- a. List the date(s) you were admitted to the bar of any state and any lapses in membership. Please explain the reason for any lapse in membership.

New York State, January 1993
Connecticut, December 1992 (inactive membership)
There have been no lapses in membership.

- b. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice, including dates of admission and any lapses in membership. Please explain the reason for any lapse in membership. Give the same information for administrative bodies that require special admission to practice.

United States Court of Appeals, Second Circuit, June 2000
Reason for lapse: membership was not renewed because the U.S. Attorney’s office established an appeals section and I was not assigned to handle appeals.

United States District Courts, Western District of New York, March 1995

New York State Courts, December 1993

Connecticut State Courts, January 1992

Except as noted, there have been no lapses in membership.

11. **Memberships:**

- a. List all professional, business, fraternal, scholarly, civic, charitable, or other organizations, other than those listed in response to Questions 9 or 10 to which you belong, or to which you have belonged, since graduation from law school. Provide dates of membership or participation, and indicate any office you held. Include clubs, working groups, advisory or editorial boards, panels, committees, conferences, or publications.

Organizations:

Buffalo City Swim Racers (2013 – 2018)

The Park School of Buffalo (2013 – 2018)

Board of Trustees (2015-2018)

Dean's Advisory Council, University of Buffalo School of Law (2006 – present)

Elmwood Franklin School (2006 – 2012)

Leadership Buffalo (2004)

United Way Combined Federal Campaign Coordinator (2004 – 2006)

University of Buffalo School of Law Alumni Association (1992 – present)

Board of Directors (2003 – 2006)

Gloria Parks Community Center Daycare Center

Parent Council (2000 – 2002)

Small Wonders Daycare Center

Parent Council (1998 – 2000)

In addition, I have made financial contributions to charitable organizations over the years. Such organizations may list me as a member by virtue of my financial contribution. I have not listed above any organization to which I gave funds and did not otherwise participate in programmatic activities.

- b. Indicate whether any of these organizations listed in response to 11a above currently discriminate or formerly discriminated on the basis of race, sex, religion or national origin either through formal membership requirements or the practical implementation of membership policies. If so, describe any action you have taken to change these policies and practices.

To my knowledge, none of these organizations discriminates or formerly discriminated on the basis of race, sex, religion or national origin either through formal membership requirements or the practical implementation of membership policies.

12. Published Writings and Public Statements:

- a. List the titles, publishers, and dates of books, articles, reports, letters to the editor, editorial pieces, or other published material you have written or edited, including material published only on the Internet. Supply four (4) copies of all published material to the Committee.

I have done my best to identify all books, articles, letters to the editor, editorial pieces and other published material, including through a review of my personal files and searches of publicly available electronic databases. Despite my searches, there may be other materials that I have been unable to identify, find, or remember. I have located the following and a copy is provided:

Red Tape Binds the Open Arms of One Couple, BUFFALO NEWS, May 21, 1995.
Copy supplied.

Letter to the Editor, *Suicides at Niagara Falls*, AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PUBLIC HEALTH, Volume 81, No.12, pp. 1677-8, December 1991.
Copy supplied.

Two views on minority only scholarships; BUFFALO NEWS; December 29, 1990.
Copy supplied.

- b. Supply four (4) copies of any reports, memoranda or policy statements you prepared or contributed in the preparation of on behalf of any bar association, committee, conference, or organization of which you were or are a member. If you do not have a copy of a report, memorandum or policy statement, give the name and address of the organization that issued it, the date of the document, and a summary of its subject matter.

I have done my best to identify any reports, memoranda, or policy statements I have prepared or contributed to, including through a review of my personal files and searches of publicly available electronic databases. I have not located any.

- c. Supply four (4) copies of any testimony, official statements or other communications relating, in whole or in part, to matters of public policy or legal interpretation, that you have issued or provided or that others presented on your behalf to public bodies or public officials.

I have done my best to identify any testimony, official statements, or other communications related, in whole or in part, to matters of public policy or legal interpretation, including through a review of my personal files and searches of publicly available electronic databases. I have not located any.

- d. Supply four (4) copies, transcripts or recordings of all speeches or talks delivered

by you, including commencement speeches, remarks, lectures, panel discussions, conferences, political speeches, and question-and-answer sessions. Include the date and place where they were delivered, and readily available press reports about the speech or talk. If you do not have a copy of the speech or a transcript or recording of your remarks, give the name and address of the group before whom the speech was given, the date of the speech, and a summary of its subject matter. If you did not speak from a prepared text, furnish a copy of any outline or notes from which you spoke.

I have done my best to identify transcripts or recordings of all speeches or talks delivered, including through a review of my personal files and searches of publicly available electronic databases. I frequently speak without notes or speak from a handwritten outline. I did not retain the majority of the handwritten outlines and have attached all that I could find. Despite my searches, there may be other materials I have been unable to identify, find, or remember. I have located the following:

Women’s Bar Association and SUNY Law School

March 24, 2021

Virtual

I was a member of a panel and presented on the Skilling v. United States and Justice Ginsburg’s perspective in writing the majority opinion in that case.

A copy of the presentation is provided.

Western New York Paralegal Association

Virtual Lunchtime Lecture

March 20, 2021

I gave a presentation on Federal Civil Rights prosecutions and how those cases are investigated and prosecuted.

A copy of the presentation is provided.

“Getting On The Same Page - Task Force Collaboration, Communication and Strategies,” Human Trafficking Task Force grantee meeting

Bureau of Justice Assistance/Office for Victims of Crime

Department of Justice

Office of Justice Programs

810 7th Street, NW 20531

Washington, DC

May 9-10, 2018

As a member of a panel, I presented on how to make a multiple-agency task force effective. I spoke without notes and there was no press coverage or transcript of the panel discussion of which I am aware.

“When a Victim is a Defendant: Services and Opinions for US Citizen and Foreign Victims in Erie County,” Human Trafficking.

February 6, 2018

Erie County Bar Association

438 Main Street

Buffalo, New York 14202

As a member of the Western New York Human Trafficking Task Force, I provided information to attendees regarding how to determine if a defendant in a local prosecution is also a victim of human trafficking. I spoke without notes and there was no press coverage or transcript of the panel discussion of which I am aware.

Tribal Summit on Child Victimization

November 15, 2017

Niagara Falls Convention Center

101 Old Falls Street

Niagara Falls, New York 14303

I provided information on how the federal and state governments work with tribal nations on child victimization, human trafficking on tribal lands, and when the victims are tribal members.

A copy of the presentation is provided.

Using Technology in the Courtroom

University Buffalo Law School, Fall Term, 2017

Lord John O’Brian Hall, Letro Courtroom

Buffalo, New York 14260

I presented information to students about using technology in the courtroom as part of making an effective case presentation. I spoke without notes and there was no press coverage or transcript of the panel discussion of which I am aware.

Attorney Ethics, Federal Government Perspective

February 2017

Hyatt Regency Hotel

2 Fountain Plaza

Buffalo, New York 14202

I provided information on the ethical requirements of federal government attorneys.

A copy of my notes are provided.

“Building a Team: Overcoming the Challenges in Multidisciplinary Collaboration”

Office for Victims of Crime and Technical Assistance Center; Providence,

Regional Training Forum

August 24-25, 2016

The Biltmore Hotel
11 Dorrance Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

As a member of a panel, I presented on how to make a multiple-agency task force effective. I spoke without notes and there was no press coverage or transcript of the panel discussion of which I am aware.

Race and Justice In The Courts Symposium
June 2015

Adams Mark Hotel
120 Church Street
Buffalo, New York 14202

I moderated a panel of speakers on the “Mass Incarceration and the Reentry Crisis” panel. The panelists presented information regarding mass incarceration and the reentry of incarcerated persons into society after they completed their period of incarceration. I spoke without notes and there was no press coverage or transcript of the panel discussion of which I am aware.

“Spotting Human Trafficking In Your Law Practice”

June 18, 2014
Erie County Bar Association
438 Main Street
Buffalo, New York 14202

I provided information to private attorneys regarding how to determine if a defendant is also a victim of human trafficking. I spoke without notes and there was no press coverage or transcript of the panel discussion of which I am aware.

"Success At Every Stage of Trial"

November 2013
Buffalo Niagara Convention Center
Convention Center Plaza
Buffalo, New York

I was a panel member where the trial of George Zimmerman was discussed. I presented the perspective from the prosecution. I spoke without notes and there was no press coverage or transcript of the panel discussion of which I am aware.

Ethics for In-House Counsel and the Lawyers They Hire

September 2011
Hyatt Regency Hotel
2 Fountain Plaza
Buffalo, New York 14202

I was a member of a panel discussion which provided information on the ethical requirements for in-house counsel. I spoke without notes and there was no press coverage or transcript of the panel discussion of which I am aware.

Erie County Bar Association Lecture
1999

Erie County Bar Association
438 Main Street
Buffalo, New York 14202

I presented on the federal Child Support Recovery Act, explaining the mechanics of utilizing Title 18, U.S.C., section 228 to federally prosecute non-custodial parents who failed to pay their court-ordered child support. I spoke without notes and there was no press coverage or transcript of the panel discussion of which I am aware.

New York State Child Enforcement Representative Conference
Spring 1999

Sagamore Hotel
110 Sagamore Road
Bolton Landing, New York 12814

I presented to local and county Child Enforcement Units, explaining the mechanics of utilizing Title 18, U.S.C., section 228 to federally prosecute non-custodial parents who failed to pay their court-ordered child support. I spoke without notes and there was no press coverage or transcript of the panel discussion of which I am aware.

Presentation at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences 30th Annual
Conference, panel on "Legal Issues Facing the Police"
March 1993

Hyatt Regency Crown Center
2354 McGee Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64108

I presented at a panel presentation on consent searches by law enforcement officers and the psychology of why individuals consent to searches. I spoke without notes and there was no press coverage or transcript of the panel discussion of which I am aware.

- e. List all interviews you have given to newspapers, magazines or other publications, or radio or television stations, providing the dates of these interviews and four (4) copies of the clips or transcripts of these interviews where they are available to you.

I have done my best to identify all interviews given, including through a review of my personal files, and searches of publicly available electronic databases. Despite my searches, there may be other materials that I have been unable to identify, find, or remember. I have located the following:

Interview recording for the SUNY Buffalo Law School Distinguished Alumni Award for Public Service, October, 2016.

I do not have a copy or clip of this interview.

Public access television, *United States Attorney's Office "Justice Report,"* TIME WARNER CABLE, October 2012.

I do not have a copy or clip of the interview.

Red Tape Binds the Open Arms of One Couple, BUFFALO NEWS, May 21, 1995.

I have provided a copy of the interview.

13. **Public Office, Political Activities and Affiliations:**

- a. List chronologically any public offices you have held, other than judicial offices, including the terms of service and whether such positions were elected or appointed. If appointed, please include the name of the individual who appointed you. Also, state chronologically any unsuccessful candidacies you have had for elective office or unsuccessful nominations for appointed office.

I have not run for public office.

In 2008 I sought the nomination for the United States Attorney for the Western District of New York.

- b. List all memberships and offices held in and services rendered, whether compensated or not, to any political party or election committee. If you have ever held a position or played a role in a political campaign, identify the particulars of the campaign, including the candidate, dates of the campaign, your title and responsibilities.

I have not held a position or played a formal role in a political campaign.

14. **Legal Career:** Answer each part separately.

- a. Describe chronologically your law practice and legal experience after graduation from law school including:
- i. whether you served as clerk to a judge, and if so, the name of the judge, the court and the dates of the period you were a clerk;

1992-1994, Appellate Court Attorney (law clerk), New York State Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Fourth Department. As a "pool" law clerk, I worked with all of the appellate court judges and not with one specific judge.

- ii. whether you practiced alone, and if so, the addresses and dates;

I have not practiced alone.

- iii. the dates, names and addresses of law firms or offices, companies or governmental agencies with which you have been affiliated, and the nature of your affiliation with each.

August 1994 - March 1995
Litigation Associate
Hiscock and Barclay, LLC
3 Fountain Plaza
Buffalo, New York 14203

March 1995 - August 2018
Assistant United States Attorney
United States Department of Justice
United States Attorney's Office, Western District of New York
138 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14202

October 2007 - December 2009
Assistant Counsel (Temporary Detail)
United States Department of Justice
Office of Professional Responsibility
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20530

August 2018 - Present
Director, Office of Investigations, Legal Division
National Science Foundation, Office of Inspector General
2415 Eisenhower Ave
Alexandria, VA 22314

- iv. whether you served as a mediator or arbitrator in alternative dispute resolution proceedings and, if so, a description of the 10 most significant matters with which you were involved in that capacity.

I have not served as a mediator or arbitrator.

b. Describe:

- i. the general character of your law practice and indicate by date when its character has changed over the years.

- ii. your typical clients and the areas at each period of your legal career, if any, in which you have specialized.

In 1992, I became an Appellate Court Attorney at the State Supreme Court of New York, Appellate Division, Fourth Department where I worked on appeals of all subject matters, that were to be heard and decided by the court. I read transcripts from prior proceedings, conducted research, wrote bench memoranda for the judges and attended (or listened to) oral arguments. From time-to-time I had oral consultations with the judges regarding the cases I was assigned.

In August 1994, I became a litigation associate for the law firm of Hiscock and Barclay, LLC (this firm no longer exists). I worked on banking matters for Key Bank, condemnation issues for the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority, assisted with appeals that were to be heard by the State Supreme Court of New York, Appellate Division, Fourth Department, handled surplus money proceedings and worked on *pro bono* projects, including assisting with the establishment of a charter school, and personal injury cases.

In March of 1995, I became an Assistant United States Attorney at the United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of New York. My work was in the criminal division and my practice consisted largely of the investigations and prosecutions of white-collar crimes, civil rights violations, and tax fraud.

In October 2007, I was temporarily detailed as an Assistant Counsel in the Office of Professional Responsibility for the United States Department of Justice. I conducted investigations of allegations of misconduct by Department of Justice attorneys by conducting interviews, researching the laws of the jurisdiction where the subject resided, writing a Report of Investigation and, from time-to-time, I answered questions from the Counsel of OPR and his Assistant Counsel on cases I was assigned.

In August 2018, I took the position of Director, Office of Investigations, Legal Division, at the National Science Foundation (NSF), Office of Inspector General (OIG). In this position I investigate allegations of fraud, waste and abuse of National Science Foundation funding and programs. My role is to advise federal investigators at NSF OIG, to provide legal advice during the course of the investigations and to supervise the investigative attorneys and an investigative analyst. I work with

Department of Justice attorneys, as necessary, after a case is accepted for referral for criminal prosecution or civil action. When requested, I also work with NSF and NSF OIG's Offices of General Counsel to advise on Office of Investigation legal issues and assist the auditors when necessary.

- c. Describe the percentage of your practice that has been in litigation and whether you appeared in court frequently, occasionally, or not at all. If the frequency of your appearances in court varied, describe such variance, providing dates.

Between March 1995 – August 2018, 100% of my practice was federal litigation and I appeared in court frequently.

- i. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:

1. federal courts; 100% (between March 1995 - August 2018)
2. state courts of record; 100% (between August 1994 - March 1995)
3. other courts; 0%
4. administrative agencies; 0%

- ii. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:

1. civil proceedings; 100% (between August 1994 - March 1995); 1% (between March 1995 – August 2018)
2. criminal proceedings; 99% (between March 1995 – August 2018).

- d. State the number of cases in courts of record, including cases before administrative law judges, you tried to verdict, judgment or final decision (rather than settled), indicating whether you were sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel.

I have represented the United States as a prosecutor in five federal jury trials, three as lead counsel, one as sole counsel, and one as co-counsel.

- i. What percentage of these trials were:

1. jury; 100%
2. non-jury. 0%

- e. Describe your practice, if any, before the Supreme Court of the United States. Supply four (4) copies of any briefs, amicus or otherwise, and, if applicable, any oral argument transcripts before the Supreme Court in connection with your practice.

I have not practiced before the Supreme Court.

15. **Litigation:** Describe the ten (10) most significant litigated matters which you personally handled, whether or not you were the attorney of record. Give the citations, if the cases were reported, and the docket number and date if unreported. Give a capsule summary of the substance of each case. Identify the party or parties whom you represented; describe

in detail the nature of your participation in the litigation and the final disposition of the case. Also state as to each case:

- a. the date of representation;
- b. the name of the court and the name of the judge or judges before whom the case was litigated; and
- c. the individual name, addresses, and telephone numbers of co-counsel and of principal counsel for each of the other parties.

1. United States v James Litz

Case No. 08-CR-157

United States District Court for the Western District of New York

The Honorable Richard J. Arcara

2010

The defendant was a Captain with the City of Tonawanda Police Department, where his wife was the Chief of Police. Beginning in 2003, the defendant abused his authority as a police officer by hitting and choking a detainee who was in handcuffs while inside a police cruiser. In 2005, the defendant again abused his authority as a police officer by punching a citizen in the face during an arrest. The defendant continued to abuse his authority when, in May 2009, he pulled the arm of an arrestee, who was not resisting, behind the suspect/victim's back in a manner that caused the individual unnecessary injury. In July 2009, the defendant again abused his authority when he choked an individual for approximately 30 seconds and arrested that individual on false charges that were later dismissed.

I represented the United States during this proceeding. I was involved in the investigation by issuing grand jury subpoenas, presenting witnesses to the grand jury, drafting and responding to pre-trial motions, arguing pre-trial motions and writing the plea agreement. I represented the government at the change of plea hearing when the defendant changed his plea of not guilty to guilty of one count of violating the civil rights of the victim. I prepared the government's sentencing memorandum and responded to the defendant's sentencing memorandum. I represented the government at the sentencing hearing where the defendant was sentenced to 2 years of probation.

Opposing Counsel:

Herbert L. Greenman, Esq.,
42 Delaware Avenue, Suite 300,
Buffalo, New York 14202
(716) 849-1333

2. United States v. Lori Macakanja

11-CR-257

United States District Court for the Western District of New York

The Honorable Richard J. Arcara

2011

The defendant was a housing counselor employed by a non-profit Housing and Urban Development (HUD) approved housing counseling agency whose purpose was to assist homeowners with loan remodifications so they would not lose their homes in foreclosures. As part of her official duties, the defendant met with individuals (the victims in this case) and requested large amounts of money which she said would be used to pay toward loan modifications and to prevent foreclosures. However, as part of the HUD program, the victims were not required to provide money for the assistance, nor was the defendant authorized to take money from the victims, which she did without the knowledge of the HUD organization. To obtain the money requested by the defendant, victims sold personal items, including family heirlooms. Once the defendant received the money from the victims, totaling approximately \$300,000, she went to a local casino and gambled the money away, never using any of the victims' money to pay toward their loan modifications or to prevent foreclosures on their homes. As a result of the defendant's conduct, approximately 136 victims lost their homes in foreclosure.

I was involved in the investigation by issuing grand jury subpoenas, presenting witnesses to the grand jury, drafting and responding to pre-trial motions, arguing pre-trial motions and writing the plea agreement. I represented the government at the change of plea hearing when the defendant changed her plea of not guilty to guilty of one count of committing mail fraud and one count of theft of public money. I prepared the government's sentencing memorandum and responded to the defendant's sentencing memorandum. I represented the government at the sentencing hearing where the defendant was sentenced to 72 months of incarceration and 3 years of supervised release.

Opposing Counsel:

Brian Comerford, Esq.,

Assistant Federal Public Defender

300 Pearl Street, Suite 450

Buffalo, New York 14202

(716) 551-3341

3. United States v. James Wood

11-CR-150

United States District Court for the Western District of New York

The Honorable William M. Skretny

2011

The defendant, James Wood, was a Highway Safety Specialist Field Office Supervisor for the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, part of the Department of Transportation, in the Buffalo, New York office. The defendant's duties included assigning work to, and reviewing the work of, inspectors under his supervision. In January 2011, a confidential informant alerted the government that the defendant had been accepting monetary bribes in his official position as a FMCSA employee, starting in 2008 and continuing through 2011. In return for the monetary bribes, the defendant approved the inspections of trucks and truck drivers that were unsafe to be on the road for a variety of reasons. Specifically, the defendant accepted bribes to (1) postpone safety audits, thus allowing trucking companies the opportunity to prepare for what should have been unannounced audits; (2) ensure trucking companies inspected by the FMCSA received ratings of "satisfactory" so they could keep their trucks and truck drivers on the road, notwithstanding the fact that they should not have been cleared to stay on the road; (3) provide lists of Canadian trucking companies which were scheduled to be audited so they would have an opportunity to prepare for unannounced audits; and (4) provide internal FMCSA information to trucking companies scheduled to be audited.

I was involved in the investigation by assisting the federal agents with negotiating a cooperation agreement with the cooperator to record calls and to transact and record the bribes he made with the public official. The defendant was arrested while counting the money from the second controlled bribe made with the cooperator. I represented the government at the change of plea hearing when the defendant changed his plea of not guilty to guilty of one count of accepting bribes as a public official. I prepared the government's sentencing memorandum and responded to the defendant's sentencing memorandum. I represented the government at the sentencing hearing where the defendant was sentenced to 18 months of incarceration and 2 years of supervised release.

Opposing Counsel:
Brian Comerford, Esq.
Assistant Federal Public Defender
300 Pearl Street, Suite 450
Buffalo, New York 14202
(716) 551-3341

4. United States v Thomas Thompson
12-MJ-108
United States District Court for the Western District of New York
Magistrate Judge H. Kenneth Schroeder
2010-2012

The defendant was a sergeant with the Erie County Sheriff's Department and stationed at the Erie County Holding Center (ECHC) in Buffalo, New York. On

January 18, 2010, while working at the ECHC, the defendant recruited other sheriff deputies to assist him in the search of the cell of an inmate, based on an alleged anonymous report of illegal narcotics in the housing unit where the inmate (victim) was incarcerated. After arriving at the victim's cell, with a number of other deputies he recruited to assist him, the defendant questioned the victim, asking him which inmate in the housing unit had the alleged drugs. The inmate indicated that they were located across the hall from his cell. The defendant ordered and supervised a search of the cell by the other deputies, and no drugs were located in the cell.

The defendant and the other deputies returned to the victim's cell, where the defendant accused the victim of lying to him and the other deputies. The victim was then instructed to pick one of the deputies to punch him in the stomach. The victim, not having a choice, pointed to one of the several deputies who were in his cell, and that deputy proceeded to punch the victim in the stomach, as ordered by the defendant, while the defendant observed the assault and did nothing to stop the assault.

I was involved in the investigation by issuing grand jury subpoenas, presenting witnesses to the grand jury, drafting and responding to pre-trial motions, arguing pre-trial motions and writing the plea agreement. I represented the government at the change of plea hearing when the defendant changed his plea of not guilty to guilty of one count of violating the victims' civil rights. I prepared the government's sentencing memorandum, responded to the defendant's sentencing memorandum, and responded to post-conviction motions. I represented the government at the sentencing hearing where the defendant was sentenced to 8 months of incarceration and 1 year of supervised release.

Opposing Counsel:
James Grable, Jr., Esq.
1000 Liberty Building
424 Main Street
Buffalo, New York 14202
(716) 852-5533

5. United States v. Michael Whipple
15-CR-103-W

United States District Court for the Western District of New York
The Honorable Elizabeth Wolford
2014-2015

The defendant, a Vice President at M&T Bank in Buffalo, New York, used his position, and his trust as a bank officer, to defraud the bank of \$5.3 million dollars. The defendant had a portfolio of business customers, some whom were in financial distress. To assist the distressed customers, the defendant took money

from healthy bank customers' lines of credit, without their knowledge or permission, and provided the unauthorized money to the distressed customers to pay their debts. This prevented the distressed customers from going into default on their loan obligations. The defendant's actions caused harm to the bank which, once this breach of the accounts of its customers was discovered, absorbed the entire loss and paid back all of the customers whose lines of credit had been unlawfully breached.

I was involved in the investigation by issuing grand jury subpoenas, presenting witnesses to the grand jury, drafting and responding to pre-trial motions, arguing pre-trial motions and writing the plea agreement. I represented the government at the change of plea hearing when the defendant changed his plea of not guilty to guilty of one count of bank fraud. I prepared the government's sentencing memorandum, and responded to the defendant's sentencing memorandum. I represented the government at the sentencing hearing where the defendant was sentenced to 39 months of incarceration and 3 years of supervised release.

Opposing Counsel:
Rodney O. Personius Esq.
1000 Liberty Building
424 Main Street
Buffalo, New York 14202
(716) 855-1050

6. United States v. Manug No

14-CR-117-A

United States District Court for the Western District of New York

The Honorable Richard J. Arcara

2013-2014

The defendant in this case worked for a tax preparation company that specialized in working with Burmese refugees and immigrants who resettled in Buffalo, New York, because the defendant spoke Burmese as did most of the victims. The defendant used his status as an immigrant, the taxpayers' lack of knowledge of the United States tax system, and his ability to communicate with the taxpayers in their native language to earn their trust. The defendant prepared fraudulent tax returns for approximately 1,000 individuals over several tax years. These fraudulent tax returns claimed a number of tax credits, which the taxpayers were not entitled to claim, because this increased the tax refund, and the defendant earned a percentage of the refund amount, so the larger the refund, the larger his earnings. The filing of the fraudulent tax returns resulted in a loss of approximately \$2.3 million to the Internal Revenue Service, and liability to the taxpayers to repay the tax refunds they were not entitled to receive.

I was involved in the investigation by obtaining search warrants, issuing grand jury subpoenas, presenting witnesses to the grand jury, drafting and responding to pre-trial motions, arguing pre-trial motions and writing the plea agreement. I represented the government at the change of plea hearing when the defendant changed his plea of not guilty to guilty of two counts of preparing false tax returns. I prepared the government's sentencing memorandum and responded to the defendant's sentencing memorandum. I represented the government at the sentencing hearing where the defendant was sentenced to 24 months of incarceration and one year of supervised release.

Opposing Counsel:

Lawrence Desidero, Esq.
69 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14202
(716) 826-3038

7. United States v. Frank Garcia

13-CR-45-A

United States District Court for the Western District of New York

The Honorable Richard J. Arcara

2010-2013

The defendant in this case was the leader of a massive multi-state and multi-institution financial fraud scheme, during which he fraudulently obtained multiple loans by providing false information on the loan applications, including inflating his income, understating his liabilities, and misrepresenting the occupants of the properties. This scheme resulted in a loss of \$24 million to the defrauded financial institutions. The defendant used a number of people to assist him in this fraud, including straw buyers, a certified public accountant, and people who worked for his company who failed to properly file the liens at the county clerk's office to show that the properties were encumbered. There were four additional individuals prosecuted as a result of their participation in this financial fraud scheme.

I was involved in the investigation by issuing grand jury subpoenas, presenting witnesses to the grand jury, drafting and responding to pre-trial motions, arguing pre-trial motions and writing the plea agreement. I represented the government at the change of plea hearing when the defendant changed his plea of not guilty to guilty of financial institution fraud. I prepared the government's sentencing memorandum and responded to the defendant's sentencing memorandum. I represented the government at the sentencing hearing where the defendant was sentenced to 87 months of incarceration and 3 years supervised release.

Opposing Counsel:

Jason Kreiss, Esq.
1824 Southeast Fourth Avenue
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316.
(954) 525-1971

8. United States v. Wayne Eugene Sivert
04-CR-69
United States District Court for the Western District of New York
The Honorable William M. Skretny
2004

This defendant was a serial bank robber who in 2004, robbed a number of banks in Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Western New York. The defendant had a history of bank robbery convictions, including three-armed bank robberies in Ohio. As part of this bank robbery, the defendant recruited an individual with whom he was formerly incarcerated with to be the getaway driver. The defendant located a HSBC Bank in the Western District of New York, and a short time prior to committing the bank robbery he went to the bank and gathered information on the manager and the process for entering the vault. On the day of the bank robbery, the defendant entered the bank, disguised with a wig and glasses, and asked for the manager by name. When the manager came to greet him, the defendant handed the manager a note stating this was a bank robbery, that the manager should to take him to the vault with another employee to open the vault, that he had a bomb, and if he did not leave the bank in five minutes his partner outside would detonate the bomb. The defendant opened his briefcase to show the manager a fake bomb, which appeared to be real and active. The manager and another bank employee took the defendant to the vault and opened it, and the defendant filled his briefcase with stacks of \$100 bills, taking over \$100,000 prior to exiting the bank. As the defendant left the bank, he shed his disguise and went to the waiting car that his accomplice was driving, and got into the car with the briefcase full of stolen money. The defendant and his accomplice were apprehended shortly after the robbery, and the defendant was charged and pleaded guilty to bank robbery.

I was involved in the investigation by issuing grand jury subpoenas, presenting witnesses to the grand jury, drafting and responding to pre-trial motions, arguing pre-trial motions and writing the plea agreement. I represented the government at the change of plea hearing when the defendant changed his plea of not guilty to guilty of one count of bank robbery. I prepared the government's sentencing memorandum and responded to the defendant's sentencing memorandum. I represented the government at the sentencing hearing where the defendant was sentenced to 188 months of incarceration and 3 years of supervised release.

Opposing Counsel:

John Humann, Esq. (now deceased)
Assistant Federal Public Defender

9. United States v. Valentino Shine, Sr., Jesse Lewis and Brittany Weiland
17-CR-28 -G
United States District Court for the Western District of New York
The Honorable Frank Geraci
2016-2018

The defendants in this case were charged with human trafficking, narcotics trafficking, narcotics conspiracy, using and maintaining a drug-involved premises, and weapons possession. Defendants Shine and Weiland were involved in narcotics trafficking and the trafficking of several women, providing the women with narcotics and forcing them to exchange sex for money, which the defendants would take for their own use. Defendant Lewis was charged with several weapons counts, including being a felon in possession of a firearm and using weapons to safeguard a drug house. This case was complicated because of the multiple conspiracies involved. This was also a very significant case because there were many more human trafficking victims than originally known, and this prosecution removed major drug and human traffickers from the streets of Buffalo, New York. Defendants Lewis and Weiland pled guilty to several criminal charges before trial. Defendant Shine was convicted on all counts after trial (the case was tried by other AUSAs because I had left the office by the time the case was called to trial).

I was involved in the investigation until August 2018 (when I left the office), by obtaining search warrants, issuing grand jury subpoenas, presenting witnesses to the grand jury, writing and presenting the indictment to the grand jury. I represented the government at detention hearings, and responded to and argued, pre-trial motions.

Primary Co-Counsel:

Patricia Astorga
Assistant U.S. Attorney
District of New Jersey
970 Broad Street
Newark, New Jersey
(971) 645-2700

Opposing Counsel:

Michael Stachowski, Esq., (represented defendant Shine)
2025 Clinton Street
Buffalo NY 14206

(716) 824-5353

John Ange, Esq., (represented defendant Weiland)
112 Franklin Street
Buffalo, New York 14202
(716) 849-0554

Eric Soehnlein, Esq., (represented defendant Lewis)
50 Fountain Plaza, Suite 1700,
Buffalo, New York 14202
(716) 853-5100

10. United State v. Steven D. Blumhagen, David Trotter and Susan Blumhagen
03-CR-56
United States District Court for the Western District of New York
The Honorable William M. Skretny
2003-2006

The defendants in this case were charged with wire fraud for selling, or causing to be sold, fraudulent promissory notes which were purported to be bonded and insured. The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), which brought a parallel civil suit against the defendants for selling securities without a license, referred the case for criminal prosecution. A full investigation revealed that the defendants lied to people in order to induce them to purchase bogus bonds, which were not insured or bonded as they were purported to be. The defendant used unsuspecting insurance salespeople to sell the bogus notes to their established clientele. Once the defendants obtained the money from the victims, they used the money for their personal use and to fund lavish lifestyles. There were approximately 341 victims, most of whom were over the age of 70, and who used their retirement savings to purchase the worthless notes. The defendants obtained approximately \$11.5 million from the victims.

I was involved in the investigation by issuing grand jury subpoenas, presenting witnesses and the indictment to the grand jury, drafting and responding to pre-trial motions, arguing pre-trial motions, and writing the indictment and the plea agreements. I also responded to post-conviction motions. I represented the government at the change of plea hearing when defendants, Steven Blumhagen and David Trotter, changed their pleas of not guilty to guilty. Steven Blumhagen plead guilty to one count of mail fraud and one count of conspiracy to commit mail fraud. He was sentenced to 57 months of incarceration and 3 years of supervised released. David Trotter plead guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud and was sentenced to 12 months of incarceration and 3 years of supervised release. I prepared the government's sentencing memorandums, responded to the defendants' sentencing memorandums and responded to post-conviction motions.

Primary Co-Counsel:

William Gillmeister (former Assistant U.S. Attorney)
Unites States District Court
Western District of New York
2 Niagara Square
Buffalo, New York 14202
(716) 551-1810

Opposing Counsel:

Rodney O. Personius, Esq., (representing defendants Steven and Susan Blumhagen)

107 Delaware Avenue, #1633
Buffalo, New York 14202
(716) 855-1050

Stephen L. Braga, Esq., (representing defendant Steven Blumhagen)

2001 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 828-5840

Paul F. Enzinna, Esq., (representing defendant Steven Blumhagen)

1050 30th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20007
(202) 753-5553

Marianne Marianno, Esq., Federal Public Defender (representing defendant David Trotter)

300 Pearl Street, Suite 450
Buffalo, New York 14202
(716) 551-3341

Thomas Eoannou, Esq., (represented defendant Steven Blumhagen during sentencing)

484 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14202
(716) 885-2889

16. **Legal Activities:** Describe the most significant legal activities you have pursued, including significant litigation which did not progress to trial or legal matters that did not involve litigation. Describe fully the nature of your participation in these activities. List any client(s) or organization(s) for whom you performed lobbying activities and describe the lobbying activities you performed on behalf of such client(s) or organizations(s). (Note: As to any facts requested in this question, please omit any information protected by the attorney-client privilege.)

The most significant legal activities I have pursued during my career are in the areas of civil rights, human trafficking, and financial fraud as explained in detail below.

Civil Rights

As the Civil Rights coordinator for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of New York (WDNY) between 2002-2007 and 2010-2018, I investigated and prosecuted allegations of misconduct by law enforcement officers. These investigations were significant, and although some of the investigations did not result in formal charges, they often resulted in agreements between the United States and the law enforcement agencies to enact meaningful changes in the methods used by law enforcement, as well as improvements in the training and monitoring of law enforcement officers.

One significant civil rights investigation involved Buffalo Police Department (BPD) officers' misuse of pepper spray. I worked with two attorneys from the Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division and another attorney from the U.S. Attorney's Office. We reviewed hundreds of documents, including police reports, Internal Affairs complaints, BPD officer manuals, complaints by citizens regarding officers' use of pepper spray, and logs regarding BPD officers' pepper spray canisters. We interviewed approximately 100 witnesses and victims. As a result of the investigation, we determined that although no criminal conduct had been committed by any individual police officer, there was a need for training for the officers on the proper use of pepper spray. In lieu of filing a lawsuit against BPD or individual officers, a Memorandum of Understanding was entered into between the Department of Justice and BPD, whereby BPD agreed to provide training to all officers regarding the proper use of pepper spray. The agreement stated that BPD would monitor the discharge of all officers' pepper spray canisters, and that the discharge of pepper spray would be investigated by BPD in a manner similar to the discharge of an officer's service weapon.

Human Trafficking

I became the head of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the WDNY Human Trafficking Task Force (HTTF) in 2012. The work conducted by the HTTF included providing services to victims of trafficking, investigating and prosecuting those who engaged in the human trafficking, and applying for grants from the Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs to obtain funds to assist victims, provide community outreach, and to enhance the law enforcement presence on the HTTF. I assisted with writing three grant proposals and partnered with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies and district attorneys' offices within the 17 counties in the WDNY. I oversaw the preparation and implementation of a Memorandum of Understanding, which provided that the HTTF partners would assist with investigating and prosecuting human trafficking cases. In addition, I led monthly HTTF meetings at the U.S. Attorney's Office, where stakeholders, including NGOs, law enforcement, and state and local prosecutors' offices, could share information and strategies. I was also involved in community outreach and

education, and I prosecuted, and assisted other AUSAs with the prosecution of trafficking cases in federal court.

Financial Fraud

I became the head of the WDNY U.S. Attorney's Office's Mortgage (Financial) Fraud Task Force (MFTF) in 2010. Financial Fraud Task Forces were established at U.S. Attorney's Offices throughout the country as a result of the financial crisis of 2008. The purpose of the MFTF was to investigate fraud targeted at the financial system, particularly fraud in obtaining federally backed loans; the prosecution of bad actors who defrauded financial institutions or engaged in identity theft to defraud financial institutions; and to educate the public and financial institutions about financial crimes. I assisted with investigations, prosecuted cases, and was invited to engage with the public and financial institutions to share information on the law, public cases, and inform participants about financial fraud. For example, I helped educate the public regarding how unsuspecting victims could be used as "straw buyers" to fraudulently obtain mortgage loans for someone. I also worked with financial institutions to assist them with identifying fraud in loan applications.

17. **Teaching:** What courses have you taught? For each course, state the title, the institution at which you taught the course, the years in which you taught the course, and describe briefly the subject matter of the course and the major topics taught. If you have a syllabus of each course, provide four (4) copies to the committee.

"The Constitution and the Patriot Act"

Medaille College, Buffalo, New York, April 2013 - April 2019

This course was taught in a seven-week cohort in the college's Homeland Security Program. This course was conducted fully on-line, and I taught approximately two sessions per year. This course compared provisions of the U.S. Constitution to the provisions in the U.S.A. Patriot Act.

The syllabus for this course is provided.

"The History of Terrorism"

Medaille College, Buffalo, New York, October – November 2016

This course was taught in a seven-week cohort in the college's Homeland Security Program. I taught this course, which was fully on-line, one time. This course provided an in-depth historical examination of terrorism and discussed the differences between terrorist acts and other criminal activity.

The syllabus for this course is provided.

"Trial Technique"

State University of New York at Buffalo School of Law, Buffalo, New York
September 2017 - December 2017; September 2015 - December 2015

This course used both civil and criminal case scenarios to teach students how to try a case from beginning to end. The class consisted of teaching all trial procedures, including pre-

trial motions to questioning witnesses on the stand, culminating in a mock trial against students from other Trial Technique classes.
The syllabus for this course is provided.

“Federal Criminal Civil Rights Prosecutions”

State University of New York at Buffalo School of Law, Buffalo, New York
January 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009

This was a one-month course where I taught students, through statutes, case review, case studies, presentations by civil rights investigators, and video review of the Rodney King beating, how federal criminal civil rights prosecutions are investigated, charged, and handled by prosecutors. Students’ final project was to prepare a criminal indictment based on a factual scenario I provided.
I no longer have the syllabus for this course.

“Introduction to Criminal Justice”

Canisius College, Buffalo, New York
January 2006 to May 2007

This two-semester course dissected the criminal justice system from arrest through post-conviction supervision. Students were taught through reading text books and articles and attending lectures from guest speakers who worked in the criminal justice field.
I no longer have the syllabus for this course.

“Comparative Criminal Law”

Niagara University, Niagara Falls, New York
August 1995 to December 1995

This course compared the similarities and differences between the practice of law in New York State and the federal practice of law. Items covered included double jeopardy and how charging decisions are made in federal and state cases.
I no longer have the syllabus for this course.

“The Adjudication Process”

State University College at Brockport, Brockport, New York
January 1994 to May 1994

This class explained the criminal justice process from arrest through post-conviction supervision.
I no longer have the syllabus for this course.

“Introduction to Criminal Justice”

Essex Community College, Newark, New Jersey
January 1990 to May 1990

This Introduction to the Criminal Justice System class explained the criminal justice process from arrest through post-conviction supervision.
I no longer have the syllabus for this course.

18. **Deferred Income/ Future Benefits**: List the sources, amounts and dates of all

anticipated receipts from deferred income arrangements, stock, options, uncompleted contracts and other future benefits which you expect to derive from previous business relationships, professional services, firm memberships, former employers, clients or customers. Describe the arrangements you have made to be compensated in the future for any financial or business interest.

I have no arrangements in the future to be compensated for any financial or business interest.

19. **Outside Commitments During Service:** Do you have any plans, commitments, or agreements to pursue outside employment, with or without compensation, during your service with the court? If so, explain.

None.

20. **Sources of Income:** List sources and amounts of all income received during the calendar year preceding your nomination and for the current calendar year, including all salaries, fees, dividends, interest, gifts, rents, royalties, licensing fees, honoraria, and other items exceeding \$500 or more (if you prefer to do so, copies of the financial disclosure report, required by the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, may be substituted here).

Please see my SF-278 as provided by the Office of Government Ethics.

21. **Statement of Net Worth:** Please complete the attached financial net worth statement in detail (add schedules as called for).

See attached Net Worth Statement.

22. **Potential Conflicts of Interest:**

- a. Identify the family members or other persons, parties, affiliations, pending and categories of litigation, financial arrangements or other factors that are likely to present potential conflicts-of-interest when you first assume the position to which you have been nominated. Explain how you would address any such conflict if it were to arise.

During the nomination process, I consulted with the Department of Justice's ethics office and Designated Ethics Officer to identify any potential conflicts. If I am confirmed, I will continue to consult with that office and will recuse myself from any matter in which recusal is required.

- b. Explain how you will resolve any potential conflict of interest, including the procedure you will follow in determining these areas of concern.

If I am confirmed, any potential conflict of interest will be resolved in accordance with the terms of an ethics agreement that I have entered with the Department's

designated agency ethics official. If confirmed, I will continue to consult with the Department of Justice's ethics office and will recuse myself from any matter in which recusal is required.

23. **Pro Bono Work**: An ethical consideration under Canon 2 of the American Bar Association's Code of Professional Responsibility calls for "every lawyer, regardless of professional prominence or professional workload, to find some time to participate in serving the disadvantaged." Describe what you have done to fulfill these responsibilities, listing specific instances and the amount of time devoted to each. If you are not an attorney, please use this opportunity to report significant charitable and volunteer work you may have done.

I have spent my career in public service. Nevertheless, I have engaged in the following pro bono work:

Between 2013 and 2018, I was a member of the Board of Directors for the Buffalo City Swim Racers, a community-based group which provides swim lessons and after school tutoring for disadvantaged children in lower income neighborhoods. As a Board member I attended monthly meetings to determine how we could better fulfill our mission to serve children in underrepresented communities and I assisted with the recruitment of Board members. I devoted between 5 to 10 hours per month volunteering with this organization.

Between September 2003 and September 2006, I worked with the Volunteer Lawyers Project in Buffalo, New York, to assist their clients with name changes and adoptions. I devoted approximately 60 hours to this organization.