

# **Experienced government attorney and non-profit advocate**

## **EMPLOYMENT**

Rocky Mountain Ethics Consulting, founder and sole member, 2014-15, 2017-present

I am a consultant to businesses and local government agencies and to help create a more ethical culture and establish better systems for the reporting, investigation and processing of ethics complaints in an organization. Ethics programs should be in place before not after a crisis. I have drafted ethics codes, rules and regulations, and the creation of processes for review and resolution of complaints. I provide values-based and rules-based ethics training as requested. I have served as conflicts counsel on ethics-related matters.

New York State Assembly, Executive Director of Ethics and Compliance, 2015-2017

I provided advice and assistance to Members of the New York State Assembly and staff on matters relating to ethics laws, rules and policies. I prepared and revised training materials for employees at all levels and assisted Members and senior staff in completing their required financial disclosure forms. I also advised the Speaker of the Assembly and the Chair of the Legislative Ethics Commission on best practices in the field of government ethics, and reviewed and commented on proposed legislation. I also assisted in the training of members and staff in workplace diversity and harassment issues.

Colorado Independent Ethics Commission, Executive Director, 2008-2014

I served as the administrator of the Colorado Independent Ethics Commission, and directed its internal affairs. As the first Executive Director, I created all internal processes for the receipt of complaints and opinion requests and documented the workload. I responded to all inquiries from state and local public employees and officials at all levels of government as well as from the public and press on government ethics issues. I researched factual and legal issues for the Commission, and drafted all opinions issued by the Commission. I prepared and monitored the Commission's strategic plans and budgets, and testified on legislation relating to the Commission before the General Assembly. I drafted the Commission's rules and regulations. I conducted over 100 trainings for public officials and employees on ethics issues. I was a speaker at conferences and trainings hosted by a variety of nonprofit organizations, state and local agencies on ethics issues. I have also been a regular panelist at the annual conference of the Council on Government Ethics Laws since 2010.

<u>Colorado Protectors of Public Schools/Great Education Colorado: Co Founder and Board Member</u>, 2003-09:

I was a co-founder and served on the Board of Directors of Great Education Colorado and its sister organization, Colorado Protectors of Public Schools. These bi-partisan organizations advocate for increased funding for public schools. I was responsible for these organizations' lobbying efforts before the General Assembly and organized election involvement in 2004 and 2006. I monitored legislation before the General Assembly that affected public school funding, and recruited individuals to testify on specific bills. I met with community and governmental leaders throughout the State in an effort to enlarge the organizations' membership and increase awareness of the issue. I helped coordinate fundraising activities for the organizations

Colorado Department of Law, Natural Resources Section: First Assistant Attorney General, CERCLA Litigation Unit, 2000-2003:

I supervised a staff of up to fifteen people, and was responsible for personnel and budgetary decisions. I also performed general case supervision for the CERCLA Unit. I served as the litigation team leader for the Summitville Mine Superfund Site, coordinating with federal officials and state agencies on legal strategies and policies, and argued all motions in U.S. District Court on behalf of the State, and drafted appellate briefs on behalf of the State. I also served as the lead state attorney on ongoing remediation issues at other Superfund sites in Colorado and coordinated with various state, federal and local agencies on remediation issues, and ensured that remedies met all applicable laws and regulations.

I acted as Attorney General Ken Salazar's representative as Natural Resource Trustee on committees established to review and evaluate restoration projects in communities affected by the contamination at Superfund sites in Colorado. I worked with community groups and local governments to help identify qualifying projects and to assist in finding matching funds. Projects funded included purchase of open space for wilderness areas (including negotiations of conservation easements), parks, trails, and river restoration.

<u>Colorado Department of Law, Natural Resources Section, Assistant Attorney General,</u> 1992-2000:

I was a member of a team of attorneys working on both the litigation relating to the Rocky Mountain Arsenal and the remediation at that site. I advised the Colorado Departments of Health and Environment ("CDPHE") and Natural Resources ("DNR") on applicable statutes and regulations to ensure than the cleanup met all requirements. I was the team leader for response cost issues, resulting in the recovery of millions of dollars for ongoing remedial activities.

I was the lead attorney on other Superfund sites and provided general legal advice to CDPHE and DNR regarding ongoing remediation issues.

I served as the litigation team leader for the Summitville Mine Superfund Site, coordinating with state and federal agencies on litigation and settlement issues. This litigation resulted in a \$28 million settlement in favor of the state and federal governments. I served as the lead state attorney on-going remediation issues at Summitville, and advised representatives of DNR and CDPHE on legal issues relating to the Site.

Colorado Department of Law, Enforcement Section, Assistant Attorney General, 1989-92:

I investigated and prosecuted criminal cases involving environmental crimes, securities fraud, election fraud, tax fraud and insurance fraud. I was appointed a Special Deputy District Attorney to prosecute a sexual assault case. I served as the state's representative on a federal-state-local government drug task force, which investigated and successfully prosecuted a gang that was importing cocaine from California for sale in Colorado. I was appointed a Special Assistant United States Attorney for that case.

New York County District Attorney/Office of the Special Narcotics Prosecutor, Bureau Chief and Deputy Bureau Chief, 1987-89:

I supervised thirty assistant district attorneys and five legal assistants in case evaluation and prosecution of narcotics cases. I was responsible for training attorneys and staff in trial techniques, and strategy, rules of evidence, applicable case law, and Grand Jury practice. In addition, I maintained a caseload of complex narcotics and homicide cases from arrest through sentencing.

New York County District Attorney, Assistant District Attorney, 1981-87

I investigated and prosecuted crimes from arrest through sentencing. I started doing misdemeanors, and steadily progressed to more serious crimes, including sexual assaults, robberies, and homicides. I tried over 100 jury cases, with a conviction rate of 90%. I also handled two appeals of cases each year as assigned.

#### **EDUCATION:**

Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, Yeshiva University, New York, New York, J.D. 1981, *magna cum laude*, Associate Research Editor of the Law Review.

Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut, B.A., 1977, *cum laude,* with Honors in History.

Phillips Exeter Academy, Exeter, New Hampshire, High Honors, 1974.

## **BAR ADMISSIONS:**

New York, 1982, Colorado, 1989.

# **OTHER ACTIVITIES:**

Pro Bono attorney volunteer, Rocky Mountain Immigration Advocacy Network, 2017-present.

Denver Board of Ethics, City Council-appointed member, 2015.

Council on Government Ethics Laws, President 2013-14, President-elect 2013, Member of the Steering Committee, 2011-2016.

Council on Government Ethics Laws, Membership Committee, 2008-13, Co-chair, 2011-13.

### PANEL PRESENTATIONS:

2016 CLE International, Conference on Local Government Issues, Panelist, "Local Government Ethics Enforcement, Pitfalls and Issues."

2014 Annual Conference of the Council on Government Ethics Laws, Moderator, "Travel: Excess Baggage or First Class Opportunity."

2013 Annual Conference of the Council on Government Ethics Laws, Panelist, "How to Value a Pig: Determining the Value of In-Kind Political Contributions and Gifts."

2012 Annual Conference of the Council on Government Ethics Laws, Panelist, "Building Effective Partnerships-Fulfilling Agency Missions in Times of Diminished Resources"

2011 Annual Conference of the Council on Government Ethics Laws, Panelist, "The Ethics of Using Social Media-Can you Manage the Cloud?"

2011 Annual Conference of the Council on Government Ethics Laws, Moderator, Boards, Commissions and Staff: "Who is in Charge Here?"

#### ARTICLES:

"Is the Colorado Independent Ethics Commission working as Voters Intended", Colorado Statesman, December, 2016.

"The Importance of Independence of Ethics Commissions", The COGEL Guardian, May 2015.

Profiled in the newsletter of the Center for Advancement of Public Integrity, June 2016.