

ELIZABETH L. STEVENS

EXPERIENCE

CITY OF HOUSTON LEGAL DEPARTMENT, Houston, Texas

Dec. 2010 to present

Senior Assistant City Attorney, Labor, Employment and Civil Rights Section. Responsible for all aspects of defending the City and police officers in federal and state civil rights litigation, including first chair jury trials in cases involving excessive force, unlawful search and other issues. Advise client departments on labor and employment issues involving Title VII discrimination and ADAAA disability law, FMLA, FLSA, and other issues. Represent the City in employment-related proceedings including investigating and responding to EEOC charges of discrimination, handling employee discipline and terminations, arbitrations of union contract grievances, employee grievances and civil service and classified employees' appeals of disciplinary actions to City's Civil Service Commissions.

Feb. 2009 – Dec. 2010

Contract Attorney, General Litigation Section. Extensive work on inverse condemnation cases involving City's floodway regulations and other issues in state and federal courts. Prepared numerous appellate briefs including petitions for review and briefs on the merits in the Texas Supreme Court concerning governmental immunity, regulatory takings, and other issues.

June 1998 - July 2007

Assistant City Attorney, Business Litigation Division. Responsible for all aspects of litigation in complex and high profile cases involving municipal and commercial law. Brought suits on behalf of City and defended cases involving breach of contract, constitutional challenges to City ordinances, takings claims, requests for injunctive relief and other issues. Advised client departments and reviewed and drafted contracts and ordinances related to litigation. Successfully tried and defended on appeal a multimillion-dollar suit challenging constitutionality of City's billboard ordinance. *Eller Media Co. v. City of Houston*, 101 S.W.3d 668 (Tex.App.--Houston [1st Dist.] 2003, pet. denied). Recipient of City of Houston Legal Department's Edward A. Cazares Award for Excellence and Professionalism in Municipal Law.

RYAN & SUDAN, L.L.P., Houston, Texas

Jan. 1996 - May 1998

Associate, Litigation Section. Handled complex commercial litigation for corporate clients in cases involving securities fraud, employment discrimination, breach of contract, corporate law and other issues. Prepared numerous motions and briefs for state and federal litigation at the trial and appellate levels.

THE HONORABLE NINA GERSHON, U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE

Aug. 1993 - Sept. 1995

Law Clerk, S.D.N.Y. Conducted extensive research and writing and assisted with numerous hearings and trials. Cases involved contract law, employment discrimination, securities fraud, other issues. One-year clerkship extended to two years based on performance.

EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSES

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, New York, New York - J.D., May 1993

Honors: *Annual Survey of American Law*, Staff Editor

TRINITY UNIVERSITY, San Antonio, Texas - B.A. in Political Science, *cum laude*, May 1990

Honors: Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society, Political Science Honor Society, Dean's List

TEXAS STATE BAR, Admitted May 1995; U.S. Dist. Ct., S.D. Tex.; U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit; U.S. Supreme Court.