

RF

RAMONA FRANKLIN

CONTACT



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SKILLS

- Trial Management
- Evidentiary Ruling
- Case Adjudication
- Strategic Decision-Making
- Lecturing Skill
- Courtroom Efficiency
- Case Management
- Procedural Oversight
- Negotiation Skills
- Legal Research
- Academic Evaluation
- Contract Oversight
- Risk Management
- Prosecution Support
- Defense Assistance
- Client Interviewing
- Document Drafting
- Opinion Drafting
- Case Strategy
- Administrative Support



PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Highly accomplished legal professional and experienced judicial officer serving as a Visiting Judge and certified mediator, with a proven track record in legal proceedings, dispute resolution, and judicial decision-making. Brings extensive knowledge of civil litigation, courtroom management, and alternative dispute resolution.

Recognized for maintaining impartiality, managing complex multi-party disputes, and facilitating productive negotiations that lead to efficient and equitable outcomes. Adept at evaluating legal risk, guiding parties toward resolution, and fostering professional, solution-oriented environments.



CORE COMPETENCIES

- Deep understanding of legal statutes, case law, and precedents, facilitating accurate interpretation and application of complex legal principles.
- Sharp analytical skills utilized to assess evidence, analyze legal issues, and render well-founded judgments in adherence to legal standards.
- Unwavering dedication to fairness, impartiality, and ethical conduct, upholding integrity and ensuring equitable outcomes in all proceedings.
- Clear and concise communicator skilled in articulating legal arguments, delivering rulings, and fostering constructive dialogue in the courtroom.
- Proficient in efficiently managing courtroom proceedings, maintaining decorum, and ensuring procedural fairness while respecting the rights of all parties involved.



EDUCATION

THOMAS M. COOLEY LAW SCHOOL, LANSING, MI | JANUARY 2002

JURIS DOCTOR

Activities:

- Intra-School Moot Court Competition, Best Advocate Award
- Intra-School Trial Workshop Competition, Best Advocate Award
- Moot Court Board-Executive Governing Board
- Mock Trial Board-Executive Governing Board

LYNN UNIVERSITY, BOCA RATON, FL | MAY 1998

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SPORTS ADMINISTRATION

FLORIDA AGRICULTURE AND MECHANICAL UNIVERSITY, TALLAHASSEE, FL |

DECEMBER 1996

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ENGLISH, MINOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE



PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Visiting Judge-Harris County, TX & Surrounding Jurisdictions

2024-Present

- Presides over criminal matters by judicial assignment, ensuring fair, efficient, and impartial proceedings.
- Rule on evidentiary issues, motions, and contested hearings across diverse case types.
- Facilitate resolution of disputes through judicial settlement conferences and case management.
- Maintain strict neutrality while managing multi-party and high conflict matters.
- Apply extensive judicial experience to streamline proceedings and promote just outcomes.

Equity Mediation Group, LLC -Founder & Lead Certified Mediator

2024-Present

- Provide neutral third-party mediation services in civil, business, and complex multi-party disputes.
- Facilitate negotiations between multiple stakeholders, guiding parties between multiple stakeholders, guiding parties toward mutually agreeable resolutions.
- Skilled in managing high-conflict cases involving multiple interests, attorneys, and competing claims.
- Utilize judicial background to evaluate case strengths, risks, and settlement positioning.
- Maintain confidentiality, neutrality, and professionalism in all mediation proceedings.
- Draft memorandum of understanding and settlement agreements when applicable.

338th District Court Judge

2016 - 2024

- Presides over criminal trials including bench and jury trials, rules on evidentiary matters, adjudicates cases to decide guilt or innocence, sentences convicted criminal defendants, manages court proceedings, determines appropriate bonds, ensures rights of defendants, victims, and witnesses, and issues warrants and orders.
- Employ strategic decision-making skills to rule on evidentiary matters, maintaining the integrity of legal processes.
- Foster courtroom efficiency through effective case management and procedural oversight.

Attorney

2006 - 2016

Law Office of Ramona Franklin & Associates Houston, TX

- Managed pre-trial litigation, devised business plans, handled contractual negotiations, counseled clients on civil, criminal, juvenile, and family legal matters, represented clients in complex family cases, attended hearings and mediations, conducted plea negotiations, drafted motions and estate planning documents, and prepared legal documents for various cases.
- Demonstrated strong negotiation skills to achieve favorable settlements and resolutions for clients.
- Conducted thorough legal research and analysis to support case strategies and arguments.

Adjunct Professor

2010 - 2011

Remington College Houston, TX

- Developed and delivered engaging lectures and interactive lessons on legal topics.
- Facilitated meaningful discussions to enhance students' understanding of legal principles and procedures.
- Evaluated student performance and provided constructive feedback to support their academic growth.

General Counsel

2008 - 2011

God's Exquisite Merchandise, LLC | Houston, TX

- Oversaw all legal matters for the company, including contracts, compliance, and risk management.
- Drafted and negotiated various agreements, ensuring favorable terms and legal protection.
- Provided strategic guidance to senior management on legal implications of business decisions.

Assistant District Attorney

2002 - 2005

Harris County District Attorney's Office | Houston, TX

- Prosecuted criminal cases on behalf of the state, representing the interests of victims and the community.
- Conducted legal research and prepared briefs and motions to support prosecution strategies.
- Collaborated with law enforcement agencies and witnesses to build strong cases against defendants.

Legal Extern

2001

Houston Federal Public Defender Office | Southern District of Texas-Houston, TX

- Assisted defense attorneys in preparing for criminal trials and hearings.
- Conducted client interviews and investigations to gather relevant case information.
- Drafted legal memoranda and motions to support defense strategies.

Legal Intern

2001

Sixty Plus, Inc Elder law Clinic | Lansing, MI

- Provided legal assistance to elderly clients on matters such as estate planning, Medicaid, and guardianship.
- Conducted intake interviews and assessments to identify clients' legal needs.
- Drafted legal documents, including wills and power of attorney documents, under attorney supervision.

Judicial Law Clerk

2000

54-A District Court-Lansing, MI | Honorable Charles Filice

- Conducted legal research and drafted opinions and orders on various legal issues.
- Assisted the judge in courtroom proceedings, including hearings and trials.
- Managed case files and maintained court records with accuracy and attention to detail.

Judicial Law Clerk

2000

Honorable Beverly-Nettles-Nickerson | 54-A District Court-Lansing, MI

- Assisted in the preparation and review of legal documents, including motions and pleadings.
- Conducted legal research on case law and statutes to support judicial decision-making.
- Provided administrative support to the judge, including scheduling and document management.