

MELISSA J. CHAWLA

Walling, Berg & Debele, P.A.
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EDUCATION

William Mitchell College of Law, Saint Paul, Minnesota

Juris Doctor, cum laude, May 2002

Dean's List (Fall 2000; Spring 2002)

Rosalie Wahl Moot Court (2001-2002)

CALI Awards of Excellence (Evidence – Fall 2000; Employment Law – Spring 2002)

Recipient of Minority Access Scholarship, William Randolph Hearst Scholarship

Saint Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota

Bachelor of Arts, Psychology, 1995

Bachelor of Arts, Biology, 1995

BAR ADMISSIONS

State of Minnesota, 2002

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Minnesota State Bar Association
Hennepin County Bar Association
Minnesota Women Lawyers

EMPLOYMENT

Walling, Berg & Debele, P.A., Minneapolis, MN

Associate (July 2005-Present)

Practice devoted exclusively to all aspects of family law, including dissolution, custody, paternity, adoption, child protection, and juvenile delinquency.

State of Minnesota, Fourth Judicial District, Minneapolis, MN

Law Clerk to the Honorable Mel I. Dickstein (September 2002-July 2005)

Family Court (June 2004-July 2005)

Criminal Court (September 2002-June 2004)

Responsible for the day-to-day management of the Judge's chambers. Conducted legal research and provided written or oral recommendations to the Judge. Prepared bench memos, findings of fact, conclusions of law, and orders. Acted as liaison between court and attorneys or pro se parties. Performed courtroom duties.

William Mitchell College of Law, Saint Paul, MN

Research Assistant to Professor Eric Janus (June 2000-January 2001)

Researched legal and cross-disciplinary literature on protection of vulnerable adults. Indexed research results in a computer database.

Regions Hospital, Psychiatry Department, Saint Paul, MN

Clinical Research Associate (August 1997-August 1999; Summer 2000)

Recruited, screened, and monitored study participants for clinical drug trials according to established protocols and FDA guidelines. Coordinated care with physicians, sponsoring companies, and the Institutional Review Board.

Ramsey Clinic, Psychiatry Department, Saint Paul, MN

Intake Coordinator (March 1996-July 1997)

Triaged and prioritized requests for mental health service according to level of urgency. Arranged initial evaluation with appropriate provider. Recommended applicable community resources.

Ramsey Foundation, Saint Paul, MN

Research Assistant to Dr. Elizabeth Reeve (June 1995-July 1997)

Reviewed patient medical records and extracted relevant data for various research projects. Performed searches of medical literature.