

Cristina Dionne Silva

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(702) 388-6336 (office)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

U.S. Department of Justice, U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Nevada, Las Vegas, NV

Deputy Chief, Organized Crime Strike Force

July 2013-present

Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA)

January 2011-present

- Manage a team of AUSAs and four support staffers in the Strike Force and address related sensitive trial and personnel issues
- Supervise programs including Project Safe Childhood (PSC), Organized Crime, Project Safe Neighborhood (PSN), Anti-Gang, Human Trafficking, and Civil Rights. Prosecute cases involving Child Exploitation, Drug Conspiracies, Hobbs Robberies, Money Laundering, White Collar Crimes, Felon in Possession and other crimes perpetrated against the United States.
- Respond and litigate numerous motions, including motions to suppress, motions to dismiss, and motions addressing post and pre-trial relief
- Wrote an appellate brief and argued the appeal before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in *United States v. Brett Combs*, which challenged the sufficiency of the evidence and a sentencing enhancement that was applied after the defendant was convicted at trial.
- Reorganized Project Safe Childhood to create regional Task Force comprised of federal, state, and local law enforcement agents and prosecutors to ensure all child exploitation crimes are prosecuted in the most appropriate jurisdiction.
- Lead *Operation Knock Out*, a collaborative effort to reduce gun and violent crime in Southern Nevada involving six Federal, State and Local agencies. Members of the operation meet to coordinate efforts targeting high-crime neighborhoods, recidivist offenders, and large scale criminal enterprises.
- Formerly assigned to the Southern Nevada Financial Crimes Task Force. Worked
- Conduct community outreach within the Las Vegas Metropolitan area regarding the prevention and prosecution of child exploitation, human trafficking, violent, and financial crimes.

Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office, Miami, FL

Assistant Chief of Litigation, Domestic Violence Unit

August 2010-December 2010

County Training Attorney

January 2008 - August 2010

Assistant State Attorney

August 2007-January 2008

- Conducted trial preparation and trainings, such as orientation, trial and oral advocacy skills, for attorneys within the unit.
- Supervised attorneys' in-court performance, and addressed any concerns accordingly, to include liaising with judges as necessary. Trained new assistant state attorneys that joined the unit twice a year.
- Assigned to sensitive cases within the Domestic Violence and Felony units and prosecuted crimes against the State of Florida, including domestic violence, possession of controlled substances, drug trafficking, burglaries, and other victim crimes.
- Tried over 20 jury and 40 bench trials.

Ayuda, Inc., Family Law Division, Washington, DC

Legal Extern

January 2007-April 2007

- Drafted civil complaints and briefs in English and Spanish.
- Conducted legal research and drafted motions for attorneys in preparation for trial.
- Performed client intakes in both English and Spanish; translated documents for clients as needed.
- Worked as an advocate for domestic violence victims.

The Honorable Vanessa Ruiz, District of Columbia Court of Appeals, Washington, DC

Legal Intern

May 2006-August 2006

- Researched and wrote bench memoranda for both civil and criminal appellate cases.
- Reviewed and analyzed memoranda with the Judge and discussed key issues.
- Drafted memorandum opinion of judgments (MOJs).
- Researched relevant case law and briefed judge in preparation for oral arguments.

National Association of Women Judges (NAWJ), Washington, DC

Director of Programs and Outreach

January 2004-August 2004

Assistant to the Executive Director

January 2003-December 2003

- Managed all NAWJ educational and outreach programs.
- Researched potential legal education program topics.
- Assisted the Executive Director with all fundraising initiatives.
- Produced and disseminated tri-annual newsletter and monthly e-newsletter.
- Coordinated monthly meetings with Executive Committee.

EDUCATION

American University Washington College of Law, Washington, DC

Juris Doctor

May 2007

Wellesley College, Wellesley, Massachusetts

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Spanish

June 2001

- *Sigma Delta Pi* (Spanish Honor Society)

ADMISSIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS

Bar Admissions: State of Florida (*September 2007*); State of Nevada (*May 2015*).

Court Admissions: Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals; District Court for the District of Nevada.

Memberships: Federal Bar Association; Las Vegas Latino Bar Association.

AWARDS & LANGUAGES

Awards: **Recipient**, 2012 Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigations (IRS-CI) Excellence Award

Nominee, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 Department of Justice Director's Award

Language Skills: Spanish native fluency

INTERESTS

Running, traveling, hiking, enjoying the many restaurants located in Las Vegas, taking care of my two rescue poodles, reading fiction novels, and going to the movies.