Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County

First Deputy General Counsel | 2024 - Present

- Provides oversight and management of Clerk of the Circuit Court Human Resources litigation portfolio.
- Provides oversight and legal counsel to Clerk of the Circuit Court on high profile matters.
- Reviews and analyze departmental challenges; make recommendations for enhancements and improved effectiveness at meeting performance goals.
- Engages in special projects with other departments and/or plans initiated by the Executive Team that support the overall mission of the Clerk of the Circuit Court.
- Analyzes policy and draft memos with policy recommendations.

Illinois Department of Employment Security

Supervising Administrative Law Judge | 2023 - 2024

- Managed a team of 11 ALJs and advised on policies and appeals procedures.
- Coordinated MCLE education seminar for ~100 attorneys within 6 months of hire.
- Oversaw compliance with state and federal standards in appeal cases.

Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County

Deputy General Counsel | 2018 - 2021

- Advised leadership on complex legal, employment, and labor matters.
- Led COVID-19 compliance initiatives for HR and legal teams.
- Served on ProSe Advisory Committee and Electoral Board.
- Point person for Odyssey CMS implementation.

The Hammer Legal Group LLC

CEO & Lead Counsel | 2009 - Present

- Specialized in real estate litigation, zoning, trusts & estates.
- Helped secure \$1.9M grant for client to purchase South Side warehouse (2023).
- Administrative Law Judge for City of Indianapolis (2013–2015).
- Legal Counsel for Indiana OMPP; recovered over \$500,000.
- Escrow Agent and Compliance Monitor for IHCDA projects.

Indiana University - Purdue University at Indianapolis

Adjunct Professor | 2013 - 2016

Taught Microcomputers and IT Fundamentals.

Ivy Tech Community College

Adjunct Professor | 2010 - 2017

- Taught Microcomputers, Health Info Management & Law, Informatics.
- Instructor for Microsoft Office Specialist Courses via IvyTech Workforce Grant.

Crosstown Community Development Corporation

Corporate Counsel & Secretary | 2009 – 2012

 Provided legal and governance counsel to Executive Staff and Board of Directors.

CA Inc. (Computer Associates)

Senior Contracts Manager / Operations Manager | 2005 – 2009

Negotiated multi-million dollar licensing deals.

- Developed global policies for IT security and HIPAA compliance.
- Tracked service forecasts and created internal knowledge base.

Entara Technology Group (Indiana Supreme Court CMS Project)

Manager | 2004 - 2005

Oversaw task teams and secured statewide judicial buy-in for CMS rollout.

Steptoe & Johnson LLP

Law Clerk & Docket Specialist | 2002 – 2003

- Implemented ProLaw software firm-wide.
- Promoted to manage national case coordination.

The Curtis Publishing Company

Law Clerk & Tech Consultant | 2000 - 2001

• Drafted licensing agreements and developed in-house Visual Basic database.

Resort Condominiums International

Database Analyst / Internal Consultant | 1997 – 2000

 Built scheduling system for 1400+ global staff, saving \$100K in software costs.

EBC Computing Services

Application Developer | 1995 – 1997

• Built clinical trial and customer service tracking systems for major clients.

EDUCATION

- J.D., Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law
- B.S. in Computer Science, Purdue University

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Illinois
- Indiana
- District of Columbia

LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

- Board Member, Illinois ARDC Hearing Board
- General Counsel, Coalition of African American Leaders
- Past Board Member, IMANI Community Development Corporation