

KISHA T. PETTICOLAS

GOVERNMENT AND NONPROFIT EXPERIENCE

Office of the Public Defender, Easton, MD

Supervising Attorney, July 2022-Present

- Supervise an office of five (two attorneys and three staff) in the day-to-day operations of a busy criminal defense practice.
- Collaborate with District Three leadership team to maintain a high standard of representation through ensuring accountability while fostering mentorship, teamwork, and communication.
- Foster a culture of excellence amongst attorneys and staff.
- Supervise and consult on case preparation and strategy for misdemeanor and felony cases.
- Monitor attorney caseloads and case distribution to ensure optimal client outcomes.
- Consult with attorneys on case preparation and trial strategy.
- Maintain an active caseload representing juveniles and adults.

Assistant Public Defender, February 2011-June 2022

- Defended the constitutional rights of criminal defendants in both district and circuit court.
- Represented juveniles in all phases of the adjudicatory process.

Talbot County State's Attorney's Office, Easton, MD

Assistant State's Attorney, August 2007-February 2011

- Investigated, prosecuted, and tried misdemeanor and felony cases in District and Circuit Court.
- Represented the Bureau of Support Enforcement in civil child support contempt cases as well as in the establishment and modification of child support orders.

Maryland Judiciary

Law Clerk to The Hon. Sidney S. Campen, Jr., Talbot County Circuit Court, August 2006-July 2007

- Researched and wrote memoranda, draft opinions and bench memoranda.

University of Baltimore School of Law Disability Law Clinic

Rule 16 Attorney, Spring 2006

- Represented clients in civil commitment hearings at Sheppard Pratt Psychiatric Hospital.

Baltimore City Department of Public Works, Compliance Office, Baltimore, MD

Assistant to the Director, September 2005-April 2006

- Investigated complaints of racial discrimination and sexual harassment.
- Made recommendations to resolve complaints.
- Prepared cases for litigation.

Baltimore City Solicitor's Office, Baltimore, MD

Law Clerk, June 2005-April 2006

- Revised the City's FMLA policy to ensure compliance, under supervision of staff attorney.

University of Baltimore School of Law, Baltimore, MD

Research Assistant for Dean Gilbert Holmes and Professor Charles Tiefer, Fall 2004-Fall 2005

Advancement Project, Washington, DC

Legal Intern, Summer 2004

- Researched national and state election law and interviewed potential plaintiffs.

NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. (LDF), New York, NY
Special Assistant to President and Director-Counsel, Elaine Jones, June 2002-August 2003

- Researched and prepared background materials for meetings.

CAMPAIGN AND LEGISLATIVE EXPERIENCE

Victoria Jackson-Stanley for Mayor, Cambridge, MD

Campaign Manager, April-July 2008, March-July 2012

- Managed a team of volunteers, created messaging, and wrote pieces for the local newspaper.
- Defeated long-time incumbent to elect the first Black and first woman mayor of the town.

Janice McKenzie Cole for Congress, Hertford, NC

Campaign Manager, March 2002-June 2002

- Hired and managed a five person staff and created and maintained budget.

Del. Jerrauld Jones, Member, Virginia House of Delegates, Richmond, VA

Legislative Assistant, January 2002-March 2002

Charles Martin for Delegate, Charlottesville, VA

Campaign Manager, September 2001-November 2001

Jerrauld Jones for Lieutenant Governor, Norfolk, VA

Campaign Manager, April 2001-June 2001

- Managed seven person staff engaged in a three-way primary contest.

Mark Warner for Governor, Alexandria, VA

Political Director, May 2000-April 2001

- Developed and mobilized statewide network of contacts in the African American community.

Bill Bradley for President

Regional Coordinator, Prince George's County, MD, January 2000- March 2000

- Organized primary day effort in Prince George's County and outlying areas.

Deputy Field Director, Des Moines, IA, September 1999- January 2000

- Provided technical support to 60-person field staff.

Polk County Organizer, Des Moines, IA, July 1999-September 1999

- Built grassroots field operation, including recruiting volunteers and precinct leaders.

Assistant to the Campaign Manager, West Orange, NJ, April 1999-July 1999

Democratic Party of Virginia, Richmond, VA

Political Director, June 1998-April 1999

- Mobilized and revitalized the Democratic Black Caucus.

Virginia Legislative Black Caucus, Richmond, VA

Legislative Aide, December 1997-March 1998

Bill Dolan for Attorney General, Fairfax, VA

Scheduling Director, April 1997-November 1997

Senate of Virginia, Richmond, VA

Committee Clerk, January 1997-March 1997

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Ethics Commission for the City of Cambridge, Maryland

Alternate Member, 2015 to Present

Participate in hearing and deciding complaints filed by individuals against an elected or appointed city official or a member of city staff that asserts a violation of the city ethics code.

Eastern Shore Network for Change, Cambridge, MD

Co-founder, 2012-Present

- Created this nonprofit to advocate for the African American community in Cambridge, focusing currently on education, representation, and revitalization.
- Facilitated community conversations and created programming about the events of the “Long Hot Summer of 1967” and issues of race in the community.

EDUCATION

University of Baltimore School of Law, Baltimore, MD, J.D., May 2006

- American Trial Lawyers Association (ATLA) Trial Team
- Board Member, National Black Law Students Association
- University of Baltimore Students for Public Interest (UBSPI)

Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA, B.A. English, 1996

- Editor-in-Chief, *The Laureate* Yearbook

ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIPS, COMMUNITY SERVICE, AND AWARDS

- Recipient, Maryland Office of the Public Defender Warrior for Dignity Award, 2022, for advocacy work to remove the last confederate monument on public property in Maryland.
- Cambridge Housing Review Board 2018-present
- (Citizen) Police Advisory Review Board, Cambridge, MD, Member-at-Large, 2009-2020
- Mid-Shore Pro Bono, Inc. Board Member, 2012-2019, president 2017-2019
- Mid Shore Community Mediation Center Board Member 2016-2017
- National Juvenile Defender Center, MidAtlantic Region, inaugural Rural Ambassador, 2016
- Channel Marker Board Member 2014-2016
- Heart of Chesapeake Country Heritage Area Management Board 2014-2015
- MSBA High School Mock Trial Competition, Judge, 2010, 2011; Attorney Coach 2011-2014
- Pine Street Committee Board Member 2012-2014
- Maryland State Bar Association, Appointed to the Planning, Public Awareness, and Leadership Academy Committees (2012)
- Fellow, Maryland State Bar Leadership Academy, Class of 2011-2012
- Recipient, Nation’s Best Advocates: 40 Lawyers Under 40 recognition, National Bar Association and IMPACT, 2011
- Baywater Animal Rescue (formerly Dorchester Humane Society) Board Member 2011-2012