

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER

CITY OF WARWICK



RHODE ISLAND

**JOSEPH J. SOLOMON
MAYOR**

July 1, 2019

TO THE HONORABLE STEVEN MEROLLA, COUNCIL PRESIDENT
AND
THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE WARWICK CITY COUNCIL:

Pursuant to the City Ordinance
City of Warwick, Chapter 42 Sec. 42-2,

Entitled

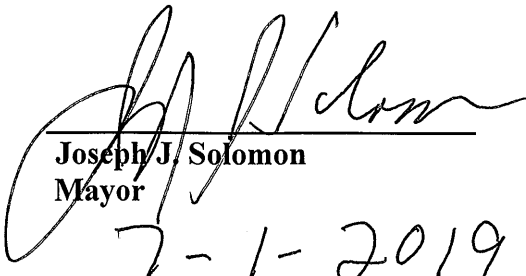
“MUNICIPAL COURT”

I hereby appoint the following person as Judge of the Warwick Municipal Court:

KELLY A. McELROY
27 North Street
Warwick, RI 02886
Ward 8
Term to Expire October 1, 2021

VICE: Joel Gerstenblatt

I hereby submit this appointment for your advice and consent.



Joseph J. Solomon
Mayor

Date

7-1-2019

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

State of Rhode Island General Assembly

Legal Counsel to Chairman of the Senate Committee on Finance

May 2017 – present

- Advise the Chairman, Committee members, and fiscal staff on legislative matters and assist in the development of policy positions and legislative initiatives for the Committee.
- Draft bills and amendments as directed by the Chairman, monitor legislative developments, and recommend strategies and tactics on bills and amendments.
- Assist in preparation of talking points for Chairman for Committee hearings and Senate floor sessions and in preparation of witness lists and drafting of questions for witnesses for Committee hearings.
- Meet with public interest groups and constituents related to Committee business; act as liaison with other committees, House staff, State Officers, government agencies, and outside interest and advocacy groups.

Plum Pointe Wealth Management

In-house Legal Counsel

May 2017 – present

- Draft and review contracts and provide additional transactional support related to clients and business partners.
- Provide counsel and advice as to regulatory issues, business acquisitions, and corporate strategy.
- Draft correspondence to clients and business partners.

Rhode Island Office of Attorney General

February 2000 – May 2017

Special Assistant Attorney General

Government Litigation Attorney

May 2011 – May 2017

- Defended state agencies, employees, and officials in litigation of matters involving employment matters, tort claims, and constitutional violations; managed all stages of litigation of caseload from inception until conclusion, including discovery, mediation and settlement conferences, and, if necessary, trial.
- Represented the Director of the RI Department of Human Services in class action lawsuit filed in federal court in response to implementation of the failed UHIP (food stamps/SNAP benefits) computer system
- Represented the Governor and Treasurer in multi-case litigation arising from the passage of the RI Retirement Securities Act of 2011 (RIRSA), which resulted in class action settlement.
- Monitored, engaged, and testified before the General Assembly regarding critical legislative developments affecting the transfer, sale, and use of firearms; represented the Department of Attorney General's Bureau of Criminal Identification (BCI) in lawsuits in both the RI Supreme and Superior Courts.
- Assisted in the defense of the Rhode Island Division of Public Utilities and Carriers (RIDPUC) in action brought by several taxicab companies seeking declaratory and injunctive relief against Uber Technologies, Inc.

Criminal Division Prosecutor

February 2000 - May 2011

Senior Trial Attorney

- Worked closely with state, local, and federal law enforcement agencies developing case investigations, determining appropriate charges, and coordinating cooperation agreements.
- Constantly monitored changes in statutory law and case law in order to effectively prosecute matters and accurately advise and counsel local and state police departments.
- Conducted felony jury trials and bench trials, arraignments, plea negotiations, sentencing hearings, probation violation hearings, and bail hearings.
- Presented capital cases involving murder, sexual assault, child molestation, robbery, and other particularly sensitive investigations before the Grand Jury
- Attorney General Liaison to Providence Police Dept., District 4 and to the West Warwick Police Dept.

- **Newport County Office Chief Prosecutor** August 2008-January 2010
Responsible for management of Newport County Office; supervised prosecutors and staff while maintaining full active caseload; oversaw prosecution of all felonies in Newport County.
- **Narcotics/Organized Crime Unit** January 2003 – February 2004
Responsible for the prosecution of cases involving felony narcotics possession and trafficking offenses and firearms offenses; Presented capital cases, including sensitive drug case investigations to grand jury.
- **District Court Unit** February 2000 – February 2002
Responsible for the prosecution of misdemeanor offenses including DUI and domestic assaults; Conducted bench trials, conferences, plea negotiations, violation and bail hearings; Conducted Breathalyzer Refusal trials at Rhode Island Traffic Tribunal (R.I.T.T.); Researched and provided national statistics and information to assist the Attorney General's Office in representing its opposing position before the Legislature with regard to new Grand Jury bill; Supervised interns and law students.

Rhode Island Supreme Court Law Clerk Pool February 1998 – February 2000
Judicial Clerk, Analyzed cases, performed research, and prepared extensive memoranda and recommendations for submission to judges in Superior Court, District Court, Family Court, and Rhode Island Traffic Tribunal (formerly Rhode Island Administrative Adjudication Court) on various issues in civil and criminal law and procedure, including matters pertaining to Zoning Law and appeals from regulatory agencies, Insurance Law, Divorce Law, and Medical Malpractice; Maintained sole management of weekly Providence County Civil Motion Calendar; Oversaw interns and law students.

Law Office of K. Joseph Shekarchi, Warwick, Rhode Island August 1996 - February 1998
Law Clerk/Title Examiner, Performed title searches and abstracted probate records to determine quality of real property title; Prepared reports on title for lending institutions; Prepared paperwork for closing proceedings; Conducted research and developed various legal issues in pending cases.

The Hon. Mary M. Lisi, United States District Court Judge September 1997 – December 1997
United States District Court for the District of Rhode Island
Judicial Intern, Conducted legal research and prepared and submitted memoranda to judge; Attended pre-trial conferences and trial proceedings over which Judge presided; Attended oral arguments regarding application of Federal Sentencing Guidelines and sentencing in Latin Kings RICO criminal case.

Law Office of George M. Cappello, Cranston, Rhode Island September 1995 – September 1997
Law Clerk/Title Examiner, Performed title searches and abstracted probate records to determine quality of real property title; Prepared reports on title for lending institutions.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Roger Williams University School of Law, Bristol, Rhode Island January 2011–Present
Adjunct Law Professor

University of Massachusetts School of Law at Dartmouth, North Dartmouth, MA January 2007–Present
Adjunct Law Professor

National Attorneys General Training and Research Institute November 2008 – May 2017
National Institute of Trial Advocacy (NITA)-trained faculty member and instructor - Traveled throughout United States and its territories giving group instruction while providing individual critiques to attorneys in Departments of Attorneys General as to trial techniques, litigation strategies, rules of evidence, application of relevant regulatory, statutory and case law, and deposition training.
Olympia, Washington, Trial Advocacy Training
Phoenix, Arizona, Trial Advocacy Training
Bristol, Rhode Island, Trial Advocacy Training

Honolulu, Hawaii, Deposition Training and Ethics
Hagatna, Guam, Trial Advocacy Training
Orlando, Florida, Evidentiary Issues in Trial

Rhode Island Bar Association

Rhode Island Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Presenter – “RI Supreme Court Civil Case Review – 2014-2015” – researched and compiled the most significant decisions written by the RI Supreme Court during their previous session, drafted written summaries, and prepared and delivered oral presentation of their holdings to members of the RI Bar.

CLE Presenter – “*Social Media: Social & Professional Networking for Government Attorneys*” (2011) – prepared and delivered oral presentation about current and up-and-coming social media and the concerns about the manner of using them as a licensed members of the RI Bar.

CLE Lecturer and Panel member, “False Testimony: Your Ethical Obligation” November 2009

Rhode Island Municipal Police Training Academy August 2003 – July 2013
Law Instructor

Community College of Rhode Island September 2005 – December 2010
Adjunct Professor

Providence Police Department Training Academy 2004 - 2008
Lecturer

Rhode Island State Police In-Service Training Academy 2002
Lecturer

Revolution Prep, Boston, MA August 2006 – 2008
Instructor and Private Tutor in SAT prep

Huntington Learning Center, East Greenwich, RI April 2006 – 2007
Instructor and Private Tutor

BAR ADMISSIONS

Rhode Island June 1998
Massachusetts May 1999
U.S. District Court for District of Rhode Island February 1999
1st Circuit Court of Appeals November 2016

EDUCATION

ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, J.D. awarded December 1997
Bristol, Rhode Island

University of Palermo School of Law; Summer Institute in International Law June 1997 - July 1997
Buenos Aires, Argentina

Pepperdine University School of Law; Winter Intensive Program December 1996 - January 1997
Strauss Institute for Mediation and Dispute Resolution
Malibu, California

BOSTON COLLEGE, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts B.A. awarded May 1994
Double Major: B.A., Philosophy & B.A., Psychology
Activities: Volunteer fellowship program at Bay State Correctional Institute and
Concord Farm Prison

Flinders University of South Australia - Semester of Study Abroad February 1993 - July 1993
Adelaide, South Australia

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- Faculty member of trial advocacy training (in conjunction with the Conference of Western Attorneys General (CWAG) and the U.S.-Mexico State Alliance Partnership) to host Mexican prosecutors in Providence
- Volunteer Mediator, Roger Williams University School of Law Mediation Competition
- Volunteer Mock Trial Judge, Roger Williams University School of Law Mock Trial Competition
- Volunteer Moot Court Judge, Roger Williams University School of Law Moot Court Competition
- Meeting Street School Telethon
- Reading Day, Warwick Public Schools
- Mock trial coach – Gorton Junior High School, Warwick, RI
- Volunteer hockey coach – Edgewood Learn-to-Skate program, Cranston, RI
- Rocky Hill School Parent Teacher League
- Former member, Rhode Island Inns of Court