

JANA J. EDMONDSON-COOPER

SELECT PROFESSIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- 2025 Appointed the *Office of Contract Compliance Hearing Officer* by Hon. Andre Dickens, 61st Mayor of the City of Atlanta
- 2025 Appointed as an *Administrative Hearing Officer* by Fulton County Board of Commissioners
- 2025 Registered Arbitrator and Mediator, Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution
- 2024 President, Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys (GABWA)
- 2023 Atlanta Business Chronicle *40 Under 40*
- 2022 Appointed *Full-Time Magistrate Judge/Assisting Superior Court Judge*, Cobb County Judicial Circuit
- 2021 National Williard Wirtz Legacy Award, U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL)
- 2020 Secretary's Exceptional Achievement Award (USDOL)
- 2020 Secretary's Exceptional Volunteer Award (USDOL)
- 2020 [Featured in *Voyage ATL Most Inspiring Stories* \(July 2020\)](#)
- 2019 Pro Bono Honor Roll (Gold), USDOL (Recognition of 100+ hours of Pro Bono Service)
- 2018 Distinguished Service to the Judiciary, State Bar of Georgia Judicial Section
- 2017 [National Outstanding Young Lawyer](#), American Bar Association
- 2017 [National Black Lawyers 40 Under 40](#); National Black Lawyers Top 100
- 2016 Named to *The Fellows*, American Bar Foundation (*Membership is by invitation only and limited top 1% of licensed attorneys and judges*)
- 2016 Appointed to Judicial Council of Georgia's Access to Justice Committee (fka Access, Fairness, Public Trust, and Confidence Committee)
- 2016 *On the Rise: Top 40 Young Lawyers Award*, American Bar Association
- 2016 2016 Freedom Award, Presented by [Former] Governor Nathan Deal on behalf of the Georgia Commission on Equal Opportunity
- 2015 [Nation's Best Advocates: 40 Under 40](#), National Bar Association
- 2014 Daily Report's 40 Under 40 Rising Legal Stars
- 2014 Contributing Subject-Matter Expert in [2013 Georgia Domestic Violence Fatality Review-10th Annual Report](#)
- 2013 Appointed to Supreme Court of Georgia Commission on Interpreters (renamed *Judicial Council of Georgia Standing Committee on Interpreters in 2021*)

EMPLOYMENT

Legal – Quasi-Judicial & Judicial

06/25 – Present Office of Contract Compliance Hearing Officer *City of Atlanta Mayor's Office of Contract Compliance (OCC)* Atlanta, GA

- Appointed to a two-year term ((*Contract/Part-Time*)) by the Hon. Andre Dickens, 61st Mayor of the City of Atlanta. Leveraging nationally recognized federal prosecutorial experience enforcing equal employment opportunity and other nondiscrimination laws involving government contracts as well as prior judicial experience, presides over appeals involving:
 - prior determinations of noncompliance with the equal employment opportunity and small business opportunity purchasing and contracting requirements by a contractor/bidder/offeror
 - denials to place the contractor/bidder/offeror on the list of pre-certified businesses
 - denials of certification of a business as an African American business enterprise (AABE), Asian Pacific American business enterprise (APABE), Hispanic American business enterprise (HABE), or female business enterprise (FBE), or small business enterprise (SBE).
- The OCC serves as a liaison, linking Small, Minority, Female and Disadvantaged Businesses with City of Atlanta related business opportunities and encourages equal opportunity for all businesses and individuals in the Atlanta workplace. The OCC is comprised to service and administer programs on formal contracts in the Aviation, Watershed, and General Fund Departments.

02/25 – Present Administrative Hearing Officer *Fulton County Government* Atlanta, GA

- Pursuant to the Fulton County Civil Service Act, appointed to adjudicate disciplinary appeals filed by classified employees who have been dismissed, suspended, demoted, or otherwise disciplined for cause, whereby the employee suffers any loss in salary, grade, or classification. Leverages prior judicial and comprehensive labor and employment experience to issue sound decisions which reflect sound analysis of presented evidence to applicable legal and other controlling authority. Appointed to a two-year term. (*Contract/Part-Time*)

01/23 – 01/25 Full-Time Magistrate Judge/Assisting Superior Court Judge (Bilingual) *Cobb County Judicial Circuit* Marietta, GA

- The Magistrate Court of Cobb County operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year, with a heavy criminal and civil caseload. Known as the People's Court, the Magistrate Court provides an easily accessible forum to resolve disputes for tens of thousands of self-represented litigants each year. The Court has jurisdiction over civil claims cases involving amounts in controversy totaling \$15,000 or less, as well as dispossessory (eviction) matters, ordinance violations, and garnishments. The Court also provides permanent special assistance, by designation of the Superior Court of Cobb County, in domestic violence and criminal matters. Presiding over the first three hearings in most criminal cases, the Court plays an essential role in considering both public safety and the accused's Constitutional rights.
- During two year term, demonstrated excellent aptitude for effective courtroom management of high-volume dockets. Presided effectively over thousands of civil and criminal matters in a fast-paced environment regarding matters involving dispossessories/evictions, civil claims (including but not limited to personal injury, employment disputes, consumer law), garnishments, Protective /Dating Violence/ Stalking Orders, warrants, and probable cause/ bond hearings. Recognized as subject-matter expert regarding evaluation and development of access to justice policies, including development of model forms

adopted for statewide judicial use to ensure compliance with current Supreme Court of GA rules governing use of interpreters in criminal and civil matters.

Legal – Practice

10/21 – 12/2022 Senior Trial Attorney (Bilingual) U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) Atlanta, GA
01/17 – 10/2021 Trial Attorney (Bilingual)*

- Litigated complex and high-profile labor and employment enforcement matters, including high profile matters, in federal court and administrative forums against employers out of compliance on behalf of the federal government in matters arising in the southeast region of the United States (U.S. DOL Region IV).
- Served as lead counsel well as co-counsel in an advisory capacity for junior attorneys. Matters involved the enforcement of:
 - (1) Wage and Hour matters (the “H” provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA)— [H-2A](#), [H-2B](#), [H-1B](#))-provisions dealing with the working conditions of workers who enter the United States under temporary work visas, a significant number of whom are limited English proficient—, Migrant and Seasonal Workers Protection Act (MSPA), [Davis-Bacon and Related Acts \(DBRA\)](#), the [Fair Labor Standards Act \(FLSA\)](#));
 - (2) Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA);
 - (3) Mine Safety and Health Act (MSHA);
 - (4) Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964;
 - (5) Executive Order 11246;
 - (6) the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA);
 - (7) Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA); and
 - (8) other federal labor laws.
- Practice also included routine defensive litigation (including pre-litigation counsel) of employers before the Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB) and the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) in internal labor relations matters involving dismissals, suspensions, demotions, or other discipline for cause resulting in the employee experiencing loss in salary, grade, or classification.
- Managed Region IV SOL U/T Visa Team, which provided specialized legal counsel to SE Region DOL Wage and Hour Division on U and T Visa certifications for victims of labor trafficking and other qualifying criminal activities. Reviewed, edited, and provided final approval of written work product of team members. Served as in-house subject-matter expert on language access/limited English proficiency issues for Region IV as well as its several client-agencies, including but not limited to the Wage and Hour Division, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, and Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs. Duties included training staff and developing written policies and procedures to support SOL’s continued efforts of ensuring SOL’s delivery of legal services was compliant with EO 13,166, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and other similar federal laws. Served as Co- Coordinator of Department-wide Language Access Working Group and Language Access Coordinator of Region IV Office of the Solicitor.

*Previously served as *INA Fraud Trial Attorney* [term appointment – 01/17 – 04/2018] focusing exclusively on the enforcement of wage and hour-related federal labor laws involving non-immigrant guest workers entering the U.S on temporary visas and government contracts.

06/10 – 01/17 Bilingual Staff Attorney, Georgia Legal Services Program (GLSP) Atlanta, GA; Macon, GA

- Serving as lead counsel, successfully and effectively provided bilingual legal counsel and representation to low-income individuals in administrative forums and courts of law in nearly six hundred cases across 23 counties in rural Middle Georgia. Successfully represented individuals in complex family law, housing, health law, consumer, and other civil matters requiring extensive investigation, witness preparation, strategic litigation, motion practice, and settlement negotiation.
- Drafted persuasive court and non-court documents including but not limited to complex pleadings,

discovery requests, responses, and appellate briefs.

EMPLOYMENT (continued)

- Serving as lead counsel, developed federal lawsuit on behalf of firm regarding national origin discrimination of LEP individuals attempting to attain or maintain access to public benefits in Georgia.
- Served as lead counsel in federal administrative complaint regarding disparate treatment of LEP public benefit applicants and recipients. Received favorable agency decision which addressed systemic barriers faced by the complainants and other similarly situated individuals across Georgia.
- Leading contributor to firm's reputation as a principal authority on language access issues.
- Served as lead attorney on LEP issues within the firm's inaugural practice group. Serve as subject-matter expert on LEP issues firm-wide, advising attorneys-including management-across the firm on language access issues arising in their respective office's service area.
- Conducted community education sessions, in English and Spanish, regarding language access, domestic violence, public benefits, education law, housing, and elder law issues.
- Developed and Co-chaired inaugural statewide access to justice CLE on language access, *Eliminating Barriers to Justice (EBJ)*, in 2014 for attorneys, judges and other access to justice stakeholders. Due to success of inaugural program, co-chaired follow-up *EBJ* CLEs in 2015 and 2016. Programs supported by Supreme Court of Georgia Commission on Interpreters, Judicial Council/Administrative Office of the Court, Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism and other key access to justice stakeholders.
- Recruited and screened potential job applicants and interns.
- Supervised caseload and workflow for law student interns sworn under GA Law Student Practice Act and assisted with supervising case work, in an advisory capacity, of junior attorneys.

10/09 – 06/10 Volunteer Bilingual Legal Advocate/Pro Bono Attorney, Atlanta Legal Aid Society, Inc. Atlanta, GA;
Lawrenceville, GA

- Successfully represented clients in initial and appellate administrative hearings. Analyzed and interpreted state and federal statutes, regulations and case law regarding legitimation, child-custody, landlord/tenant, bankruptcy and public benefit issues (unemployment and social security).
- Screened potential clients. Drafted bilingual (English/Spanish) court and non-court documents for pro se clients as well as other legal memoranda including appellate briefs, pre-trial motions, settlement agreements and client letters.
- Provided English-to-Spanish translation of a digital program designed to assist indigents in procuring required documents needed to file legal petitions regarding domestic relations issues.

Legal – Other

06/25 – Present Registered Neutral (Arbitrator/Mediator), GA ODR/ State Bar of GA Fee Arbitration Program/ Mediation Center of Savannah/ FINRA

- *Registered Arbitrator and Mediator, GA Office of Dispute Resolution (June 2025 - Present)*

GA ODR governs training, approval, and continuing education requirements of registered neutrals in GA. Neutrals registered with ODR are eligible to act as a neutral in court-connected cases.

- *Arbitration, State Bar of GA Fee Arbitration Program (August 2025 - Present) [VOLUNTEER]*

The Fee Arbitration Program is designed to help resolve disputes regarding attorneys fees without the need for Court intervention. The program is beneficial to both clients and attorneys as it offers a binding arbitration process.

EMPLOYMENT (continued)

- *Mediator, Mediation Center of Savannah (September 2025 - Present) [VOLUNTEER]*

The Mediation Center helps individuals and groups in the Eastern Judicial Circuit of Georgia resolve legal conflicts pending in Superior, State, Magistrate Court, and Probate Court.

- *Employment Arbitrator (Public), FINRA (October 2025- Present)*

FINRA is dedicated to investor protection and market integrity. FINRA regulates member brokerage firms doing business in the U. S. FINRA also administers a dispute resolution forum for investors and brokerage firms and their registered employees.

08/21 – Present **Advisory Member, Judicial Council of Georgia Standing Committee on Interpreters** Atlanta, GA
[VOLUNTEER]

05/13 – 08/21 **State Bar of Georgia Member, Supreme Court of Georgia Commission on Interpreters** Atlanta, GA
[VOLUNTEER]

- Policy-making body appointed by the Court to oversee the development of a statewide plan for the use of interpreters in Georgia courts during the presentation of civil or criminal matters.
- In 2014, based on demonstrated leadership and comprehensive access to justice expertise, successfully nominated and confirmed to Commission’s *Probable Caused Panel (PCP)* which screens and investigates complaints received [about interpreters licensed by the Commission] and makes a recommendation [to the Commission’s Disciplinary Panel] as to whether to hold a hearing. Served as Chair of PCP in 2015-2021.
- Initiated and spearheaded the development of a model administrative protocol, the first of its kind in Georgia and widely considered the first in any non-unified court system in the country, which provides guidance to each of Georgia’s ten 10 judicial districts regarding the appointment of qualified interpreters.
- Leveraging professional relationships with colleagues at the National Center of State Courts (NCSC), successfully secured \$15,000 technical assistance grant, on Commission’s behalf, from NCSC and the State Justice Institute to support protocol development.
- Spearhead education of Georgia judiciary on language access through collaboration with Institute of Continuing Judicial Education of Georgia (ICJE) and Georgia’s several trial court councils.
- Commission Liaison to the Judicial Council of Georgia Access to Justice Committee (f/k/a Access, Fairness, Public Trust and Confidence Committee (AFPTCC)).
 - Member of Access to Justice sub-committee that spearheaded the revision of the 2017 ADA Handbook for Georgia Courts and currently working to update policies and procedures to assist courts with providing meaningful access to Georgia courts for the Deaf/Hard of Hearing

09/07-Pres. **President/Chief A2J Officer, [Edmondson Consulting LLC](#)** Atlanta, GA/Macon, GA/Jackson, MS

- *Leverages comprehensive judicial, federal prosecutorial, risk management, policy evaluation, development and training experience to provide labor and employment and access-to-justice (A2J) consultation services to stakeholders nationwide.*
- **Subject-Matter Expertise:** *Provides affirmative and defensive labor and employment litigation consultation services to private and public/non-profit sector as well as advisement on internal labor relations matters including but not limited to employee discipline and allegations of non-compliance with Titles VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Age Discrimination in Employment Act, Family and Medical Leave Act, Fair Labor Standards Act, Pregnancy Discrimination Act, Pregnant Workers Fairness Act, OSH Act, the “H” provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act (e.g.,*

H-2A, h-2B, H-1B visa programs), and other similar federal laws. Consultation extends to pre-litigation considerations and settlement negotiation as well.

- **Technical Assistance/Support:** *Provide access to justice(A2J) stakeholders, who are recipients of federal funding, with a variety of A2J/language access-centered consulting and technical assistance services to ensure compliance with federal laws requiring federal funding recipients to provide limited English proficient (LEP) persons and persons with disabilities meaningful access to the stakeholder's services at no cost. Stakeholders include but not limited to court systems [judges, attorneys, court personnel, interpreters, translators], law enforcement agencies, legal non-profits, and school districts.*
- **Policy Evaluation and Development:** *Collaborate with organizational leadership/in-house legal teams/HR to review, evaluate, and provide subject-matter expertise on the development of internal A2J/language access policies & labor and employment policies which promote compliance with Titles IV, VI, and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Age Discrimination in Employment Act, Family and Medical Leave Act, Fair Labor Standards Act, Pregnancy Discrimination Act, Pregnant Workers Fairness Act, OSH Act, the "H" provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act (e.g., H-2A, h-2B, H-1B visa programs), and other similar federal laws.*
- **Legal Document Drafting/Revision Advisement:** *Review, evaluate and provide subject-matter expertise on the development of demand letters, complaints, position statements, discovery requests and responses, and other legal correspondence required for effective and successful A2J and labor and employment litigation (affirmative and defensive) in federal courts and administrative forums.*
- **Training:** *Collaborate with organizational leadership/in-house legal teams/HR to develop and execute general and custom-tailored trainings to demystify legal obligations and promote compliance with Titles IV, VI, and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Age Discrimination in Employment Act, Family and Medical Leave Act, Fair Labor Standards Act, Pregnancy Discrimination Act, Pregnant Workers Fairness Act, OSH Act, the "H" provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act (e.g., H-2A, H-2B, H-1B visa programs), and other similar federal laws.)*
- **Management:** *Supervise Associate Consultants*
- **Community Emphasis:** *Co-Founder, and served as Chair, of Eliminating Barriers to Justice – Georgia first comprehensive state-wide language access centered training.*

06/07-05/09 Legal Interpreter, Hinds County Public Defender's Office; Michael L. Scott, PLLC

Jackson, MS

- **Furnished English/Spanish interpretation and translation services for attorney-client interviews and criminal hearings.**

PRESENTATIONS

- Speaker, CLA (CliftonLarsonAllen), *“Hitting the Homerun, Securing the Windfall: Tools for Successful Professional Development and Personal Brand Management,”* (May 2025)
- Presenter, Federal Bar Association, *“Using Translation and Interpretation Services for Clients Inside and Outside of the Courtroom (Presented by the Federal Bar Association Labor & Employment Law and Civil Rights Law Sections),”* (January 2025)
- Faculty, Magistrate Court Judges Trial Council/ ICJE, *“Interpreters: Best Practices, Ethical Obligations & 2024 Supreme Court Rule Change,”* (August 2024)
- Guest, The Good Judge-ment Podcast, *[“Ep. 144 - Interpreter Issues,”](#)* (June 2024)
- Faculty, Magistrate Court Judges Trial Council/ ICJE, *“Interpreters: Best Practices & Sneak Peak into the Upcoming 2024 Supreme Court Rule Change”* (September 2023)
- Co-Chair and Faculty, Judicial Council of Georgia/Administrative Office of the Courts, *“Access, Equity, Justice: A Comprehensive Nuts and Bolts Review for Georgia Attorneys and Judges Handling Cases Involving Persons with Disabilities_ A 4-Part Series”* (March - April 2023)
- Presenter, U.S. Department of Labor Region IV *“Regional U & T Visa Training”* (December 2022)
- Presenter, Institute of Continuing Judicial Education 2022 Magistrate Court Judges Civil Basics Certifications, *“Interpreters: Guidelines & Top 10 best Practices”* (August 2022)
- Trainer, U.S. Department of Labor, WHD Jackson and Miami District Offices FY2022 Retaliation Training (July 2022)
- Moderator, Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys, *“Mental Health Matters: Understanding the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act (MHPAEA) and No Surprises Act Transparency (NSAT)”* (June 2022)
- Moderator, Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys, *“ COVID-19 Vaccine Considerations for the Public & Private Sector”* (October 2021)
- Presenter, Institute of Continuing Judicial Education 2021 Magistrate Court Judges Civil Basics Certifications, *“Interpreters: Guidelines & Top 10 best Practices”* (August 2021)
- Speaker, Georgia Probate Judges – Fall Constitutional Officers Association of Georgia Conference, *“The Essence of Due Process is the Opportunity to Be Heard: Inside Georgia’s First MAP for the Provision of Services to LEP Persons and the Deaf/Hard of Hearing,”* (Virtual) (November 2020)
- Panelist, American Bar Association, *“Best Practices for Addressing Language Barriers to Litigation,”* (Webinar) (September 2020)

PRESENTATIONS (continued)

- Guest Speaker, U.S. Department of Labor Plain Language Working Group, “*Language Access and the Plain Writing Act of 2010*,” (Virtual) (July 2020)
- Trainer, U.S. Department of Labor, SE WHD FY2020 Retaliation Training (September 2020)
- Panelist, Atlanta Bar Association Alternative Dispute Resolution Section Meeting, “*Language Access and Mediation*,” Atlanta, GA (February 2020)
- Presenter (and Developer), U.S. Department of Labor, SE Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP), “*Language Access Compliance in the Course OFCCP Investigations*,” Atlanta, GA (February 2020)
- Presenter, Institute of Continuing Judicial Education Winter Superior Court Judges Conference, “*Supreme Court of Georgia Model Administrative Protocol*,” January 2020
- Presenter (and Co-Developer), U.S. Department of Labor – Office of the Solicitor Region IV, “*Effective Use of a Telephonic Interpreter Line*,” Atlanta, GA (September 2018)
- Presenter, State Bar of Georgia Judicial Section Annual Luncheon, “*The Essence of Due Process Is the Opportunity to Be Heard*,” Jekyll Island, GA (June 2018)
- Presenter, State Bar of Georgia Transition into Law Practice Program, “*Language Access Demystified: Legal Obligations, Ethical Considerations, and Best Practices for New Attorneys*,” Atlanta, GA (August 2017)
- Presenter (and Developer), U.S. Department of Labor-Office of the Solicitor SOL University, “*Language Access Demystified: Historical Perspectives, Legal Obligations and Practical Considerations for DOL Attorneys*,” Atlanta, GA (May 2017)
- Presenter, Georgia Commission on Equal Opportunity and Atlanta Metro Fair Housing Fair Housing and Civil Rights Conference, “*Language Access and the American Workforce: The Intersection of Labor/Employment, Housing and Language Access*,” Atlanta, GA (April 2017)
- Faculty, American Bar Association, “*Ethics and Equal Access to Justice in All Languages: Title VI and Consideration of Title II*,” (Webinar)(February 2017)
- Co-Chair, *Eliminating Barriers to Justice Language Access, the Americans with Disabilities Act and Georgia’s Criminal and Civil Justice Systems*,” Atlanta, GA (October 2016)
- Presenter, GLSP Statewide Training, “*Access to Courts, Public Education and Public Benefits for Limited English Proficient Persons and Persons with Disabilities Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act*,” Macon, GA (October 2016)

PRESENTATIONS (continued)

- Presenter, Gate City Bar Association Judicial Section Continuing Education Seminar, *"Access to Court Proceedings and Immigration Issues,"* Atlanta, GA (October 2016)
- Presenter, Emory Healthcare Annual Professional Interpreters Training, *"The Opportunity to Be Heard: An Interdisciplinary Discussion on Language Access,"* Atlanta, GA (October 2016)
- Presenter, U.S. Trustee – Region 21 Annual Chapter 7 Trustee Training, *"Language Access and Professional Responsibility,"* Atlanta, GA (September 2016)
- Presenter, U.S. Department of Labor-Office of the Solicitor (Region IV) Title VI Compliance Training, *"Due Process is the Opportunity to be Heard: Best Practices for Handling Cases with Limited English Proficient or Deaf/Hard of Hearing Litigants and Witnesses,"* Atlanta, GA (September 2016)
- Panelist, Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism Annual Convocation on Professionalism, *"Future Delivery of Legal Services – Access to Justice for LEP and Deaf/Hard of Hearing Clients,"* Atlanta, GA (August 2016)
- Presenter, Prosecuting Attorneys Council of Georgia Domestic Violence Boot Camp, *"Language Access, Cultural Competency and LGBTQ Issues"* Morrow, GA (August 2016)
- Presenter, National Center for State Courts - Council of Language Access Coordinators 4th Annual Conference, *"The Essence of Due Process is the Opportunity to be Heard: Supreme Court of Georgia Model Administrative Protocol,"* New Orleans, LA (May 2016)
- Presenter, Prosecuting Attorneys Council of Georgia Statewide Victims' Advocate Training, *"Seen But Often Unheard: Assisting Immigrant Victims of Domestic Violence,"* Young Harris, GA (April 2016)
- Presenter, Georgia Department of Community Affairs Statewide Training, *"Not an Option but the Law: Language Access and Fair Housing,"* Waycross, GA (April 2016)
- Presenter, Statewide Public Benefits Taskforce Training, *"Update on Administration of SNAP to LEP Recipients and Applicants in Georgia,"* Macon, GA (December 2015)
- Presenter, Georgia Prosecuting Attorneys Council / Raksha Regional Domestic Violence Advocates Training, *"The Civil Side of Domestic Violence: Protective Orders and Language Access,"* Americus, GA (October 2015)
- Presenter, Georgia Commission on Family Violence Annual Conference, *"Ayudame: Exploring How Improved Language Access to Law Enforcement Can Create Better Outcomes for LEP Survivors of Family Violence,"* Athens, GA (September 2015)
- Panelist, Georgia Latino Law Foundation Law Day, *"Language Access as an Access to Justice Issue,"* Atlanta, GA (August 2015)
- Presenter, Peach County Senior Center, *"Using Food Stamps Benefits at Farmers Markets,"* Fort Valley, GA (June 2015)

PRESENTATIONS (continued)

- Panelist, State Bar of Georgia Annual Meeting, *“Pro Bono Showcase -Eureka Moments- Pro Bono Attorneys Tell All: The Need for Private Bar Pro Bono Representation of LEP Clients”* Stone Mountain, GA (June 2015)
- Panelist, National Association of Judicial Interpreters and Translators Annual Conference, *“Exploring a Uniform Standard of Practice for Working with Court Interpreters in Georgia,”* Atlanta, GA (May 2015)
- Faculty, Spring Conference of Georgia State Court Judges, *“Ensuring Meaningful Access to Georgia Courts for LEP and Deaf/Hard of Hearing Litigants,”* Athens, GA (May 2015)
- Co-Chair/Presenter, Eliminating Barriers to Justice II: How and Why to Ensure Access to Justice for LEP and DHH Individuals, *“Language Access Nuts & Bolts 101: Legal Obligations and Practical Considerations,”* Atlanta, GA (March 2015)
- Faculty, Winter Conference of Georgia Superior Court Judges, *“Access to Qualified Interpreters Demystified”* Athens, GA (January 2015)
- Panelist, State Bar of Georgia Midyear Meeting, *“Roundtable on Pro Bono-Just Do It! :Use Your Other Language,”* Atlanta, GA (January 2015)
- Panelist, Supreme Court of Georgia Commission on Interpreters Workshop for Interpreters, *“Access to Justice: Perspectives, Best Practices and Challenges for the Court Interpreter”* Atlanta, GA (November 2014)
- Featured Speaker, 15th Annual Georgia Legal Ethics & Professionalism Symposium, *“Preserving Professionalism and Ensuring Ethical Behavior During Litigation in Order to Provide Access to Justice for Immigrant and LEP Litigants,”* Atlanta, GA (November 2014)
- Guest Speaker, Georgia Commission on Family Violence Annual Conference, *“Dynamics of Domestic Violence As Experienced by Immigrant Victims,”* Jekyll Island, GA (September 2014)
- Faculty, Institute of Continuing Judicial Education Annual Judicial Law Clerks Conference, *“Interpreter Appointments: Legal Obligations & Practical Considerations,”* Atlanta, GA (August 2014)
- Guest Speaker, Georgia Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages Regional Conference, *“Recognition, Collaboration and Implementation: The ABCs of Education and Language Access in Georgia,”* Warner Robins, GA (June 2014)
- Guest Speaker, Central Georgia Family Violence Council, *“Providing Access to Justice and Opportunities Out of Poverty: GLSP Services for Victims of Domestic Violence,”* Macon, GA (April 2014)
- Panelist, ABA Government & Public Sector Lawyer’s Division, *Public Sector Lawyer Career Panel*, Macon, GA (April 2014)
- Guest Speaker, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Emerging Young Leaders Regional Summit, *“Bullying in the Age of Social Media,”* Warner Robins, GA (March 2014)

PRESENTATIONS (continued)

- Guest Speaker, Bibb County Mentors Project Teens Keeping It Real-Education Awareness Seminar, “*‘Drunk In Love’: To Be or Not to Be?*,” (a teen dating violence presentation) Macon, GA (March 2014)
- Co-Chair/Presenter, Eliminating Barriers to Justice: Addressing Ethical Considerations, Cultural Competency, and Best Practices for Ensuring Meaningful Access to Georgia Courts, “*Best Practices for Working with Interpreters – From Client Intake to the Bench*,” Atlanta, GA (February 2014)
- Presenter, Statewide Public Benefits Taskforce Training, “*Effective Representation in OSAH Food Stamp Administrative Hearings: Issues and Opportunities*,” Macon, GA (December 2013)
- Presenter, Baldwin County Law Enforcement Training, “*Seen but Often Unheard: Immigrant Victims of Domestic Violence*,” Milledgeville, GA (December 2013)
- Presenter, NLADA Annual Conference, “*Effective Utilization of Different Strategies and Tools to Obtain Compliance - Language Access and Education Law*,” Los Angeles, CA (November 2013)
- NLADA’s Annual Conference is the leading national training event of the year for the civil legal aid, indigent defense, and public interest law communities. The conference offers advocates the latest substantive information and professional skills they need to creatively and effectively meet the legal needs of low-income people.
- Presenter, NLADA Annual Conference, “*Exploring Ethical Obligations, Interpreter Insights and Translation Techniques on a Budget – Attorney Professional Responsibility and Language Access*,” Los Angeles, CA (November 2013)
- Presenter, GLSP Statewide Education Law Training, “*Public Education: School Enrollment and the Rights of Non-Parents and LEP Parents*,” Macon, GA (November 2013)
- Presenter, Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys (GABWA) Legal Education Committee CLE Seminar, “*Healthcare Law: Barriers and Access to Healthcare*,” Atlanta, GA (October 2013)
- Presenter, Laurens County Law Enforcement Training, “*Seen but Often Unheard: Immigrant Victims of Domestic Violence*,” Dublin, GA (October 2013)
- Presenter, Central Georgia Family Violence Council Statewide Annual Conference, “*Civil Remedies for Victims of Domestic Violence*,” Macon, GA (October 2013)
- Guest Speaker, GABWA & Atlanta Bar Association Public Interest Section Luncheon, “*Language Access & Education Law: School Enrollment Issues Frequently Faced By Non-Parents and Parents with Limited English Proficiency*,” Atlanta, GA (September 2013)

PRESENTATIONS (continued)

- Guest Speaker, Secrets & Stilettos: Saving Our Sisters, “*Seen but Often Unheard: Immigrant Victims of Domestic Violence*,” Warner Robins, GA (September 2013)
 - [WIBB Radio Interview](#)
 - [Secrets & Stilettos](#)
- Presenter, Piney Grove Baptist Church, “*Public Education: School Enrollment and the Rights of Non-Parents and LEP Parents*,” Macon, GA (July 2013)
- Presenter, Family Advancement Ministries, “*Ley de Educación de Georgia: Inscripción Escolar y Acceso de Idioma*,” Macon, GA (July 2013) Conducted in Spanish
- Presenter, Georgia Department of Human Services – Houston County Division of Family and Children Services, “[Language Access Made Easy: Laws and Practices for Ensuring LEP Clients Have Meaningful Access to Public Benefits in Georgia](#),” Warner Robins, GA (May 2013)
- Presenter, Law Enforcement Training on Domestic Violence, “*Language Access for LEP Domestic Violence Victims*,” Greensboro, GA (May 2013)
- Guest Speaker, National Consortium on Racial and Ethnic Fairness in the Courts 25th Annual Conference, “[Enhancing Language Access](#),” Washington, DC (March 2013)
- Presenter, Statewide Public Benefits Taskforce Meeting “*Food For Thought: Limited English Proficiency within SNAP*,” Macon, GA (November 2012)
- Guest Speaker, Hancock Central Middle/High School “*Love Shouldn’t Hurt: Teen Dating Violence Prevention*,” Sparta, GA (October 2012)
- Faculty, Institute of Continuing Legal Education in Georgia (ICLE) Select Family Law Topics Seminar “*Laws and Practices: Domestic Violence and Protective Orders*,” Atlanta, GA (October 2012)
- Guest Speaker, Fort Valley Senior Center “*Top 10 Senior Scams of 2012*,” Fort Valley, GA (October 2012)
- Presenter, Fort Valley Law Enforcement Training “*Working with LEP Victims of Domestic Violence*,” Fort Valley, GA (August 2012)
- Guest Speaker, Family Advancement Ministries, “*Prevención de Violencia Doméstica en las Comunidades Limitada en el Idioma Ingles*,” Macon, GA (July 2012) (Conducted in Spanish)
- Guest Speaker, Hancock County Teen Summer Camp, “*Love Shouldn’t Hurt: Teen Dating Violence Prevention*,” Sparta, GA (June 2012)
- Guest Speaker, Appling Middle School, “*Love Shouldn’t Hurt: Teen Dating Violence Prevention*,” Macon, GA (May 2012)

PRESENTATIONS (continued)

- Guest Speaker, Southwest High School, *"Love Shouldn't Hurt: Teen Dating Violence Prevention,"* Macon, GA (April 2012)
- Facilitator/Presenter, Webinar* - GLSP Statewide Training for New Lawyers, Pro Bono Partners and Private Attorneys, *"Working with Interpreters: An Effective Method for Providing LEP Advocacy,"* Atlanta, GA (March 2012)
- Guest Speaker, Westside High School, *"Love Shouldn't Hurt: Teen Dating Violence Prevention,"* Macon, GA (March 2012)
- Guest Speaker, Spelman College Social Justice Fellows Program/Toni Cade Bambara Lecture Series, *"Love Shouldn't Hurt – Knowledge is Power When it Comes to Dating Violence,"* Atlanta, GA (February 2012)
- Presenter, Statewide Public Benefits Taskforce Meeting, *"Seen But Often Unheard: Unequal Language Access for LEP Individuals Seeking to Access Georgia's Food Stamp Program,"* Macon, GA (October 2011)
- Panelist, Pulaski State Prison Domestic Violence Awareness Seminar, *"Civil Side of Domestic Violence,"* Hawkinsville, GA (October 2011)
- Guest Speaker, Treutlen County Domestic Violence Awareness Luncheon, *"Working with Immigrant Victims of Domestic Violence,"* Soperton, GA (October 2011)
- Guest Speaker, GABWA Public Interest Section Meeting, *"HB87,"* Atlanta, GA (September 2011)
- Inaugural Speaker, Spelman College Social Justice Fellows Program Colloquia Series, *"Seen but Often Unheard: Limited English Proficiency Advocacy and the Importance of Equal Language Access,"* Atlanta, GA (September 2011)
- Co-Presenter, The Refuge Legal Advocates Training, *"Temporary Protective Orders and Stalking Protective Orders – Advocacy on Behalf of Domestic Violence Survivors,"* Vidalia, GA (September 2011)
- Facilitator/Presenter, Webinar* - GLSP Statewide Training for New Lawyers, Pro Bono Partners and Private Attorneys, *"Working with Interpreters: An Effective Method for Providing LEP Advocacy,"* Atlanta, GA (September 2011)
- Facilitator/Presenter, Webinar* – *"Enforcing Title VI: Ensuring LEP Individuals Have Meaningful Access to Georgia's Food Stamp Program,"* Atlanta, GA (August 2011)
- Presenter, Family Advancement Ministries, *"HB 87 & Violencia Doméstica,"* Macon, GA (July 2011) (Conducted in Spanish)

PRESENTATIONS (continued)

- Presenter, Teens-A-Million, “*Teen Dating Violence – Love Shouldn’t Hurt*,” Sparta, GA (July 2011)
- Presenter, United Methodist New Life Church, “*HB 87, Violencia Doméstica & Beneficios Públicos en Georgia*,” Macon, GA (June 2011) (Conducted in Spanish)
- Presenter, Baldwin County Senior Center, “*BEWARE!: Avoiding Housing Repair Scams*,” Milledgeville, GA (January 2011)
- Presenter, Fort Valley Senior Center, “*Better to Have It and Not Need It, Than Need It and Not Have It: Wills, Power of Attorney and Advance Health Directives*,” Fort Valley, GA (November 2010)
- Presenter, Statewide Public Benefits Taskforce Meeting – “*LEP Advocacy*,” Macon, GA (October 2010)

PUBLICATIONS

- Edmondson-Cooper, Judge Jana J. “Appointing and Working with Qualified Interpreters & Other Considerations for Judges in Georgia Courts,” (June 2024)
 - *Comprehensive re-write of interpreter bench book chapter of a result of new Supreme Court Rules change governing legal interpreters effective January 1, 2024.*
 - *Adopted by the [Georgia] Council of Superior Court Judges, Council of State Court Judges, Council of Magistrate Court Judges, Council of Municipal Court Judges, and Council of Probate Court.*
- Edmondson-Cooper, Jana J. and Eshman, Michael, “*The Language of Civil Justice: Representing LEP and DHH Clients*,” The Verdict – Georgia Trial Lawyers Association Magazine (April 2021)
- Edmondson-Cooper, Jana, “*The Essence of Due Process is the Opportunity to be Heard*,” Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys Newsletter, Vol. 35, Issue I (May 2016)
- Edmondson-Cooper, Jana (Judge Melodie H. Clayton and Judge Dax E. López eds), *Chapter 11: Appointing Qualified Interpreters*, 2016 Georgia State Court Benchbook, (November 2015)
 - *Subsequently adopted by the [Georgia] Council of Superior Court Judges, Council of Magistrate Court Judges, Council of Municipal Court Judges, and Council of Probate, Court Judges. Last Updated in 2018.*
- Edmondson-Cooper, Jana J., “Is It Reversible Error?: Due Process and Access to Justice for LEP and DHH Individuals,” Georgia Courts Journal (March 2015)
- Edmondson-Cooper, Jana J., “*Justice Melton in Q&A on Language as a Barrier to Access*,” Daily Report (February 19, 2014)
- Edmondson-Cooper, Jana J., “*GLSP Helps People with Limited English Proficiency Seek Justice*,” Daily Report (October 25, 2013)
- Edmondson-Cooper, Jana J., “*First, Do No Harm: Providing Meaningful Access to Healthcare for LEP Patients in Rural Georgia*,” Georgia Rural Health Association (September 2013)
- Foster, Ira L. and Edmondson-Cooper, Jana J. “*Back in Session: The ABCs of Student Enrollment in Georgia Public Schools for Non-Parents and Parents with Limited English Proficiency*,” Kids Matter: State Bar of Georgia Child Protection & Advocacy Section (August 2013)
- Edmondson-Cooper, Jana J., “*Breaking Down Systemic Language Barriers for LEP Georgians*,” Civil Justice: Newsletter of the Georgia Legal Services Program (Spring 2013)
- Edmondson-Cooper, Jana J., “*Breaking Free, Being Heard: A Domestic Violence Survivor’s Right to an Interpreter in Georgia Courts*,” The Family Law Review: a Publication of the Family Law Section of the State Bar of Georgia (Spring 2013)
- Edmondson, Jana J., “*Working with an Interpreter: Providing Effective Communication and Ensuring LEP Clients Have Meaningful Access to Justice*,” Georgia Bar Journal, Vol. 18 No. 5, pp. 18-24 (February 2013)

- Edmondson, Jana J. and Krisher, Lisa J., “*Seen But Often Unheard: Limited English Proficiency Advocacy in Georgia*,” Clearinghouse Review: Journal of Poverty Law and Policy, 46 Clearinghouse Rev. 343 (November-December 2012)

HONORS AND AWARDS

- ***Honoree, Annual Marshall Jones Brunch, Shaw Temple A.M.E. Zion Church, November 2024***

Originating in 1891, Shaw Temple A.M.E. Zion Church is Zion's flagship congregation in the South Atlantic Episcopal Area (South Carolina and Georgia) and leader in the Cobb County faith-based community. In 2024, the Lay Council's annual *Marshall Jones Brunch* recognized "Black Women in politics whose leadership, integrity, and vision have earned the trust and respect of the community. Honorees have broken barriers and opened doors becoming an inspiration for the next generation of Black women to seek public office."

- ***Atlanta Business Chronicle 40 Under 40, November 2023***

Selected for inclusion in the Atlanta Business Chronicle's 2023 40 Under 40 Class. 2023 marked the 20th year of Atlanta Business Chronicle's 40 Under 40 awards program, which draws hundreds of nominations of young, rising leaders within the city's business community — the future CEOs of Fortune 100 companies, founders of the next unicorns, advocates for a greater and more equitable city. Each year, the 40 Under 40 Awards honor 40 rising stars in the local business world who have distinguished themselves in their companies, their communities and their industries

— all before their 40th birthday. These young professionals are executives, innovators and entrepreneurs who represent the region's next generation of business leaders.

Excerpt from Special Print Edition, 11/3/2023:

Judge Brendan F. Murphy, Chief Magistrate of Cobb County, appointed Judge Jana Edmondson-Cooper to the magistrate in 2022 and nominated her to the Chronicle's 40 Under 40 in 2023. "Her appointment, at only age 38, was yet another exceptional professional accomplishment by an exemplary career public servant and visionary leader who has shaped, and continues to shape, Georgia's judicial landscape regarding access to justice," he said of Edmondson-Cooper in the nomination. "She embodies integrity, character and commitment to service." A former legal interpreter, legal aid attorney and federal prosecutor, Judge Edmondson-Cooper has worked to alleviate language barriers, including foreign languages and sign language, in court. She also served as a subject-matter expert for the 2017 revision of the Judicial Council of Georgia's handbook for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, and has educated judges on protocols related to language assistance services for people with limited English skills, or who are deaf or hard of hearing.

"Judge Edmondson-Cooper is a compassionate and fiercely effective advocate and access-to-justice leader who has carved out a niche and continues to be at the forefront of the access-to-justice battle through the strategic, well-informed creation of critical innovative approaches and policies at local, state and federal levels which ensure justice for all..." Judge Murphy said in the nomination. "She exhibits an unwavering commitment to increasing her service footprint year after year to not only the Atlanta area, but our entire state."

- **Secretary's Williard Wirtz Legacy Award**, U.S. Department of Labor, December 2021
FY2021 recipient of national award in recognition of exceptional performance and accomplishments in public service that exemplifies accountability, responsibility, and emerging leadership skills that display the promise of future leadership in the spirit of former Secretary of Labor Willard Wirtz.
- **Secretary's Exceptional Achievement Award**, U.S. Department of Labor, September 2020
In recognition of employees who have achieved an unusually significant work product resulting in measurable and substantial progress toward achieving the Department's goals. Recognized for outstanding work in coordination of litigation in several Regional Solicitor's offices and obtaining after trial a successful decision which established meaningful precedent for future enforcement of H-2B matters.

HONORS AND AWARDS (continued)

- **Secretary's Exceptional Volunteer Award**, U.S. Department of Labor, September 2020
In recognition of outstanding volunteer community service of a sustained, direct, and consequential nature, which reflects favorably on the Department of Labor.
- Featured in [*Voyage ATL Most Inspiring Stories*](#), July 2020
- **Distinguished Service to the Judiciary**, State Bar of Georgia Judicial Section, June 2018 Recognized by the Judicial Section during the 2018 State Bar of Georgia Annual Meeting for an "unwavering commitment to increasing language access in Georgia Courts" for my service to the judiciary via my work with Supreme Court of Georgia Commission on Interpreters and other entities. The Judicial Section fosters professionalism and excellence in the judiciary, encourages improvements in judicial process and court operations, solicits input from non-judicial bar members upon judicial procedures and court operations, and encourages interaction between bench and bar of the State Bar of Georgia.
- **National Outstanding Young Lawyer**, American Bar Association, February 2018
The Wm. Reece Smith Jr. National Outstanding Young Lawyer Award recognizes one ABA lawyer in good standing who exhibits: professional excellence; service to the profession and the bar; service to the community; and a reputation for or the advancement of legal ethics and professional responsibility. The award is named in honor of Smith, who chaired the ABA YLD in 1960-61 where he served with distinction before continuing his lifelong service to the American Bar Association and the legal profession. Smith passed away in 2013.
- **National Black Lawyers 40 Under 40**, February 2017
This honor is only given to a select group of lawyers for their superior skills and qualifications in the field. Membership in this exclusive organization is by invitation only, and is limited to the top 40 attorneys in each state who have demonstrated excellence, exemplify superior qualifications and leadership in their respective state and area of specialty and have achieved outstanding results in their careers
- **Appointed to Georgia Judicial Council AFPTCC**, October 2016
Appointed by Supreme Court of Georgia to serve two-year term on AFPTCC as the liaison to the Court's Commission on Interpreters. The mission of the AFPTCC is to improve the public's trust in the judicial branch by focusing on access and fairness through the elimination of systemic barriers related to gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, indigence, and language.

HONORS AND AWARDS (continued)

- **Named to *The Fellows***, American Bar Foundation, October 2016
The Fellows is an honorary organization of attorneys, judges, law faculty, and legal scholars whose public and private careers have demonstrated outstanding dedication to the welfare of their communities and to the highest principles of the legal profession. Membership in The Fellows is limited to one percent of lawyers admitted to the practice of law. Members are nominated by their peers and elected by the Board of the American Bar Foundation.
- **On the Rise: Top 40 Young Lawyers Award**, American Bar Association, July 2016
- **Award of Achievement**, State Bar of Georgia YLD, June 2016
Two-time award recipient. Recognized for outstanding service to the State Bar of Georgia as a Director of Membership Outreach on the 2015-16 YLD Board of Directors.
- **2016 Freedom Award**, Georgia Commission on Equal Opportunity (GCEO), April 2016
Recognized by Governor Nathan Deal and GCEO Executive Director Melvin Everson for outstanding access to justice advocacy, particularly advocacy against discrimination in the housing sector.
- **Recognized in 2016 State of the Judiciary Address to Georgia Assembly**, January 2016
Recognized by Chief Justice Hugh Thompson, Supreme Court of Georgia, in his [2016 State of the Judiciary Address](#) to the Georgia Assembly for extraordinary work on the Commission on Interpreters, and beyond, addressing language access as an access to justice issue.
- **Signature Service Award**, State Bar of Georgia YLD, January 2016
Recognized by the YLD, the Signature Service Award is presented annually to recognize an individual who has achieved an exemplary level of service, as measured by his or her commitment to the YLD and other service-related organizations.
- **National Black Lawyers Top 100**, National Black Lawyers, January 2016
This honor is only given to a select group of lawyers for their superior skills and qualifications in the field. Membership in this exclusive organization is by invitation only, and is limited to the top 100 attorneys in each state or region who have demonstrated excellence, exemplify superior qualifications and leadership in their respective state and area of specialty and have achieved outstanding results in their careers. Reselected in 2017.
- **Excellence in Service Award**, National Bar Association, July 2015
Recognized by the National Bar Association for exemplifying service to low-income and underrepresented individuals, particularly those who are LEP.
- **[Nation's Best Advocates: 40 Under 40](#)**, National Bar Association, July 2015
The award recognizes the nation's top lawyers under 40 who exemplify a broad range of high achievement, including in innovation, vision, leadership and legal and community involvement.
- **Award of Achievement**, State Bar of Georgia Young Lawyers Division, June 2015
Recognized for outstanding service to the Bar as a Director of Membership Outreach on the 2014-2015 Young Lawyers Division Board of Directors.

HONORS AND AWARDS (continued)

- **Daily Report 40 Under 40 on the Rise**, August 2014

1 of 40 lawyers, statewide, included in the Daily Report's annual *40 Under 40 On the Rise* issue. The Daily Report is one of the leading sources for legal news in Georgia. Their annual "On the Rise" issue recognizes 40 lawyers (under age 40) statewide the legal community is expected to hear and read more about in the future based on the lawyer's noteworthy accomplishments and contributions to the legal profession.

- **State Bar of Georgia Committee on Professionalism**, June 2014

Appointed by the State Bar President This standing committee considers and makes recommendations to the State Bar's Executive Committee and Board of Governors to advance professionalism in the practice of law. Re-appointed by State Bar President in June 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 to serve additional terms.

- **State Bar of Georgia Committee to Promote Inclusion in the Profession**, June 2014

Appointed by State Bar President. This standing committee facilitates, analyzes, and presents for consideration initiatives and programs which increase participation, retention, and representation of diverse attorneys in Georgia's legal profession.

- **Contributing Subject-Matter Expert in [2013 Georgia Domestic Violence Fatality Review-10th Annual Report](#)**, March 2014

Invited to contribute to statewide publication as a subject-matter expert regarding the dynamics of domestic violence as experienced by immigrant victims. The Georgia Domestic Violence Fatality Review Project is a collaborative partnership between the Georgia Commission on Family Violence and the Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence. A goal of this project is to reduce domestic violence-related fatalities by using information learned from past fatalities.

- **Supreme Court of Georgia Commission on Interpreters**, July 2013

Appointed to the Commission which was created by the Supreme Court of Georgia to secure the rights of non-English speaking persons utilizing the state court system by establishing a statewide plan for the use of interpreters in Georgia courts during the presentation of civil or criminal matters. The Commission, which sets the rules, policies and procedures for regulating the quality of court interpreters in the state, is comprised of legislators, judges, lawyers and court interpreters. Subsequently appointed by Commission Chair, Justice Keith Blackwell, to serve on the Commission's Probable Cause Panel (PCP), which screens and investigates complaints received about interpreters licensed by the Commission and makes recommendations to the Disciplinary Panel. Appointed Chair of PCP in 2015. Serve as chair of Model Administrative Protocol Development Committee (2015-2020).

- **State Bar of Georgia Access to Justice Committee**, June 2012

Appointed by State Bar President annually since June 2012. This standing committee considers and makes recommendations to the State Bar of Georgia Board of Governors to promote pro bono service and recognize Georgia lawyers that deliver these services.

EDUCATION

- 05/09** **Mississippi College School of Law (MCSOL)** Jackson, MS
Juris Doctorate
- Member, Phi Delta Phi International Legal Fraternity (2008-Present)
 - Member, National Scholars Honor Society (2008-2009)
 - Pupil, Charles Clark Inn of Court (2008-2009)
 - National Moot Court Specialist, National Black Law Students Association (2008-2009)
 - Quarter-Finalist; 6th place overall, National Frederick Douglass Moot Court Competition (2008)
 - Semi-Finalist, Southern Region Frederick Douglass Moot Court Competition (2008)
 - Member, MCSOL Moot Court Board (2007-2009)
 - American Jurisprudence (AmJur, Best Paper) Awards: Criminal Procedure (2007); First Amendment Law & Race Seminar (2007); Race and the Law (2008)
 - Co-Founder and Co-Chair, Diversity Committee, MCSOL Black Law Students Association (2007-2008)
 - Dean's List (4 of 6 semesters)
 - Dean's Fellow (2006-2009)
- 07/05** **Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP** Atlanta, GA
- Participated in an intensive six-week legal "boot camp" offered to a select number of pre-law students
- 05/05** **Spelman College** Atlanta, GA
Bachelor of Arts – Political Science, Spanish Minor
- Parliamentarian, Senior Class Council (2004-2005)
 - Vice-President, UNCF/Pre-Alumnae Council (2002-2003)
 - Volunteer Conversational Spanish Teacher, The Saturday School, a program for gifted children grades Kindergarten through Sixth (January 2002-April 2002)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- National Institute of Trial Advocacy(NITA)
 - * Faculty (2019 – Present)
- **American Bar Association**
 - * Member, Alternative Dispute Resolution Section (2025-Present)
 - * Member, Government and Public Sector Lawyers Division (2010-2022)
 - * Member, Young Lawyers Division (2010-2020)
- **Judicial Council of Georgia Standing Committee on Interpreters f/k/a Supreme Court of Georgia Commission on Interpreters**
 - *Advisory Member (2021 – Present)
 - *Chair, *Probable Cause Panel* (2015-2021)
 - Member, (2014-2021)
 - *Chair, Model Administrative Protocol Committee (2015-Present)
- **Judicial Council of Georgia/ AOC Access to Justice Committee**
 - * Liaison to Supreme Court of Georgia Commission on Interpreters (2016- Present)
 - *Member, Deaf/Hard of Hearing Subcommittee
- **State Bar of Georgia**
 - *Member, Access to Justice Committee (2012-Present)
 - * Member, Special Committee on the Delivery of Legal Services During COVID-19 (2020-2022)
 - *Member, Committee to Promote Inclusion in the Profession (2014-2022)
 - Chair (2018-2020)
 - *Member, Professionalism Committee (2014-2017)
 - ***Young Lawyers Division (YLD)**
 - Director, YLD Board of Directors (2014-2020)
 - Chair (and Founder), Pro Bono Committee (2017 -2018)
 - Chair, YLD Public Interest Internship Program Committee (2016-2017)
 - Member, YLD Nominating Committee (2013-2014)
 - Member, YLD Rules, Bylaws & Procedures Committee (2012-2013)
 - Middle District Representative, YLD Executive Council (2012-2014)
 - Alumna, YLD Leadership Academy (2012)
- **Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys(GABWA)**
 - * President (2024)
 - * President-Elect (2023)
 - * Vice President (2022)
 - * Vice President, Academies (2021)
 - * Chair, Awards and Sponsorships (2020)
 - * Chair, Judicial and Public Office Academy(2018)
 - *Chair, Regional Development Committee (2016, 2015)
 - * Member-at-Large (2015)
 - *Regional Vice President, Macon Regional Chapter (2012-2014)
 - *Legal Education Committee (2013-2014)
 - *Community Service Lead, Macon Regional Chapter (2011)
 - *Student Programs Committee (2010)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS (*con't*)

- **Cobb County Bar Association (2021 – Present)**
- **District of Columbia Bar (2012-Present)**
- **National Language Access Advocates Network (N-LAAN) (2010-2017)**

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

- Guest Speaker, Spelman College Mock Trial Legal Advocacy Workshop (2025)
- Board of Directors, Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys, (2010-2018, 2020-2024)
- Faculty, National Institute of Trial Advocacy (NITA), (2019- Present)
- Board of Directors, [*The Arc of Justice Institute*](#), (October 2016-December 2022)
- Mentor to current pre-law and current law students (May 2007 – Present)
- Risk Management Committee Chairman, *Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Rho Zeta Omega Chapter* (2018-2022)
- Keynote Speaker, 6th Annual National HBCU Pre-Law Summit, Atlanta, GA (September 2019)
- Mentor, Spelman College Sister to Sister Mentoring Program (2017-2018)
- Member, External Advisory Committee, *Fulton County Restorative Justice Initiative* (March 2016 – October 2016)
- Keynote Speaker, Great Start Georgia ~ Houston County Domestic Violence Awareness Forum, “*What Love Is NOT: #WhyIStayed*,” Warner Robins, GA (October 2015)
- Chair, GABWA Regional Development Committee (January 2015 – December 2016)
- Member-at-Large, GABWA (January 2015-December 2015)
- Regional Vice President, GABWA (January 2012-December 2014)
- Member, Central Georgia Family Violence Council (August 2010 –December 2015)
- Opening Speaker, Macon Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Domestic Violence Forum (October 2014)
- Chair, GABWA Macon Regional Chapter Community Law Day, Warner Robins, GA (September 2014)
- Guest Speaker, Mercer University School of Law Black Law Students Association, “*Tapping Into Your Resources*,” Macon, GA (August 2014)
- Guest Speaker, Central Georgia Family Violence Council, “*Providing Access to Justice and Opportunities Out of Poverty: GLSP Services for Victims of Domestic Violence*,” Macon, GA (April 2014)
- Panelist, ABA Government & Public Sector Lawyer’s Division, *Public Sector Lawyer Career Panel*, Macon, GA (April 2014)
- Guest Speaker, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Emerging Young Leaders Regional Youth Summit, “*Bullying in the Age of Social Media*,” Warner Robins, GA (March 2014)
- Guest Speaker, Bibb County Mentorship Project and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Teen Keeping It Real-Education Awareness Seminar, “*Drunk In Love: To Be or Not to Be*,” (a teen dating violence presentation) Macon, GA (March 2014)
- Guest Speaker, Mercer University School of Law, *Black Law Students Association General Body Meeting*, Macon, GA (March 2013)
- Tutor, Walter P. Jones Elementary School, *After School Program*, Macon, GA (January 2013)
- Keynote Speaker, Walter P. Jones Elementary School, *Junior Beta Club Induction*, Macon, GA (December 2012)
- Guest Speaker, Walter P. Jones Elementary School, *Career Day*, Macon, GA (November 2012)
- Guest Speaker, GABWA Professional Development Academy, *Finding a Job in a Down Economy*, Atlanta, GA (October 2012 and March 2012)
- Guest Speaker, Appling Middle School, *Career Day*, Macon, GA (November 2011)
- Guest Speaker, Mercer University School of Law Diversity Orientation, *Attorneys Panel*, Macon, GA (August 2011)
- Co-Chair, GABWA Macon Regional Chapter Community Law Day, Macon, GA (May 2011)
- Participant, Hancock County Central High School, *Career Day*, Sparta, GA (April 2011)
- Guest Speaker, Macon Bar Association/Mercer University Law School, *Young Lawyers Panel*, Macon, GA (April 2011)
- Spelman College Admissions Department S.T.A.R., (March 2011)