

Maria S. Hossain, Esq.

123 S. Calhoun Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Telephone: 850-425-5305

Email: mhossain@ausley.com

EDUCATION

Florida State University College of Law

Juris Doctor, Cum Laude

Journal of Land Use & Environmental Law, *Article & Notes Editor*

Business Review, *Executive Editor*

Book Awards: Negotiations; Mediation; Law and Social Science

Distinguished Pro Bono Service Award

Dispute Resolution Society Client Counseling Competition Intraschool Champion, 2010 & 2011

Tallahassee, Florida

May 2012

Washington University in St. Louis

Bachelor's Degree in Psychology

Minors in Political Science and Spanish

Dean's List

St. Louis, Missouri

December 2008

WORK EXPERIENCE

Ausley McMullen

Of Counsel

Consult and advise, as a SHRM-SCP professional, with businesses and non-profits regarding complex Human Resources issues; represent state agencies, businesses and non-profits in discrimination and retaliation suits; create legally sound Human Resources policies and employee handbooks for state agencies, businesses and non-profits; present trainings on updates in federal and state employment laws; mediate cases as a Florida Supreme Court Certified Mediator in Circuit and County cases.

Tallahassee, Florida

September 2025 – present

Florida Department of Corrections

Chief Legal Counsel

Oversee employment litigation and provides daily legal guidance regarding employee discipline and labor relations in an organization of 24,000 employees. Work closely with Employee Relations to review disciplinary decisions for legal sufficiency and promote equal treatment in employee discipline, review and create employee handbooks and internal procedures, supervise and manage remote attorneys and paralegals statewide, advise on policy decisions with C-suite leadership, provide legal advice regarding grievances, negotiate with Union leadership regarding collective bargaining, provide legal guidance regarding ADA, PWFA and religious accommodation requests, conduct trainings regarding Human Resources best practices to leadership and staff, prosecute disciplinary decisions at the Public Employees Relations Commission and in arbitrations statewide, successfully conduct oral arguments in front of appellate courts, respond to EEOC and FCHR discrimination and retaliation charges using position statements

Tallahassee, Florida

July 2025 – August 2025

Florida Department of Corrections

Executive Senior Attorney

Prosecute disciplinary decisions at the Public Employees Relations Commission and in arbitrations statewide, respond to EEOC and FCHR discrimination and retaliation charges, review disciplinary decisions for legal sufficiency, review and create administrative rules and internal procedures, conduct legal research, draft extensive argumentative legal pleadings, train attorneys and Human Resources staff, supervise and manage remote attorneys statewide

Tallahassee, Florida

October 2021 – July 2023

Florida Department of Corrections

Senior Attorney

Prosecute disciplinary decisions at the Public Employees Relations Commission and in arbitrations statewide, respond with position statements to EEOC and FCHR discrimination and retaliation charges, review disciplinary decisions for legal sufficiency, review and create administrative rules and internal procedures, conduct legal research, draft extensive argumentative legal pleadings

Tallahassee, Florida
May 2014 – October 2021

Florida First District Court of Appeal

Law Clerk to the Honorable Scott D. Makar

Researched and drafted memoranda in a variety of complex areas of law, assisted with drafting judicial opinions, provided critical analysis of complex legal issues for appellate judges

Tallahassee, Florida
August 2013 – March 2014

Broad & Cassel

Associate

Practiced in the fields of complex commercial litigation, including discovery, negotiation, and motion practice in Florida and federal courts; performed significant research in novel areas of law; held primary responsibility for clients in litigation and in business formation matters

Tallahassee, Florida
July 2012 – August 2013

Eubanks, Barrett, Fasig & Brooks

Clerk

Drafted pleadings and settlement demands in the personal injury context, answered discovery, interviewed clients, researched case law, found and retained expert witnesses

Tallahassee, Florida
May 2011 – April 2012

Executive Office of the Governor (Appointments Office and Legal Office)

Intern

Vetted applicants to Boards, prepared reports for presentation to the Governor; researched case law of executive branch functions and legislative history on WestLaw and in the state archives for the General Counsel, drafted citizen letters

Tallahassee, Florida
Summer 2010

Charles D. McClure

Clerk

Performed research in criminal defense and family law, drafted pleadings and wills, filed pleadings with the Clerk's office

Tallahassee, Florida
Summer 2010

Walt Disney World

Character Performer (Seasonally)

Orlando, Florida
May 2004 – December 2020

Washington University in St. Louis

Research Assistant, Teaching Assistant, Copy Editor

Research Assistant: Tested participants, ran experiments, and assisted with grant proposals
Teaching Assistant: Graded tests, answered student questions, and assisted the Professor in preparation of class materials

Copy Editor: Proof-read editions of the student newspaper for spelling and grammar errors and errors of convention; attended and reported on events, including the 2008 Vice Presidential Debate

St. Louis, Missouri
January 2007 to – December 2008

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Lawton Chiles High School

Co-Coach for Mock Trial Team

Tallahassee, Florida
September 2015 - May 2022

Department of Children & Families

Pro Bono Intern

Tallahassee, Florida
Summer 2010

Leon County Court

Florida Supreme Court Certified County Mediator

Tallahassee, Florida
April 2012 – April 2013

PROFESSIONAL LICENSES:

Florida Bar (2012) – *Bar Number 97958*

Florida Supreme Court Certified Mediator (Circuit and County) – *Mediator Number 28520 R*

Society for Human Resource Management – Senior Certified Professional