

MARY NGUYEN-NODELMAN, ESQ
8847 Cameron Crest Drive, Tampa, FL 33626
Attorney/Investigative Journalist
Co-Chairwoman, The Florida Bar Media, and Communications Law Committee

(407) 766-1801

marynguyennews@gmail.com

ADMITTED

- **State Of Florida, Bar #127402- Trial Attorney admitted in State and Federal Courts**
- United States District Court Southern Florida
- United States District Court Middle District Florida
- United States District Court Northern Florida
- Emmy nominated TV Journalist in Category: Government and Politics
- Covered Politics, Government, and Courts in throughout the US including Iowa, Kansas, Arkansas, Florida, Arizona, Washington DC and California
- LexisNexis® Professional Research Certified, May 2016.

SERVICE/LEADERSHIP

- Co-Chair, Media and Communications Law, Florida Bar Substantive Law Committee (Public Records, 1st Amendment, Access to Courts) (2023-Current)
- Vice-Chair, Media and Communications Law, Florida Bar Substantive Law Committee 2 Terms (2021-2023)
- Subcommittee Chair, Florida Bar Reporter's Handbook Authored Florida Bar Chapter 'Freedom of Information Act.'
- Subcommittee Chair, Reporter's Workshop Sponsored by the Florida Bar, and the Florida Supreme Court
- Member, Media and Communications Law, Florida Bar Substantive Law Committee (Term-2018-2027)

EXPERIENCE

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER STATE OF FLORIDA- 5TH, 6TH 13th Judicial Circuits

06/17-9/22

- Managed more than 100 felony case dockets.
- Represented clients in all phases of litigation, attended hearings, wrote, and argued motions, first chair felony and misdemeanor jury and bench trials.
- Hired mitigation experts, doctors for competency, experts for economic crimes gun experts, computer forensics, DNA experts for trials and hearings.
- Utilized FOIA, public records, investigators for cases. Deposed and interviewed thousands of people during my legal and 20 year journalism career.

- ***Assistant Public Defender-Trial Attorney 5TH Circuit (6/22-9/22)***

Represent indigent clients in all phases of criminal proceedings including trials, hearings, and competency.

Assigned to SVP, represent clients deemed sexual violent predators during involuntary civil commitment proceedings. This is under Florida's Involuntary Civil Commitment of Sexually Violent Predators Act.

- ***Assistant Public Defender- Felony and Misdemeanor- 6TH Circuit (2/22-6/22)***

Represented indigent clients in numerous proceedings in various divisions including, career criminals' division, violation of probation, domestic relations, and risk protection order hearings.

- ***Assistant Public Defender-Trial Attorney Felony Level A Attorney-13th Circuit, Tampa, FL (09/18-10/21)***

- Promoted twice from Level C attorney (third degree felonies) to Level A (first degree felonies).

Represent indigent and defended clients in complex felony cases at all stage including post-conviction relief. Case load included statewide prosecutor cases, economic crimes, welfare fraud, counterfeit money, government and contract fraud, insurance fraud, sex crimes and high level felonies. Successfully argued and drafted motions, orders, and sentencing memorandums. Worked with attorneys, investigators, Mitigation specialists, expert witnesses to zealously represent clients. Hired computer forensics, Fingerprint analysis, DNA, firearms, sexual battery, competency, and drug cases. Wrote numerous memos, briefs, and motions that were successful and granted by the Court.

- **OFFICE OF THE 9th CIRCUIT PUBLIC DEFENDER, Orlando, FL**

7/13/15-9/2/15

AmeriCorps JD/Equal Justice Works — Major Crimes – Intern/Law

Death penalty, homicide, and felony cases. Second chaired second-degree murder case. Researched and drafted motions dealing with the Fourth, Fifth, Eighth and Fourteenth Amendment. Attended trainings and meetings with other death penalty attorneys and specialists in various circuits in preparation for guilt and penalty phase.

- **OFFICE OF THE 2nd CIRCUIT PUBLIC DEFENDER, Tallahassee, FL**

Law Clerk- Felony and Capital Crimes

Assisted attorneys with research and case analysis for various cases involving Fourth, and Eighth Amendment issues. Composed depositions questions, direct, and cross. Worked on capital, sting ray cases, RICO, and juvenile cases. Second chaired low-level felony trials.

SUPERIOR COURT OF ARIZONA, MARICOPA COUNTY, Phoenix, AZ

5/12/14-8/23/14

Law Clerk- Honorable Sherry Stephens

Conducted legal research, drafted opinions, and orders including the constitutionality of Arizona's death penalty statute to determine if by adding more aggravating factors, the statute broadened rather than narrowed death eligible defendants. Trial division handled complex criminal cases including the highly publicized Jodi Arias case death penalty case.

KPNX-TV, Phoenix, Arizona 1/7/13-07/26/13
General Assignment/Investigative Reporter
Investigate, interview and wrote news stories for television, print and social media.
Covered high profile cases such as the Jodi Arias case, politics, immigration issues, crime, and government.

NBC NEWS/THE TODAY SHOW/CNBC/WEATHER CHANNEL 1/1/12-12/01/12
Freelance Field Producer
Field produced television segments, interviews for national news coverage. Stories include Trayvon Martin case, covered the end of the Space Shuttle program, and Florida government.

WFTV, Orlando, Florida 10/27/03-3/28/12
General Assignment/Investigative Reporter
Hard-hitting, enterprise reporter who broke several stories and was one of the station's go-to reporters
Beat judicial system, politics, government, and crime. Covered Casey Anthony case.
Exposed the misuse of taxpayer funds and investigated Orange County Sheriff's Office use of Tasers which led to an FBI investigation and intervention by the Department of Justice.

KATV-TV, Little Rock, Arkansas 10/2001-10/1/2003
Reporter/Fill-In Anchor
Developed story ideas, interviewed community, civic, educational, and business leaders. Reported on politics such as the Clinton library, and Paula Jones Scandal. Also utilized as a fill-in anchor.

KAKE-TV, Wichita, Kansas 01/2001-10/2001
General Assignment Reporter
Covered range of topics including military, abortion issues, weather, and state issues.

KWWL-TV, Waterloo, Iowa 10/1999-01/2001
Reporter/Weekend Producer
Wrote and produced the 6pm/10pm weekend newscasts. Decided content for news programs, coordinated news coverage, and reported during the weekdays. Covered the Iowa Caucuses, education, and government.

NIGHTLINE, Washington DC 03/1997-06/1997
Intern- 20-30 hours
Worked on national and international stories. Covered the White House, Department of State, and Department of Justice. Assisted correspondents and producers with interviews, research, and video.

EDUCATION

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW SCHOOL Juris Doctor, 2016
ARIZONA SUMMIT SCHOOL OF LAW 2013-2014
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT LOS ANGELES, Communication Studies Bachelor of Arts, 1999

COURSE OF STUDY/TRAINING/CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

Hillsborough County Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers Scholarship recipient for **"2021 Criminal Trial Law Board Certification Seminar,"** Sponsored by Florida Bar Criminal Law Section, Virtual, April 8-9, 2021. Criminal trial law certification requires lawyers must be practicing for at least five years; handling at least 25 contested criminal cases, with 20 jury trials tried to a verdict, 15 which involved a felony, and 10 as lead counsel, peer review, a written examination, and 45 hours of approved CLEs.

"Young Lawyers Roundtable with the Judiciary," 2018 United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit Judicial Conference, Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, May 4-5, 2018.

“The Value of Diversity in Society and the Courts and the Need for Bias Elimination,” Fifth Circuit of Florida Professionalism Conference, Ocala, Florida, April 20, 2018.

“Fall Defender College,” Florida Public Defender Association, Inc., Stuart, Florida, Fall 2017.

LexisNexis® Professional Research Certified, May 2016.

“Trial Practice Clinic,” Florida State University College of Law, Tallahassee, FL Spring 2016.
Trial Advocacy seminar training. NITA training for trial lawyers.

“Criminal Justice Externship Program,” Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL Summer 2015.
Assist clients, conduct fact investigation, process discovery, interview witnesses, and research
And draft memoranda or pleadings, and assist attorneys in court. Worked on appellate briefs.

“Capital Punishment Seminar.” Seminar explored historical and contemporary application of capital punishment. Analyzed social and political views regarding the death penalty based on empirical, psychological research, and legal theories. Florida State University College of Law, Tallahassee, FL Fall 2015.

“Advanced Legal Writing and Editing: Beyond Logic to Coherence and Strength,” National Association of Attorneys General, Tallahassee, Florida, October 15, 2015.

“Child Abuse Allegations: The Law, the Science, the Myths, the Reality: Practical Applications,” National Child Abuse Defense and Resource Center, Orlando, Florida, August 3 & 4, 2015.

“Juvenile Resentencing Seminar,” Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, September 2015.

PRESENTATIONS/MEDIA MENTIONS

“The Legal System, First Amendment, Libel and Defamation.” University of Central Florida, Nicholson School of Communication and Media. (Presenter/Florida Bar Speaker’s Bureau) (February 23, 2023).

31st “Annual Florida Bar Reporters’ Workshop” Florida Bar Media & Communications Law Committee/Florida Supreme Court. Event for print, TV, radio and online journalists covers topics such as public records and Florida’s open government laws, elections, libel, defamation, access to courts and lawyer regulation, (Presenter/ Subcommittee Chair) (September 18-20, 2022).

“Criminal Law Update 2022” The Florida Bar Criminal Law Section CLE, Annual Florida Bar Convention, (Co-Presenter) (June 23, 2022).

“Fake News, the First Amendment and Defamation – The Power of the Pen,” The Florida Bar Continuing Legal Education Committee and the Media & Communications Law Committee, Presidents Showcase, 2019 Annual Florida Bar Convention, (Co-Presenter) (June 27, 2019).

“Defamation, Ethics and the News: The Race to be First,” Arizona Summit School of Law, (Presenter) 2013.

“Trafficking and Prostitution in Arizona: Tougher Laws. Human Trafficking, Prostitution Penalties: HB 2454. What does this mean for Arizona? Or Is Regulating Prostitution the Solution?” AZ Summit Law, (Organizer) August 2014.

“Super Bowl Sex: One Man’s Plan to Open a Brothel in Arizona for the Big Game,” NPR News, Sept. 8, 2014.

“Understanding the Regional Trends of Sex Trafficking and a Survivor’s Story of Rehabilitation,” Arizona Summit Law School, (Co-Presenter) 2013.

PUBLICATIONS

Author, 'Federal Sunshine Laws: The Freedom of Information Act,' Chapter Florida Bar Reporters' Handbook. (October 2020).

Author, 'FOIA Requests in Light of COVID-19,' Chapter Florida Bar Reporters' Handbook. (Effective October 2020).

Columnist, 'TEEN Magazine, "Teen to Teen," National magazine published by Petersen Publishing Company. Content varied each month on fashion, topics teens faced, and advice column component. While interning at the O.J. Simpson Trial, the article focused on what it was like behind the scenes of this high-profile case. 1993-1995.

Contributing Writer, USA Today, Various Articles 2013.

Contributing Writer, The Arizona Republic, Various Articles 2013.

Guest Writer, Los Angeles Times, "Teen Struggles and Family Pressures," Orange County Section,

April 1999

AWARDS

- Eli Segal Award, Equal Justice Works AmeriCorps JD, Corporation for National & Community Service 2015
- Emmy Nomination, Category: Politics & Government Investigative Report, "Jail Chief Checks Out Early," NATAS 2009
- Emmy Nomination, Category: Team Coverage, WFTV, "Caylee Anthony Found," NATAS 2009
- Kathryn Dettman - The Associated Press Television-Radio Association Award 1998
- Society of Professional Journalists, Mark of Excellence Award 1998
- Clete-Roberts -The Associated Press Television-Radio Association Award 1994
- State of California Resolution #673 - Resolution of Commendation enacted by the California state legislature. The resolution was named after Nguyen for her advocacy and public policy efforts on drugs and peer pressure. 1994
- State of Michigan Legislative Tribute- Both houses honored Ms. Nguyen for her extensive public policy efforts with MADD in the state of Michigan and throughout the country.
- Miss Teenage America-First Asian American to win 'TEEN Magazine's Program 1993

ORGANIZATIONS

Member, Association of Women Lawyers
Member, National Asian Pacific Bar Association
Member, AAJA
National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
Lifetime Member, UCLA Alumni

Member, IRE
Member, American Bar Association
Judge, UCLA Alumni Scholarships Program
Member, Florida Association of Criminal Defense
Judge, Emmys, National Academy of Television Arts & Science

SERVICE

- Chair, Florida Bar Media and Communications Law Committee Appointed by Florida bar president-elect (Term 2023- 2027)
- Member, Florida Bar Sections- Government Law, Appellate Practice, Criminal Law, Trial Lawyers
- Vice Chair, Florida Bar Media and Communications Law Committee Appointed by Florida bar president-elect, Term 2022, Term 2023 (Member since 2018).
- Member, Selection and Recruitment, UCLA Alumni Scholarship Committee, 2016-Current
- Judge, Mock Trial Tournament, Florida State University Undergraduate Mock Trial Team, FSU College of Law & Trial Advocacy Center, Tallahassee, Florida. 2015.
- Mentor, Howard Middle School, Orange County Public Schools, Orlando, FL 2005.
- "Single Greatest Night Honoree and Top Fundraiser" Cystic Fibrosis Foundation (CFF), honored as one of 12 of Central Florida's finest young professionals, who show exemplary leadership, are active in their community, and have excelled in their profession or business. Presented by Orlando Magazine. 2006.