

LAUREL BEATTY BLUNT

Phone: (614) 638-1477 | Email: LaurelBeatty@hotmail.com

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Ohio Tenth District Court of Appeals

Columbus, Ohio

2019 – Present

Judge: Presides over appeals from Franklin County Common Pleas Court General, Probate, Domestic Relations and Juvenile Divisions. The Court of Appeals also hears appeals from the Franklin County Municipal Court, the Ohio Court of Claims, and administrative appeals from some state agencies. Currently serving as the Court's Recording Secretary. Will serve as Administrative Judge in 2022.

Franklin County Court of Common Pleas, Gen. Div.

Columbus, Ohio

2009 – 2019

Judge: Presided over civil cases where the amount in dispute was above \$15,000, felony criminal cases, and administrative appeals. Adjudicated over more than 10,000 cases including 15 designated as complex litigation. Presided over more than 100 criminal and civil jury trials and numerous bench trials. Served as Vice-Chair of the Finance Committee and as a Member on the Personnel, Criminal, Technology and Rules Committees.

Ohio Secretary of State

Columbus, Ohio

2007 - 2009

Director of Legislative Affairs and Counsel to the Voting Rights Institute: Assisted in managing litigation on complex legal, policy, and Constitutional issues. Counseled General Assembly members, private citizens, corporations and political action committees on election, campaign finance, and corporate law. Managed a variety of complex and potentially controversial issues that required a high degree of diplomacy and discretion. Implemented legislative agenda with the Ohio General Assembly that resulted in successful primary and general elections in 2007 and 2008. Testified before the Ohio General Assembly and the United States Congress on election administration. Drafted, obtained sponsors, and provided testimony on legislation pertaining to the Secretary of State's office.

Otto Beatty Jr. & Associates

Columbus, Ohio

2004 - 2007

Associate: Acted as hearing officer for the City of Columbus' Equal Business Opportunity Commission and Red Light Photo Enforcement System. Provided legal services to individuals and small businesses in plaintiffs' personal injury, probate and small business civil litigation firm. Handled jury trials and mediations from start to finish. Managed a large caseload, conducted and defended depositions, wrote jury instructions and researched legal issues.

Kerry/Edwards Coordinated Campaign

Columbus, Ohio

2004

Coordinator, Ohio Women for Kerry: Developed campaign literature targeted towards women and African Americans. Researched and advised the campaign on earned media and marketing strategies for successful outreach to women voters. Organized, motivated, and presented to Kerry's women support groups in 50 of Ohio's 88 counties.

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Kegler Brown Hill & Ritter, LPA

Columbus, Ohio

2001 - 2004

Government Relations/Litigation/Creditor's Rights and Bankruptcy Associate: Acted as assistant solicitor with Anthony J. Celebrezze, Jr. for two municipalities. Participated in all aspects of diverse governmental relations, commercial litigation, and creditor's rights/bankruptcy litigation practice. Researched federal and state laws and legal principles, wrote pleadings and memoranda, managed cases and drafted settlement agreements in commercial litigation.

Frost Brown Todd LLC (formerly Frost & Jacobs LLP)

Cincinnati, Ohio

1999 - 2001 (Summer Associate 1998)

Litigation Associate: Drafted research memoranda, motions and pleadings and prepared discovery in general commercial, employment, real estate and product liability/diet drug litigation.

EDUCATION

Vanderbilt University School of Law

Nashville, Tennessee

Doctor of Jurisprudence, May 1999

Honors and Activities: Moot Court Competition Semi-Finalist, Fall 1997; Moot Court Competition Associate Justice for the Intramural Competition, Fall 1998; Vanderbilt University School of Law Juvenile Justice Legal Clinic, 1998-1999; Vice-President, Black Law Students Association, 1998-1999; Women Law Students Association; YWCA Domestic Violence Program.

Spelman College

Atlanta, Georgia

B.A. Psychology, *magna cum laude*, May 1996

Honors and Activities: Dean's List, all semesters; Mortar Board Senior Honor Society; Golden Key National Honor Society.

Bar Admissions: Ohio, November 1999; Southern District of Ohio, January 2000

COMMUNITY SERVICE & VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

- Supreme Court of Ohio, Commission on Continuing Legal Education, Member
- Ohio Sentencing Data Platform Governance Board, Member
- Columbus Bar Association Ethics Committee, Member
- Alvis, Inc. Board of Trustees, Member
- United Way of Central Ohio Board of Trustees, Chair, Education Impact Council, Past Member
- United Way of Central Ohio Women's Leadership Council, Past Member
- Greater Columbus Infant Mortality Task Force, Past Member
- YWCA of Columbus, Past Member, Board of Trustees
- Coalition Against Family Violence, Past Member, Legal Systems Task Force
- Alcohol, Drug, and Mental Health Board of Franklin County, Past Member, Board of Trustees
- Columbus Urban League, Past Co-chair, Candidate Night series
- African American Leadership Academy, Fellow, 2005 (inaugural class)
- Leadership Columbus, Graduate, 2004

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- Speaker and panelist on numerous law-related and community engagement panels
- Ohio Common Pleas Judges Association, Past Trustee
- Ohio Judicial College Mentorship Program, Mentor

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

- National Bar Association, Member
- American Bar Association, Member
- Ohio State Bar Association, Member
- Columbus Bar Association, Member
- Ohio Women's Bar Association, Member
- Ohio Appellate Court Judges Association, Member
- John Mercer Langston Bar Association, Member
- Women Lawyers of Franklin County, Member
- National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Member

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

- *Business First* Forty Under 40, 2005
- *Women for Economic Leadership and Development*, Woman WELDing the Way, 2015
- *Columbus Africentric Early College*, Sankofa Celebration of Leadership honoree, 2019
- *Ohio State Coalition of National Council of Negro Women*, Honoree, 2019