

CHERYL ANNE WATSON, ESQ.

EDUCATION	BOSTON COLLEGE LAW SCHOOL Juris Doctor	NEWTON, MA 1991
	MASSACHUSETTS BAR U.S. DISTRICT COURT BAR – MASS	ADMITTED 1991 ADMITTED 1992
	WHEATON COLLEGE Bachelor of Arts, Sociology	Norton, MA 1988

EXPERIENCE

CITY SOLICITOR/School Counsel Chelsea, MA
City of Chelsea Nov. 2003 to the present

City Solicitor reports directly to the Chief Executive Officer and is a key member of the Senior Executive Staff. Acts as chief legal counsel for the City, School District and regularly counsels the chief executive officer, elected and appointed public officials and senior management on a range of legal matters including, litigation, land use, public policy, employment/labor matters, operations and all other municipal management issues. Regularly interacts with federal and state agencies on legislative matters and legal matters. Advises the departments and public officials on local, state and federal regulatory matters and compliance related issues.

Negotiates and drafts all business contracts, member of collective bargaining team and authors a variety of documents such as licenses, easements, deeds, leases and mortgage documents for the City and School District. Counsels public officials on the day to day operational and contractual matters including governmental regulation, risk management, and general corporate matters. Manages outside counsel appointments and the legal representation of the City and School District.

Duties include, but are not limited to the following: provide legal representation in, and advise and render legal opinions on, judicial and administrative proceedings involving the City and School District, pertaining to the functions of the office and/or on questions relating to State and local conflict of interests and code of ethics laws; and advises City and School officials on claims or suits brought against the City and School District. Represents the School District, City and its boards, agencies, officials and employees in prosecution of all actions and other legal proceedings and suits on its or their behalf; defend all actions and suits brought against the School District and the City, its boards, agencies, officials and employees. Reviews and advises members of the zoning board of appeals, planning board, licensing board and other such multi-member bodies.

ASSISTANT CITY SOLICITOR Cambridge, MA
CITY OF CAMBRIDGE May 1999 – Nov. 2003

Prosecution and defense of civil litigation in state and federal court proceedings and administrative proceedings to which the City is a party. Responsible for all phases of litigation on zoning matters, civil rights defense, employment matters, personal injury suits before state agencies and the courts. Negotiating and drafting of documents for land use matters, eminent domain, leases, use and occupancy agreements, easements, deeds, licenses and handling of real estate transactions. Handling of claims filed against the City.

ASSISTANT REGIONAL COUNSEL II
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Commonwealth of Mass.
April 1994 - May 1999

Represented the Commonwealth in Juvenile, District and Probate Courts throughout Middlesex and Norfolk County in child custody matters. Responsible for all phases of litigating the adjudication of children in need of care and protection in cases of parental neglect, physical, emotional and sexual abuse and the termination of parental rights. On occasion supervised paralegals and novel attorneys.

FIELD ATTORNEY
NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

Boston, MA
Sept. 1991- April 1994

Investigated unfair labor practices charges filed against unions and employers. Reviewed labor policies of employers and labor organizations. Issued complaints and dismissal and negotiate settlements. Processed representation petitions and held hearings and elections on such petitions. Prosecuted violators of the National Labor Relations Act before Administrative Law Judges.

MEMBERSHIPS City Solicitors and Town Counsel Association
 Boston College Black Alumni Network
 Mass. Association of School Counsel
 Cambridge Alumni Association
 Mass. Women's Bar Association

Mentors Chelsea High Mock Trial Team
Taught and mentors Chelsea Community Schools Future Lawyer Class