

**VIRGINIA DIETRICH, ESQ.**  
Chief Hearing Officer  
Government of the District of Columbia  
Office of the State Superintendent of Education  
Student Hearing Office  
810 First Street, N.E., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20002

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**EDUCATION**     J.D.     Georgetown University Law Center  
                      B.A.     Smith College, Psychology

**CAREER HISTORY**

**Impartial Hearing Officer**, Office of the State Superintendent of Education, Student Hearing Office, Washington, D.C.  
Sep 2008 – Apr 2013, Oct 2013 – Jan 2014

*Full responsibility and authority to hold due process hearings and issue final decisions under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), 34 CFR Part 300, in adversarial proceedings over the provision of special education services to children with disabilities.*

- Managed all aspects of 500+ assigned cases. Conducted prehearing conferences to narrow issues and establish hearing procedures and deadlines. Issued prehearing orders. Issued written rulings on complaint sufficiency, jurisdictional challenges and motions to dismiss. Issued oral rulings on the admissibility and sufficiency of evidence. Conducted 75+ hearings resulting in written decisions not subject to supervisory review, and appealable to the federal district court. Responsible for scheduling and electronic data base management of cases.

**Criminal Defense Litigator**, D.C. Superior Court, Washington, D.C.                      Nov 1986 – Sep 2008, May 2013 – Nov 2013

*Solo practitioner handling all aspects of 3500+ felony and misdemeanor cases for indigent adult defendants in fast paced, high case volume environment.*

- Conducted 150+ jury trials and 50+ non-jury trials. Conducted investigations; interviewed witnesses; drafted and argued pretrial motions; represented clients at arraignment, status, sentencing, and show cause hearings. Knowledge of criminal evidence and criminal procedure rules. Liaison with social service and offender supervision agencies.

**Family Court Litigator**, D.C. Superior Court, Washington, D.C.                      Jan 1988 – Sep 2008

*Solo practitioner handling all aspects of representing parents and children in neglect and abuse proceedings and representing juveniles in juvenile delinquency proceedings.*

**Probate Law Practitioner**, D.C. Superior Court, Washington, D.C.                      1998-2008

*Represented adults judicially determined to be mentally and/or physically incapacitated.*

- Served as guardian of person and/or conservator of financial estate. Made personal, health and financial decisions on behalf of wards of the court. Responsible for marshalling assets, paying debts, preparing tax returns, and preparing guardianship reports and financial accounting reports for court audit and approval.

*Administration of Decedent Estates*

- Conducted all aspects of estate administration. Prepared notices to heirs/legatees. Marshalled and distributed assets. Prepared interim and final accountings for court approval.

**Immigration Law Practitioner**, Washington D.C.                      1986-1988

Represented clients seeking permanent residency status in United States. Prepared petitions. Advocated at hearing.

**MILITARY SERVICE**

**1985–1997**     U.S. Naval Reserves. Retired at rank of Officer Grade 5.

**1979-1985**     U.S. Naval Officer, active duty, Washington, D.C., Naval Military Personnel Command.

**VOLUNTEER SERVICE**

**2003-2010**     Board of Directors, Ionia Whipper Home, Inc. President, 2007-2010. Secretary, 2003-2007.