

**MICHELLE R. KLINE**  
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### **STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS**

I am the presiding judge in four municipalities and a relief judge in eight others, as well as a part-time county court magistrate in Denver. I have been on the bench for five years. I am familiar with and have worked in Home Rule Municipalities for 17 years. My legal experience is almost exclusively in the area of municipal law, and I am familiar with the charters and codes in the cities in which I serve. I was licensed to practice law in Colorado in 2003, and have been a good-standing member of the Bar since.

### **JUDICIAL EXPERIENCE**

#### **PRESIDING MUNICIPAL JUDGE**

- 1) ***CITY OF BRIGHTON—August 2021 to Present, and served as Relief Judge from June 2018 until my appointment as Presiding Judge***
- 2) ***TOWN OF MOUNTAIN VIEW—March 2021 to Present***
- 3) ***TOWN OF HUDSON—January 2021 to Present, and served as a Relief Judge from November 2017 until my appointment as Presiding Judge***
- 4) ***TOWN OF KEENESBURG—May 2018 to Present***

#### **General Duties as Presiding Judge**

- Preside over all court proceedings, including arraignments, motion hearings, court trials, and jury trials arising out of acts in violation of the Town Codes
- Monitor and suggest modifications to the Code when new legislation is passed or when laws become outdated/obsolete
- Review policies and procedures and make updates as necessary with input from the Town Prosecutor and court staff
- Draft standing orders and fine/bond schedules
- Supervise clerks to ensure adherence to procedural due process, rules of conduct, and all other boundaries of the law, and assist with general court administration
- Create and update court documents
- Communicate and provide information to Town Councils
- Work with treatment providers and mental health providers to ensure access to best sentencing options

#### **RELIEF MUNICIPAL JUDGE**

- 1) ***THORNTON—March 2021 to Present***
- 2) ***BOULDER—December 2020 to Present***
- 3) ***COMMERCE CITY—August 2020 to Present***
- 4) ***SEVERANCE—July 2020 to Present***
- 5) ***FORT COLLINS—July 2020 to Present***

- 6) **ERIE**—April 2019 to Present
- 7) **WESTMINSTER**—September 2017 to Present
- 8) **GREELEY**—May 2017 to October 2017 (Change in the Charter's residency requirement resulted in no longer being able to serve)
- 9) **WINDSOR**—December 2016 to Present

### **General Duties as Relief Judge**

- Preside over arraignments, court trials, jury trials, sentencing hearings, motion hearings, revocation hearings, and review hearings (traffic, criminal, domestic violence, juvenile, and code violations)
- Review and keep up to date with each City's code and the Court's internal processes and policies
- Complete all associated paperwork, e.g. issuance of bench warrants, vacation of bench warrants, ruling on written motions

### **PART-TIME MAGISTRATE**

#### **DENVER COUNTY COURT**—August 2018 to Present

- Provide coverage for numerous courtrooms, including state and municipal
- Conduct felony and misdemeanor advisements, and take pleas in misdemeanor and municipal cases
- Juvenile and Traffic court arraignments, pleas and trials
- Wellness Court—attend staffings, participate in discussions of rewards and sanctions, and preside over court
- Homeless Outreach Court—preside over court held at the Denver Rescue Mission to resolve non-violent municipal cases

### **MUNICIPAL LAW EXPERIENCE**

#### **ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY/MUNICIPAL PROSECUTOR**

##### **THORNTON CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**—February 2014 to July 2019

- Try cases relating to municipal ordinance violations, including adult and juvenile criminal cases, traffic, zoning, sales tax, and animal control violations
- Responsible for trial docket, which includes preparing the case files by reviewing charges, making necessary amendments, and offering plea bargains and sentencing recommendations
- Participate daily in arraignments, bond hearings, motion hearings, and sentencings
- Prepare motions, research relevant case law, keep updated on current statutory and procedural law
- Advise Police Department, Building Department, City Development, and Finance Department
- Write ordinances related to criminal law, animal violations, and marijuana licensing and enforcement

#### **ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY/MUNICIPAL PROSECUTOR**

##### **LAKEWOOD CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**—October 2004 to February 2014

- Tried cases relating to municipal ordinance violations, including adult and juvenile criminal cases, domestic violence cases, traffic, zoning, sales tax, and animal control violations
- Responsible for heavy trial docket, which included preparing the case files by reviewing charges, making necessary amendments, and interviewing witnesses and victims
- Participated daily in arraignments, bond hearings, motion hearings, and sentencings
- Represented the City in Juvenile Mental Health Court
- Represented the City in small claims cases and in tax, zoning, and criminal appeals
- Advised City departments on various issues including immigration, contracts, zoning, housing and tax

## **OTHER LEGAL EXPERIENCE**

### **ADJUNCT INSTRUCTOR—CRIMINAL JUSTICE SECTION**

**WESTWOOD COLLEGE**—*August 2008 to December 2009*

- Designed curriculum for Constitutional Law, Juvenile Law, Criminal Law, and Criminal Procedure courses
- Gave lectures, provided one-on-one opportunity for student questions, facilitated group discussions
- Graded papers, projects and exams

### **LAW CLERK TO JUDGE ROBERT H. RUSSELL, II**

**ARAPAHOE COUNTY DISTRICT COURT**—*March 2003 through October 2004*

- Conducted legal research in case types including domestic, juvenile, civil and criminal, but primarily domestic relations cases, focusing on Title 14 and its components, including the UMDA, UIFSA and UCCJEA
- Reviewed motions and prepared orders for the Court's approval in case types including domestic, juvenile, civil and criminal
- Voluntarily assisted other judges, who did not have sufficient support staff, in reviewing motions and preparing orders in civil, criminal and juvenile cases
- Performed division clerk duties, including data entry onto ICON, managing the docket, statusuing all cases on the daily docket, and making and returning phone calls to attorneys and pro se litigants

## **EDUCATION**

**JURIS DOCTOR, University of Denver College of Law, Denver, Colorado (2002)**

- GPA 3.069; Advanced Trial Practice; Civil Rights Litigation

**B.S. IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE, Metropolitan State College of Denver, Denver, Colorado (1998)**

- GPA 3.72; Recipient of Presidential Gold Scholarship; Vice President's Honor Roll

## **AFFILIATIONS**

- **COLROADO BAR ASSOCIATION, Member since October 2002**
- **ADAMS COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION, Member since 2014**
- **COLORADO MUNICIPAL JUDGES ASSOCIATION, Member since 2017**

## **PERTINENT CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION**

- **MUNICIPAL JUDGES' BOOTCAMP**, 1-day event hosted by City of Arvada
- **COLORADO MUNICIPAL JUDGES ASSOCIATION** monthly meetings, when available and bi-annual conferences

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

**THE LINK COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT AND RESOURCE CENTER**

- Board Member

**CROWN POINTE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL**

- Board President
- Classroom volunteer

**REVIVE CHURCH ARVADA**

- Kindergarten teacher every other week