

# DIANE E. CITRINO

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## **EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

University of California, Berkeley, Boalt Hall School of Law, Juris Doctor, 1982

Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, Bachelor of Arts, 1979. Major: English and American Literature. Honors: Phi Beta Kappa

Admitted to Illinois bar, 1982

Admitted to Ohio bar, 1994

Admitted to Northern District of Illinois, 1982

Admitted to Northern District of Ohio, 1994

Admitted to United States Court of Appeals, 6<sup>th</sup> Circuit, 1999

Admitted to United States Supreme Court, 2002

Admitted to Southern District of Ohio, 2008

## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

Partner, Giffen & Kaminski, Cleveland, Ohio. Litigation for clients in federal and state court. Counsel of record in over 75 cases in the Northern District of Ohio since 1995. Investigation of harassment and discrimination complaints. September 9, 2014 to present.

Shareholder, Thacker Martinsek, LPA, Cleveland, Ohio. Litigation of complex civil matters, January 1, 2010 to August 2014.

Shareholder, Cooper & Walinski, LPA, Cleveland, Ohio. Litigation of complex civil matters, November, 2007 to December, 2009.

Of Counsel, Kushner & Hamed Co. LPA, Cleveland, Ohio. First chair responsibility in sophisticated civil matters. September, 2006 to October, 2007.

Regional Director, The Ohio Civil Rights Commission, Akron Region. Supervised and directed 14 counties for agency charged with enforcing Ohio discrimination laws. Directly responsible for over 20 person office of union and non-unionized employees. March, 2003 to July, 2006.

Senior Attorney. The Housing Advocates, Inc., (HAI), Cleveland, Ohio. Directed complex litigation brought pursuant to various state and federal statutes. Representative cases include: *City of Cuyahoga Falls v. Buckeye Community Hope Foundation*, 538 U.S. 188 (2003); *Eva v. Midwest National Mortgage Banc*, 143 F. Supp.2d 862 (N.D. Ohio 2001); *Walker v. Crawford*, 5:97 CV 1033 (N.D. Ohio 1999); *Schorr v. Briarwood Estates Ltd. Partnership*, 178 F.R.D. 488 (N.D. Ohio 1998); *Garnett v. Pearson*, 96 CV 1719 (N. D. Ohio 1996) FH-FL Rptr. ¶16,181.1; *Byrd v. Brandenburg*, 922 F. Supp. 60, (N.D. Ohio 1996). Also supervised third-year law students at The Fair Housing Law Clinic, a clinical law program run by HAI in cooperation with Cleveland Marshall College of Law, where students represented plaintiffs in fair housing cases. August, 1994 to February, 2003.

Adjunct Professor. Cleveland Marshall College of Law. Taught clinical program each semester. Fall, 1994 to December, 2002.

Of Counsel. Kramer & Niermann, L.P.A. Extensive experience in employment discrimination matters and civil rights cases. 1994 to 1996.

Senior Attorney and Staff Attorney. Legal Assistance Foundation of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois. Representative cases include: *Rosario et al., v. Livaditis*, 963 F.2d 1013 (7<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1992); *Mabry v. Village Management*, 109 F.R.D. 76 (N.D. Ill. 1985). As senior attorney, supervised paralegals and younger attorneys on a daily basis. January, 1984 to 1990.

Associate. D'Ancona & Pflaum, Chicago, Illinois. General litigation and tax and estate planning experience. Litigation focus on First Amendment issues. Summer, 1982 to December, 1983.

### **AWARDS**

2014 Friend of Fair Housing Award, issued by Fair Housing Contact Service, Akron, OH. Awarded to recognize dedication to furthering the goals of fair housing and improving the lives of others, October, 2014.

Housing Research & Advocacy Award for Fair Housing Advocacy, April, 2010.

Legal Aid Society of Cleveland, Appreciation for Annual Campaign and Work for Justice, 2009.

Nirmal Sinha Commissioners Award, awarded by the Ohio Civil Rights Commission, July, 2006.

United Way of Greater Cleveland "Spotlight Volunteer," March 10, 2006.

Rosa Parks Congressional Medal, Awarded by The Ohio Civil Rights Commission, July 2005.

Certificate of Appreciation for 2004 Affirmative Direction Series, Bowling Green State University, October 20, 2004

Fair Housing Achievement Award, issued by The Housing Advocates, Inc., September 19, 2003.

Resolution of the Cuyahoga County Commissioners saluting Diane E. Citrino Regional Director of the Ohio Civil Rights Commission, Akron, September 10, 2003.

Individual Achievement Award, Northern Ohio Fair Housing Alliance ("NOFHA"), April, 2003.

Proclamation from Cuyahoga County Commissions recognizing Fair Housing Achievement, April, 2003.

Certificate of Appreciation, awarded by the Solon City Schools, for mentorship in law, June, 2001.

Year 2000 Ohio Civil Rights Commission Leadership Award by the Ohio Civil Rights Commission, for outstanding contributions furthering civil and human rights, February 2000.

Selected as one of ten “Outstanding Women in the Law” by The Cleveland Bar Association, May, 1999.

Selected as one of ten “Lawyers of the Year” by Ohio Lawyers Weekly, December 27, 1999.

### **SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**

“Cause of Action for Handicapped Discrimination in Housing in Violation of the Federal Fair Housing Act [42 U.S.C.A. 3601 et seq.] and Related Federal Statutes,” 22 Causes of Action 2d, West Publishing Co., June 2003. (co-authored with David Oakley and Edward Kramer)

Report on Homeowner Insurance Availability for Hispanic Consumers in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, co-authored with Edward G. Kramer and Lisa L. Scott, published in 1997 with the assistance of HUD and the Hispanic Housing Rights Project.

Report on Homeowner Insurance Availability for African-American Consumers in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, co-authored with Edward G. Kramer and Nicole Green, published under a grant from the City of Cleveland, 1999.

Report on Homeowner Insurance Availability and Public Accommodations Treatment for Minority Consumers in the City of Cleveland, Ohio, co-authored with Edward G. Kramer and Jeffrey Dillman, published under a grant from the City of Cleveland, 2001.

### **SELECTED SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS**

Webinar presentation for National Fair Housing Alliance and HUD on Sexual Harassment in Housing, October 2, 2014.

Moderator for Women of Color Foundation’s The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Glass Ceiling: Women Breaking Though!” panel on employment discrimination, Cleveland, OH, November 7, 2013.

Presenter, with OCRC Regional Director Darlene Newbern, “Overview of Fair Housing Laws and Emerging Issues” for Statewide Ohio Fair Housing Conference “Achieving the Full American Dream: Looking Back, Moving Forward and Building Bridges,” Columbus, OH, June 10, 2013.

Panelist for CLE credit with Alexandria Rudin, Esq., Jennifer Peyton, Esq., Amanda Ruiviejo-Pastor on the Violence Against Women Act speaking on “A Woman’s Home Should be her Castle,” Cleveland, OH, March 12, 2008.

“Fair Housing, Disability and the Elderly,” presented by Housing Research and Advocacy

Center, with Susan Silverstein, Esq., Cleveland, OH, August 23, 2007.

“From Treasures to Trash: Understanding the Dynamics of Hoarding,” Panel presentation for CLE credit with Judge Thomas A. Swift, Dr. Donald Malone, Judge Richard C. Pfeiffer, and others presented by the Ohio Coalition for Adult Protective Services, Cleveland, Ohio, September 19, 2002.

“Best Practices in Litigation and Community Education,” Predatory Lending in Ohio, Searching for Solutions, Sponsored by the Levin College of Urban Affairs, Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, Cuyahoga County Treasurer James Rokakis, and the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, March 21, 2001, Cleveland, Ohio.

“From Grey to Black: Crossing the line into Fraud in Mortgage Lending,” The Mortgage Society, Independence, Ohio, November 16, 2000.

“Sex, Lies, and Housing Discrimination,” The 1999 Ohio Housing Conference, sponsored by Ohio Housing Finance Agency and Ohio Capital Corporation for Housing, Columbus, OH, November 23, 1999.

“Lifting the Barrier of Housing Discrimination,” First Annual Ohio Supported Living Association Conference, *Journey Beyond Possibilities: Dreams, Reality, and Innovation*, Columbus, Ohio; March 31, 1999.

“Lawyers making a Difference” Panel Discussion Member, 10<sup>th</sup> Judicial Conference of the Eighth Judicial District, with co-panelists Morris Dees, Esq., Hon. Nathaniel R. Jones, Hon. Ronald B. Adrine, Hon. Burt W. Griffin, Gerald S. Gold, Esq., Jose C. Feliciano, Esq., Jane Picker, Esq., Richard W. Pogue, Esq.; Westlake, Ohio, October 17, 1998.

“What You Need to Know About Homeowners Insurance” (presented in Spanish), Third Hispanic Cleveland Unity Conference, Cleveland, Ohio, October 10, 1998.

### **VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES**

Appointed to the Ohio Advisory Committee to the United States Civil Rights Commission, 2003 to present; Chair of Committee 2013 to present.

Member of the American Bar Association’s House of Delegates, 2012 to present.

Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, Trustee (formerly, Cleveland Bar Association), June 2006 to 2011.

Legal Aid Society of Cleveland, Chairperson of fund-raising committee, 2004 to 2009; Trustee, 2000 to 2004. Assist in the management of non-profit corporation dedicated to serving the legal needs of persons unable to afford private attorneys.

Merit Selection Committee member selected to fill vacant bankruptcy judgeship in the Northern

District of Ohio, June 2002, and reappointed to serve on committee to fill bankruptcy judgeship in Youngstown, Ohio in July 2003.

Solon YMCA Teen Court Advisory Board, 1997 to 2000. Assisted in structuring program to divert certain first-time juvenile offenders from Juvenile Court to teen court. Trained teen participants in program and recruited other attorney to assist in training.

FBI Hate Crimes Task Force, committee member, 1999 to 2011. Work on education and outreach committee about preventing and reporting hate crimes in Ohio.