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EDUCATION

University of Pittsburgh School of Law, Pittsburgh, PA

Juris Doctorate, May 2002

Awarded CALI Excellence for the Future Award for work in Natural Resource Law

Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA

Full graduate course work and laboratory research completed (GPA 3.65) towards a M.S. degree in Molecular Biology studying under Dr. Mary Alleman (Deceased).

Allegheny College, Meadville, PA

B.S. Biology, May 1996 studying molecular and developmental genetics under Dr. Glen Wurst (Ret. 2009).

Publications: "Gene Conversion within Regulatory Sequences Generate Maize *R* Alleles with Altered Gene Expression." *Genetics* **159**:1727-1740 (Dec. 2001)

EMPLOYMENT

2011-PRESENT Feinstein Doyle Payne & Kravec, LLC

Co-lead counsel and leadership roles in consumer class action practice in state and federal courts. Responsibilities included all stages of litigation: investigation, client contact, drafting and negotiating pre-litigation demands, drafting pleadings, drafting and responding to discovery, motions practice (written and oral presentations), expert preparation and discovery, mediation and trial preparation. Some notable cases include:

- *Astiana, et al. v. Kashi Company, et al.*, 291 F.R.D. 493 (S.D.Ca. 2013) (California certified state-wide consumer class action for deceptive "All Natural" and "Nothing Artificial" labeling of food products, resulting in \$5 million single-state settlement and change of labels nationwide to remove misleading language from the foods packages).
- *Zeisel v. Diamond Foods, Inc.*, 2011 WL 2221113 (N.D. Ca.) (Nationwide certified consumer class action for unlawful and deceptive omega-3 heart health claims placed on the packaging of shelled walnuts, resulting in a \$2.6 million settlement and agreement not to use packaging that contained the offending health claims).
- *Spears, et al. v. Washington Mutual Inc. et al.*, 2009 WL 2761331 (N.D. Ca.) (Nationwide certified consumer class action for violation of RESPA § 8(a) in charging mortgage borrowers for appraisals provided pursuant to a conspiracy between the lender

and appraisal management company, resulting in an approximately \$9.8 million settlement that returned proportional amounts of the appraisal fees to borrowers).

- *Larsen, et al. v. Trader Joe's Company*, 917 F.Supp.2d 1019, (N.D.Ca. 2013) (consumer class action for deceptive "All Natural" and "100% Natural" labeling of food products, resulting in a nationwide settlement recovering \$3.75 million and an agreement to remove the misleading language from food packages).

March 2017-PRESENT U.S. Food and Drug Administration – Consumer Representative on the Molecular and Clinical Genetics Devices Panel, and consultant to the other panels of the Medical Devices Advisory Committee of the Food and Drug Administration. Nonvoting appointment on committee that evaluates data on the safety and effectiveness of marketed and investigational devices, and advises the Commissioner of Foods and Drugs and makes recommendations regarding various aspects of device design, risks, approval, classification, etc.

2005-2010 Specter Specter Evans & Manogue, P.C. – Associate Attorney

Litigation and litigation support including leadership role in discovery and expert phases of class action and complex cases. Primary responsibilities included drafting and responding to discovery requests, meet and confer obligations with opposing counsel, taking and defending depositions, legal research and writing dispositive and non-dispositive motions, and oral arguments in State and Federal Courts. I also managed and participated in document review projects in conjunction with private and state co-counsel for complex cases. Some notable cases include:

- *In re: Heparin Products Liability Litigation, MDL No. 1953*. (N.D.Ohio 2008) (Acted as primary science discovery and expert counsel in pharmaceutical liability litigation on behalf of patients who received a contaminated blood thinner by an upstream manufacturer of the drug API, resulting in trial verdict in a plaintiff's favor, and settlement of many individuals' cases).
- *Wahl v. American Security Ins. Co.*, 5:08-cv-00555 (N.D.Cal.) (State-wide certified consumer class action for improper placement of forced-placed property insurance on real estate mortgages under California law, resulting in \$4.95 million cash to return premiums to affected insureds, and reduction of premiums prospectively).

2002 – 2005 Outside Consultant and Contract Counsel

Legal research, writing and discovery review for various small and private law firms. Issues included insurance defense, bankruptcy, personal injury, municipal zoning, collections and copyright. Projects included relevance determination, privileged and confidential review, and general litigation support.

2005 Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP – Contract Attorney

Health insurance defense for complex litigation case. Reviewed individual medical records and corporate policy documents for a large health insurer for alleged violations of several state and federal laws.

2004 Reed Smith LLP – Contract Attorney

Corporate health insurance defense in complex litigation case. Subjective and Objective review and coding of corporate documents for relevancy in a class-action contract and RICO suit in the health care industry. Worked with litigation attorneys for determination of relevance and privilege of documents for production.

2004 Jones Day – Contract Attorney and Litigation Support

Corporate defense in complex litigation case. Document review and research regarding claims including breach of contract, deceptive trade practices, tortious interference and corporate disparagement.

1996 – 2003 Duquesne University, Department of Biological Sciences – Graduate Student and Lab Technician

Worked under Dr. Mary Alleman studying evolutionary genetics, transgenes and parapatism in *Zea mays*. In addition to graduate studies, work involved training and supervising research students; compiling and drafting reports and findings; reviewing, reviewing and critiquing research articles and grant proposals; and presenting findings in national and international conferences.

1996 Luzerne Conservation District – Assistant to District Manager

Analyzed proposals and on site implementation of water-flow management on construction sites for compliance with local and federal laws. Created system to collect and analyze water flow and construction data for individual and corporate construction sites.

ASSOCIATIONS

Member of the Allegheny County Bar Association

Member of the Los Angeles County Bar Association

Member of the National Association of Consumer Advocates (NACA)