

Contact

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[www.asamra.army.pentagon.mil/](https://www.asamra.army.pentagon.mil/mra/mission_arba.htm)

[mra/mission_arba.htm](https://www.asamra.army.pentagon.mil/mra/mission_arba.htm) (Other)

Top Skills

Document Review

Ethics

Internal Investigations

Catherine Mitrano

Strategic Advisor/Senior Executive/Independent Consultant/Attorney/
Regulatory Expert/ Veterans Health and Benefits/Human Resources/
DEI/Ethics and Compliance

Washington DC-Baltimore Area

Summary

Experienced General Counsel with a demonstrated history of working in the government administration industry. Strong legal professional skilled in Federal Employment Law, Public Affairs, Privacy Law, Veterans Administration, Government, and Legislative Relations.

Experience

Self-employed

Independent Consultant

March 2023 - Present (8 months)

Tampa, FL area

Senior consultant to executives and companies navigating the federal regulatory domain. Thirty+ years experience working in legal and leadership positions with seven federal agencies. Recently retired General Counsel (Acting) for the Department of Veterans Affairs managing a, 800+ member law practice in the full range of legal services needed to support the nation's largest integrated healthcare system. Former Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army responsible leading the Army Review Boards Agency and responsible for civilian oversight of Army law enforcement and prison system. Expert in human resource management including DEI, Equal Employment Opportunity Compliance and government ethics/conflicts of interest. Available to consult on a wide range of matters including legislative affairs, audit and compliance, internal investigations, strategic human capital initiatives and relationships with oversight entities.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

9 years 7 months

Principal Deputy General Counsel/Acting General Counsel

August 2021 - January 2023 (1 year 6 months)

Washington, DC and remote from Tampa Florida

Lead the Department of Veterans Affairs 800+ member in-house legal department. Provide comprehensive legal support to the nation's largest integrated healthcare system, its national cemeteries and its Veterans Benefits Administration. Oversee multi-billion dollar contracts and support more than 400k employees nationwide. Provide risk mitigation and management advice to senior officials. Advise on legislative and media engagements. Drive policy and strategy development. Collaborate with multiple stakeholders in the private sector, state and local governments, federal inter-agency and other federal branches to provide legal solutions that are client-focused and pragmatic.

Senior Counsel to the General Counsel

January 2019 - August 2021 (2 years 8 months)

Tampa/St. Petersburg, Florida Area

Acting General Counsel

August 2018 - January 2019 (6 months)

Washington D.C. Metro Area

Principal Deputy General Counsel

January 2018 - August 2018 (8 months)

Washington D.C. Metro Area

Chief Counsel

November 2015 - January 2018 (2 years 3 months)

Tampa/St. Petersburg, Florida Area

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Resolution Management

July 2013 - November 2015 (2 years 5 months)

Washington, DC

Managed all aspects of the Equal Employment Opportunity complaint process and Alternative Dispute Resolution program in Department of Veterans Affairs; servicing over 330,000 employees nationwide. Maintained a resolution rate of over 50 percent of all informal workplace disputes. Devised and delivered anti-discrimination and conflict resolution training. Implemented Departmentwide policies and procedures to ensure the integrity, effectiveness, and impartiality of the complaint system. Supervised 291 full time equivalent positions and numerous contracts in six field offices across the U.S. Responsible for leading, directing and monitoring VA-wide investigations into allegations of discrimination in a high-volume, deadline-driven environment. Held Senior FAC PPM certification.

US Army

Deputy Assistant Secretary
July 2009 - July 2013 (4 years 1 month)
Arlington, VA

Responsible for the oversight and operations of 15 Army personnel boards and directorates, including the Army Board for Correction of Military Records, the Army Discharge Review Board, Army Special Review Boards, the Army Clemency and Parole Board, and (until October 2010) the Equal Employment Opportunity Complaints and Compliance Review Directorate. The Army Review Boards Agency consisted of 145 full time and 150 collateral duty civilian employees and military personnel, and every year investigated and adjudicated over 25,000 cases. Also provided statutory supervision for all Army corrections and (until 2011) law enforcement functions worldwide and oversaw operations at all Army correctional institutions (including Korea and Germany) through General Officers and senior civilian staff. Achieved accreditation for the Army Clemency and Parole Board and managed accreditation for all Army correctional facilities through the American Correctional Association, receiving its highest possible honor. Ensured effective strategic planning, human resource development and application of all merit system and equal employment opportunity mandates were applied in everyday operations. Reorganized the agency to better align with Army strategic mission and achieve efficiencies by eliminating redundancies and cross-training professional staff, resulting in a 30% case production increase with no additional resources. Routinely advised the Secretary of the Army and other senior officials on controversial and high visibility cases. Interfaced with the media, congressional staff, Department of Defense components, and various oversight agencies. Received Army's highest civilian decoration: The Decoration for Exceptional Civilian Service.

Federal Communications Commission
Deputy Associate General Counsel
2006 - 2007 (1 year)

DHS
Senior Counsel to the General Counsel
2003 - 2006 (3 years)

U.S. Coast Guard
Attorney
1999 - 2002 (3 years)

Federal Aviation Administration
Attorney
1991 - 1999 (8 years)

Education

Boston University
BA, Political Science · (1983 - 1989)

Boston University School of Law
JD, Law · (1983 - 1989)