



DANI DIERCKS FARRELL, ESQ., MSW
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LICENSING

Admission to Colorado State Bar, November 2010
CFI Certification training completed June 2013
Mental Health First Aide Certification April 2015

EDUCATION

Juris Doctorate, University of Denver Sturm College of Law, Denver, CO

- Graduated December 2009
- Officer, Public Interest Law Group

Master of Social Work, University of Denver Graduate School of Social Work, Denver, CO

- Graduated Magna Cum Laude June 2009
- Child welfare concentration
- Phi Alpha National Honor Society
- Research and thesis: *Discrimination, Discretion, and Discrepancies in Delinquency*

Bachelor of Arts, University of Texas, Austin, TX

- Graduated Cum Laude May 2005
- Major: History and Sociology
- Minor: Italian (Attended American University, Rome 2003)

WORK EXPERIENCE

Diercks Law, P.C., Owner/Attorney

Denver, CO November 2010 – Present

- Serve as *Guardian ad Litem* and educational surrogate on delinquency, dependency and neglect, paternity, specialty court (human trafficking and youth drug court) and truancy cases out of Denver and metro area Juvenile Courts and Domestic Courts

- Conduct and report full family case history and make recommendations on appropriate services, placement, parenting, reunification, life skills, resourcing, funding, etc. for youth and families
- Represent youth as defense and advisory counsel in truancy filings, petition reviews, contempt citations, LAN privilege holder and valid court orders
- Draft numerous court reports, motions, responses and proposed orders
- Participate in educational, social service, therapeutic, medical, immigration, legislative and legal staffings
- Mediate various cases all regarding the best interest of the child
- Serve as Child and Family Investigator in the Denver metro area with specialties in adolescent and adult mental health, domestic violence, infancy and child development, parental alienation, homelessness, cultural competence, teen pregnancy, human trafficking and educational rights
- Testify in various courts as an expert, Guardian ad Litem and Child and Family Investigator

Legal Apprentice, Magistrate Philip Robert James

Denver, CO June 2009 – August 2010

- Conducted initial investigation into new delinquency, truancy, paternity and dependency and neglect cases in Denver Juvenile Court
- Edited and revised juvenile statute law for juvenilelaw.net
- Prepared court reports regarding all juvenile court case findings

Juvenile Court Liaison, Denver Department of Human Services

Denver, CO, August 2008 – June 2009

- Interviewed, reported, and represented families involved with DDHS
- Worked collaboratively with several local service providers to plan and implement youth case plans regarding education, therapy, health, extracurricular activities, housing, job skills, mentoring, etc.
- Certified in trainings regarding homeless youth, trauma response, multiculturalism, human trafficking, teen prostitution and team advocacy

Family Caseworker, Stride

Denver, CO, August 2007 – July 2008

- Managed a diverse caseload of self-sufficiency and transitional housing family clients with a permanency goal of remain home and reunification
- Practiced various family therapy methods including: cognitive behavioral (CBT), strengths based, systems based, narrative, psychodynamic, object relation, family functional (FFT) and multisystemic (MST)
- Trained in “Culture of Poverty”, the Triad Council on Early Childhood Development, Domestic Violence, Generational trauma and the “Cliff Effect”

Director of Community Outreach and Casework, Transition Resource Action Center (TRAC)

Dallas, TX, June 2005 – August 2006

- Trained in the adoption and foster care system, gang prevention program, and Preparation for Adult Living (PAL) life skills program for teens
- Managed over 100 volunteers/mentors and 100 youth clients in conjunction with Texas Protective Services to aid youth transitioning out of foster care system
- Public speaking for the benefit of awareness and fundraising

- Special event planning for over 10,000 foster and juvenile youth on a restricted budget

AFFILIATIONS

Courage Bear for Children of Deployed Soldiers, Co-Founder

Colorado Bar Association, Member

Delta Delta Delta, Active Alum

National Association of Social Workers, Member

Bears & Blankets for Hospitalized Children, Legal Counsel

Creative Options, Denver truancy court committee member

REST, Denver juvenile human trafficking problem solving court

Denver Kids, Inc., Young Professional Council Alum

Optimus Youth, Co-Founder

SPEAKING & PUBLICATION

Prosecuting Contempt of Court and Navigating the Child Support System

March 24, 2010 Lindsay Flanigan Court House Denver

Juvenile Law, Domestic Violence, and Ethics

March 22, 2013 Arapahoe Bar Association

Baby Steps: A Manual for Truant Teen Parents

August 1, 2013 Denver Juvenile Court

What's the Big IDEA: Understanding Education Law and Children's Rights

August 26, 2014 Denver Juvenile Court

OPPLA for New Attorney's: Permanency Planning

February 2, 2016 Office of the Child Representative