

MARILYN TREFZ


JD, MPA, SPHR, CERTIFIED MEDIATOR

CONTACT

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SUMMARY

As a Family Law Attorney, Certified Mediator and Court Approved Family Mediator, Marilyn appreciates the significance of facilitating successful, voluntary resolutions for families and businesses. Her experience and training allows her to productively discuss differences in an informal and confidential setting. As an Attorney, Marilyn provides added value to her clients by producing thorough, well thought out documents. Marilyn has represented both employees and management in the public and private sectors and worked as a Human Resources professional for more than 15 years. Her varied experiences provides her with a unique understanding of both the practical and legal perspectives involved in family, insurance and other issues.

SKILLS

- MEDIATION
- FAMILY LAW
- DIVORCE & CUSTODY
- ELDER LAW
- MENTAL ILLNESS APPOINTMENTS
- ERISA
- RESEARCH & WRITING
- HR CONSULTING
- EMPLOYMENT LAW
- CIVIL LITIGATION
- MANAGEMENT & TRAINING
- ADMINISTRATION
- EMPLOYEE RELATIONS

EXPERIENCE

Redwood Mediation & Law

Owner, Attorney and Mediator

2017-Present; Vermillion & Sioux Falls, SD

Focus Areas: Mediation, Family Law, Divorce & Custody, Elder Law & Planning, ERISA Subrogation.

Additional: WORKS Program Coordination (Second Circuit); Approved Family Mediator (First & Second Circuits); Human Services Center Appointments.

Dorothy & Krause Law Firm

Associate Attorney

2015-2016; Sioux Falls, SD

Focus Areas: Personal Injury, Civil Litigation, Elder Law, Employment Law, Human Resources Consulting, ERISA.

Hughes Law Office

Associate Attorney

2012-2015; Sioux Falls, SD

Focus Areas: Personal Injury, Medical Malpractice, Employment Law, Civil Litigation, ERISA, City Government Projects & Training.

EDUCATION

USD School of Law

Class of 2012

Trial Team; High Grade: Insurance, Elder Law, ADR, Professional Responsibility

Brigham Young University

Master of Public Administration; Emphasis: HR

Bachelor of Science: Sociology; Minor: Public Relations

ARTICLES

South Dakota Law Review

Volume 58, Issue I.

Why All or Nothing? A Middle Ground for Subrogation Law Will Protect South Dakota's Insureds

Trial Lawyer Journals

2011 – Published in Ten States

The Impact of CIGNA v. Amara on ERISA Reimbursement Claims; Co-Author: Professor Roger Baron

2009 – Published in Eight States and AAJ Insurance Newsletter

Public Pressure Reverses Adverse ERISA Result for Deborah Shank; As Pro Bono Legal Consultant Professor Roger Baron Held Ringside Seat to Wal-Mart v. Shank Court Bout and Media Coverage

INVOLVEMENT

SD State Bar Association

Elected Bar Commissioner, First Circuit in June 2019 for three-year term

Member, Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee

Member, Legal Services Committee

Member, Family Law Committee

Chair, Employment Law Committee (2016-2018)

CERTIFICATIONS

International Academy of Dispute Resolution

Spring 2012

Certified Mediator Certificate

HR Certification Institute

1995

Senior Professional of Human Resources (SPHR)

Den Hartog Industries

Human Resources Manager

2002-2007; Hospers, IA

- Managed HR department for a 350-employee manufacturing facility.
- Administered compensation and benefit plans.
- Created written safety programs and employee handbooks and conducted associated training company-wide.

Opinion Research Corporation

Human Resources Manager/Consultant

1991-2001; Toledo, OH; Tucson, AZ; Telecommute from SD

- Earned Employee of the Year for work in opening new call center.
- Researched current business trends, developed and wrote affirmative action plan and created HR manual and supervisor handbook.
- Handled employee relation's issues through mediation and committee work.

Hiller Industries, Inc.

Human Resources Manager

1989-1991; Salt Lake City, UT

- Recruited from Intern position to design and implement Human Resources function and safety programs.
- Conducted team building trainings.

PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT

University of South Dakota School of Law

Adjunct Faculty

2015-Present; Vermillion, SD

- Coordinator of Law Practice Drafting Course (Spring 2015-Spring 2019).
- Advisor of the ADR Board (Fall 2018-Present).
- Mediation Course (Scheduled for Fall 2019).

Research Assistant

2011-2012; Vermillion, SD

- Responded to USD Senior Legal Helpline incoming phone calls.
- Planned, edited and executed weekly "Elderlaw Forum" radio show and presented a weekly "Adventures in Aging" segment.

HR Consultant/ERISA with Professor Baron

Independent Contractor

2009-Present; Vermillion, SD

- Assist Emeritus Professor Roger Baron with ERISA Subrogation actions and compliance research.
- Analyze and summarize Employment Welfare Benefit Plans.