

KRISTI NELSON BIOGRAPHY

Kristi Nelson formed Chen Nelson Ltd. with John Chen in September 2005, and on July 1, 2007, James D. Roberts joined the firm to form Chen Nelson Roberts Ltd. Since September 2005, Kristi has represented large and mid-size companies and business executives in a broad range of commercial and employment disputes, including but not limited to claims alleging unfair competition, fraud, race and national origin discrimination, breach of contract, legal malpractice and statutory violations. Kristi has represented clients in federal and state courts and before federal and state administrative agencies, including the Illinois Department of Human Rights, the Illinois Human Rights Commission and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. In addition to litigation services, Kristi counsels clients on employment matters, drafts employment and severance agreements, and conducts internal workplace investigations. She serves as an investigator for Northwest Airlines' Equal Employment Opportunity Office and sits on the Business Conduct and Probable Cause Committees for CME Group.

Kristi is also actively involved with numerous community and legal organizations. She serves as pro bono counsel for National Immigrant Justice Center, she is a volunteer attorney and Board Member for Chicago Volunteer Legal Services, and she is an active member of the Chicago-Lincoln Inn of Court. Kristi served as a law clerk for the Honorable Judge Suzanne B. Conlon of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. She graduated with honors from DePaul University College of Law, where she served as a Law Review editor, and was elected to Order of the Coif. She obtained her B.A. from The University of Tulsa, where she graduated *cum laude*.

Biography

Noelle Brennan has been in private practice engaged in plaintiff's employment discrimination litigation since 2004, and has recently founded the firm of Noelle Brennan & Associates, Ltd. In August of 2005, she was appointed by U.S. District Court Judge Wayne Andersen to monitor the hiring practices at the City of Chicago and its compliance with the long standing *Shakman Decree* which prohibits political discrimination in all job actions. In May of 2007, she was appointed to adjudicate claims and distribute monetary awards from a \$12 million settlement fund for victims of political discrimination. Since 2004, Ms. Brennan has worked on both individual and class discrimination cases, including *Smith v. Niketown*, a racial harassment class action which resulted in significant injunctive relief and a \$7.6 million settlement. Previously, she spent seven years as a Supervisory and Trial Attorney in the Chicago District Office of the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission where she worked extensively on class action sexual harassment cases, including *EEOC v. Mitsubishi*, and *EEOC v. Dial Corporation*. Prior to joining the EEOC, Ms. Brennan was an associate at Katten, Muchin & Zavis. She received her J.D. from DePaul University College of Law in 1995. During law school Ms. Brennan was a Managing Editor of the DePaul Law Review and published an article harassment entitled, "Hostile Environment Sexual Harassment: The Hostile Environment of a Courtroom." Ms. Brennan was the EEO American Bar Association Fellow for 2001-2004 and received the Chairman's Organizational Performance Award in 1997 and the Chairman's Opportunity to Reward Excellence (CORE) Award in 2003. She teaches Employment Discrimination and Individual Employment Rights as an Adjunct Professor at DePaul Law School and also regularly presents at legal seminars for both practitioners and business operators.