

Leah Pollard Schad

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Judicial Experience

Probate Judge, Northeast Regional Probate Court
Northeast Regional Children's Probate Court
2011-2023

Probate Judge, Pomfret Probate Court
2005-2011

Heard and decided matters including resolution of disputes regarding estates, will contests, testamentary and living trusts, voluntary and involuntary conservatorships, accountings of conservatorships and estates, guardians of the intellectually disabled, involuntary commitments, and real estate issues. In addition, heard and decided children's matters including termination of parental rights, removal of guardians, Special Immigrant Juvenile Status cases, appointment of temporary guardians, paternity matters and adoptions. Supervised court staff, managed labor issues.

Developed a court outreach program. Presented educational sessions to senior groups, civic organizations, veterans groups, citizen forums and community college educational groups.

Developed and oversaw the annual budget for the court. Worked with the leadership of the seven towns of the Northeast district to coordinate funding and services.

Appointed by the Chief Justice of the Connecticut Supreme Court in 2017 to a select panel of judges to hear writs of habeas corpus in conservatorship and guardianship matters. Appointed to a select panel of judges as a Special Magistrate in 2018.

Administrative Judge, Northeast Regional Children's Probate Court
2012-2023

Appointed as Administrative Judge in 2012 and reappointed annually. Oversaw the administrative functions of the court with jurisdiction over children's matters from twenty

two towns. Supervised court staff and five participating judges. Oversaw the budget and administration of the funds for the Kinship and Respite program serving low income families.

Mediation Experience and Training

Appointed to the Mediation Panel of the CT Probate system in 2017. Mediated numerous matters involving will contests, trust construction, guardianships and other probate issues.

Mediation Certificate 40 Hour Program at Quinnipiac University Center on Dispute Resolution in September, 2016

Deliberative Dialogue Moderator Training Program at Quinnipiac University Center on Dispute Resolution in April, 2018

Divorce Mediation 40 Hour Program, CT Family Medication Group, September, 2019

Legal Experience

Attorney, Law Office of Leah Schad

Pomfret Center, CT

2003-2010

Solo Practice concentrating in real estate and probate matters. Represented clients in residential real estate closings and estate planning.

Senior Staff Attorney

Florida Department of Children & Families, Miami, FL

1997-1999

Handled a variety of legal matters including labor disputes, licensing issues and family law. Appeared in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida, the 11th Judicial Circuit Court of Florida and before various administrative law judges.

Staff Attorney

Virginia Legal Aid Society, Lynchburg, VA

1995-1996

Represented low income individuals in housing cases and family law matters the Lynchburg Circuit Court, 24th Judicial Circuit of Virginia. Counseled pro se litigants and participated in public education events. Admitted tot he U.S. District Court for the Western District of Virginia.

Education

University of Colorado Law School, J.D., 1994

American Jurisprudence Award for Excellence in Wills & Trusts

Excellence Award in the study of the Death Penalty

University of Connecticut, B.A., 1989

Political Science

Past and Present Professional and Civic Activities

Connecticut Probate Assembly Executive Committee, Executive Secretary

Connecticut Probate Judges Association

National College of Probate Judges, State Representative

Connecticut Bar Association,

Windham County Bar Association

Florida Bar Association

Virginia Bar Association

Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut Board of Trustees

Eastern CT Center for Housing Equity and Opportunity Steering Committee

TEEG Board of Directors, local non-profit that provides services including a food pantry
and mentoring services

Seely Brown Senior Living Center, Board of Directors

Performing Arts of Northeast Connecticut Board Vice Chair

Pomfret Community School PTO Board, Executive Committee

Pomfret Planning & Zoning Commission.