Janell Hafner
**JD**
janell@mfrassociates.com ● 425.245.5221

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### MFR Associates, PLLC, Mill Creek, WA

*Senior Investigator and Human Resources Consultant* *2025*

Practice focuses on conducting workplace investigations and providing human resources consulting. Clients include public entities, Fortune 50 and 500 companies, and medium and small businesses.

### Clearbrief

*Government Partnerships Lead* *2021 – 2024*

- Advised CEO on communications and onboarding strategy for public agency leaders, judges, and law firms.
- Crafted, supported, and implemented strategic initiatives and developed scalable strategies for public and nonprofit sector growth.
- Conducted research, spearheaded outreach, and proactively and continually engaged in thoughtful relationship building.
- Collaborated with technical and customer service team on regular evaluation, product improvement, and service delivery.

### State of Alaska, Attorney General's Office

*Solicitor General,* Appeals & Ethics Section *2020 – 2021*

- Supervised nine-attorney appellate team assigned to handle all major civil division appeals, attorney general opinions, and Alaska Executive Branch Ethics Act related matters.
- Represented the governor, the state, state agencies, and state officials in various state and federal court appeals; represented the State of Alaska as *amicus curiae* before the US Supreme Court.
- Served as Alaska's multi-state amicus coordinator.

*Chief Assistant Attorney General,* Labor & State Affairs Section *2017 – 2020*

- Supervised seventeen attorneys and support staff in providing legal services to the Governor, Lt. Governor, five state agencies, and multiple public corporations and commissions.
- Advised Governor's Office on executive authority and appointment questions and boards and commissions issues.
- Investigated and advised leadership on sensitive matters and cases.
- Provided oversight of attorney billing, inter-agency service contracts, legislative bill assignments and legal reviews, and outside counsel contracts.
- Collaborated and advised on media inquiries and ethics matters; led sections recruitment, hiring, and onboarding.

*Senior Assistant Attorney General,* Opinions, Appeals, & *Ethics* Section *2012 – 2017*

- Supported solicitor general, directed and advised on multiple high-profile investigations, served on cross-section litigation teams, drafted attorney general opinions, and reviewed and edited colleagues' trial and appellate work product.
- Testified before Alaska Legislature.
- Interfaced with the media and served as back-up press liaison.
- Coordinated Department of Law's case assessment committee; served as co-chair of Department of Law training committee and new manager mentor.

*Assistant Attorney General*, *Torts & Workers' Compensation Section* *2007 – 2012*

Conducted civil litigation defending state agencies and employees in state and federal trial courts, handling all aspects of investigation, discovery, motion practice, and trial.

**Alaska Supreme Court**

*Law Clerk to Justice Walter L. Carpeneti* *2006 – 2007*

**Alaska Division of Juvenile Justice**

*Associate Coordinator* *2005 – 2006*

Managed statewide juvenile justice programs and oversaw federal formula grant program.

## LEGAL ADMISSIONS

**Bar Associations**

Alaska State Bar Association 2003

**Courts**

U.S. Court of Appeals, 9th Cir. 2008
U.S. District Court, AK. 2008
U.S. Supreme Court 2015

## EDUCATION

Brooklyn Law School Brooklyn, NY
JD, *cum laude* 2002
Richardson Merit Scholar and Academic Achievement Scholarship Recipient
Edward Sparer Public Interest Fellow
CALI Excellence Award for the Future: First amendment Seminar
Rose Schaffer Memorial Scholarship for Service to Women and Families

Brooklyn College Brooklyn, NY
MA, Political Science June 2002

University of Connecticut Storrs, CT
BA, Political Science 1998

**Continued Legal Education**

NAAG Supreme Court Practice training 2016

## CIVIC AFFILIATIONS

| | |
|---|---|
| Alaska Network on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Pro Bono Attorney, Helpline Volunteer | 2004 – present |
| Alaska Board of Governors, First Judicial District Member | 2020 – 2023 |
| Girl Scouts of Alaska Volunteer | 2002 – 2021 |
| Sayeik Gastineau Elementary School Council Site Member | 2018 – 2023 |

## HONORS AND AWARDS

| | |
|---|---|
| Alaska Attorney General's Pro Bono Service Award | 2024 |
| Alaska Department of Law COVID-19 Crisis Responder Award Recipient (team) | October 2020 |
| Alaska Department of Law Leadership Award Recipient | October 2019 |
| Alaska Department of Law "Stretch Award" Recipient | July 2019 |

## PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

U.S. Federal District Court Magistrate Selection Committee (2018).

Conference of Western States Attorneys General Conference, *Sturgeon v. Frost*, presenter (July 2018).

Department of Law, *Fundamentals of Appellate Practice Training*, presenter (June 2017).

Office of Administrative Hearings Administrative Law Judge Panel, *Mechanics of Legal Editing*, presenter (June 2016).