

Sylvia Grace Acosta, is a lawyer experienced in trial, arbitration and mediation. Her practice areas include insurance defense, workers compensation law, employment law, real estate, torts, and appellate practice. Grace will server as President of the Utah Minority Bar Association in 2009, is a former law clerk to Judge William A. Thorne of the Utah Court of Appeals. Ms. Acosta also clerked for the Nebraska Supreme Court.

Grace graduated in 1994 from Auburn University with a B.S. in both psychology and English and received her J.D. in 1997 from the University of Nebraska, graduating with academic honors. Ms. Acosta sits on the Utah Supreme Court ethics committee and hears bar complaints. Ms. Acosta is also a judge pro tempe and hears small claims cases in Salt Lake City. Grace is fluent in Spanish. Ms. Acosta was a member of the Utah Multicultural Legal Center Board of Directors from 2006 to 2009.

Memberships:

Utah Minority Bar Association
Utah State Bar Association
California State Bar
Nebraska State Bar

Experience:

Nevers, Palazzo, Maddux & Packard, P.C., Westlake Village, CA
Law Clerk to Honorable William A. Thorne of the Utah Court of Appeals.
Richtel & Smith, Fresno, CA
Kutak Rock, Omaha, NE
Hoppe & Harner, Lincoln, NE
Law Clerk to Honorable John F. Wright of the Nebraska Supreme Court.
Instructor for the Nebraska Real Estate Commission.

Honors and Awards:

- National Moot Court Team, University of Nebraska, College of Law
- Cali Award for excellence in her performance in Advance Trial Advocacy and in Wills and Trusts, University of Nebraska, College of Law
- First and Second Year Class President and Third Year Class Representative, University of Nebraska, College of Law
- Nominated to join Moot Court for completion of first year law school in the top 20% of her class, University of Nebraska, College of Law
- Inducted into the Oral Advocacy Honor Society of Order of the Barrister, University of Nebraska, College of Law

Education:

Ms. Acosta graduated with academic honors from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln with a Juris Doctorate in 1997. She also graduated from Auburn University with Bachelor of Science degrees in both Psychology and English in 1994.

Admission to Practice:

Admitted to practice in Nebraska 1997; California 2000; Utah, 2003.

Publications: Are Medical Records Now Off Limits? An Examination of Sorensen v. Barbuto, published May/June 2009 issue of the Utah Bar Journal.

Presentations: Personal Injury Trials: Getting the Most Out of Your Evidence. National Business Institute. May 2009. Salt Lake City, UT.