

Contact

www.linkedin.com/in/karla-gilbride-6b731b9 (LinkedIn)
publicjustice.net (Company)

Top Skills

Appeals
Courts
Litigation

Karla Gilbride

civil rights attorney, strategic thinker, and advocate for equal opportunity

Silver Spring, Maryland, United States

Summary

From October of 2014 until April of 2023, I was an attorney at Public Justice, where I worked on high-impact cases implicating the rights of individual consumers and employees to join together in class actions. My work also focused on ensuring open courtrooms and protecting consumers from one-sided, unfair or deceptive corporate practices.

Previously I worked as an associate at Mehri & Skalet PLLC in Washington, D.C., where I focused on the civil rights, wage and hour, and fair housing aspects of the firm's practice.

Before coming to Mehri & Skalet, I served as a law clerk to Judge Ronald Gould on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in Seattle. I then worked for three years at Disability Rights Advocates in Berkeley, California, where I brought class actions and other high-impact cases on behalf of people with disabilities on such issues as access to technology, emergency preparedness and accommodations on professional licensing exams.

I graduated with honors from Georgetown Law School in 2007. While at Georgetown she served on the Georgetown Journal of Poverty Law and Policy, participated in the Federal Legislation Clinic, and won regional and national victories in the Frederick Douglass Moot Court Competition.

I am licensed to practice in Washington, D.C., New York and California as well as before several federal district courts, the U.S. Supreme Court, and the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the First, Second, Third, Fourth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth, Tenth, Eleventh and D.C. Circuits.

Experience

Civil Rights Education and Enforcement Center
Of Counsel

September 2023 - Present (2 months)

I'm thrilled that in the last couple of weeks I've also had the chance to begin a partnership with CREEC, a group of passionate civil rights advocates who are taking on existential threats like climate change with a focus on disability justice. I'm proud to be a member of their team. <https://creeclaw.org/2023/10/02/welcoming-karla-gilbride-creecs-new-of-counsel-staff-member/>

Sanford Heisler Sharp, LLP
Of Counsel

August 2023 - Present (3 months)

<https://www.sanfordheisler.com/team/karla-gilbride/>.

Waiting is hard, but helping out the talented folks at Sanford Heisler Sharp is making it easier. They're a busy firm pursuing cases all over the country on behalf of workers facing discrimination and other unfair treatment, and I'm glad to pitch in where I can with brief-writing and other litigation assistance

Self-employed

working on some long-back-burnered writing projects

May 2023 - October 2023 (6 months)

Public Justice, P.C.

8 years 8 months

co-director, Access to Justice Project

October 2021 - May 2023 (1 year 8 months)

Washington, District of Columbia, United States

I co-manage a project that uses strategic impact litigation and advocacy to work towards making the civil court system a fair, accessible and equitable forum in which people with relatively little societal power can achieve redress and seek accountability when they are harmed.

staff attorney

October 2014 - April 2022 (7 years 7 months)

Washington, D.C.

Public Justice works to preserve access to the courts for consumers and employees who have been harmed by dangerous products, deceptive practices or abusive employers. We also serve the public interest through our Food Safety and Environmental Enforcement projects.

Mehri & Skalet, PLLC

Associate

July 2011 - September 2014 (3 years 3 months)

Washington, D.C.

I worked on all aspects of litigation, including discovery and motions practice, for employment discrimination, wage and hour, and fair housing cases. I also helped to achieve settlements outside of litigation in several employment matters.

Disability Rights Advocates

2 years 11 months

Staff Attorney

September 2010 - July 2011 (11 months)

Berkeley, CA

Fellow

September 2008 - September 2010 (2 years 1 month)

Berkeley, CA

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

Law Clerk to Judge Ronald Gould

2007 - 2008 (1 year)

Green Corps

Field Organizer

2002 - 2003 (1 year)

Sierra Club

Field Organizer, Responsible Automakers Campaign

2002 - 2002 (less than a year)

Education

Georgetown University Law Center

J.D. · (2004 - 2007)

Swarthmore College

b.a., linguistics and psychology · (1998 - 2002)