

CURRICULUM VITAE

James R. Lesousky, Jr.
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EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Office of The Commonwealth's Attorney

Position: Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney

Duties: Prosecuted violent and economic crimes, such as murders, armed robberies, theft and fraudulent schemes.

Dates of Employment: January 1, 2013 to August 8, 2016.

University of Louisville, Louis D. Brandeis School of Law

Position: Adjunct Professor

Duties: LAW 822 (Criminal Procedure II). Taught a course to 36 law students through lecture, discussion, and exams.

Dates of Employment: January 3, 2015 to May 1, 2015.

Office of The United States Attorney

Position: Assistant United States Attorney

Duties: Prosecuted variety of federal criminal cases, including multi-state fraud schemes, bank robberies, murders, organized racketeering crimes, and securities violations.

Dates of Employment: July 15, 1991 to December 31, 2012.

(January, 2013 to January, 2015: Employed as a Special Assistant United States Attorney).

Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney

Position: Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney

Duties: Prosecute violent and economic crimes, including murders, armed robberies, thefts and fraudulent schemes.

Dates of Employment: January 1, 1985 to July 15, 1991.

Cabinet for Human Resources (Department for Manpower Services)

Position: Local Office Manager

Duties: Initially employed as a counselor, assisting job seekers in obtaining jobs, vocational training and related services. From May, 1981 through December, 1984, held the position of Local Office Manager, responsible for managing the operation of the employment service offices in Jefferson and surrounding counties.

Dates of Employment: September 1975 to December 31, 1984.

HIGHER EDUCATION

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| University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law (JD) | 1980-84 |
| Spalding University (MA), <i>Counseling Psychology</i> , | 1975-77 |
| University of Maryland (BS) <i>Elementary Education</i> | 1973-74 |

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

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|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Louisville Bar Association | 11/84 – present |
| Kentucky Bar Association | 11/84 – present |
| American Bar Association | 11/84 – present |

CERTIFICATIONS

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| License to practice law in Commonwealth of Kentucky | 11/84 - present |
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SERVICE

Special Assistant Attorney General: Worked as a volunteer prosecutor for the Commonwealth Attorney's Office from July, 1991 to October, 1993. And worked again as a volunteer prosecutor at the CAO from June, 2014 to December, 2015.

Special Assistant United States Attorney: Worked as a volunteer prosecutor at the US Attorney's Office from January, 2013 to January, 2015.

Mock Trial Mentor & Judge: Served from 1985 to 2015 as a coach and judge in mock trial competitions at Bellarmine University, Eastern Kentucky University, University of Louisville, and other locations around the state.

Judge for Moot Court & Pirtle-Washer Oral Argument Competition: Served as judge regularly over the last 30 years for oral argument competitions at Louis D. Brandeis School of Law.

AWARDS

1978: *Employee of the Year from the Bureau of Manpower Services.*

1984: *Brandeis Scholar (In Recognition of Outstanding Legal Scholarship).*

1985: *Jefferson County Commonwealth's Attorney Office Prosecutor of the Year.*

1997: *Department of Justice Director's Award for Superior Performance.* (In recognition of work on two significant cases: (1) the Gold Unlimited multi-national, multi-million-dollar pyramid scheme; and (2) the Howard Johnson arson/murder case in Bowling Green.)

2006: *Kentucky State Police Crimes Against Children Certificate of Appreciation for Prosecution of Crimes Against Children.*

2007: *Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) Award of Merit*. (Jim was honored for his Award granted prosecution of a \$4 million+ fraud scheme perpetrated against TVA and small bank in Fulton County, KY.

2011: *National Association of Former United States Attorneys Exceptional Service Award*.

2012: *The Phil Chance Trial Lawyer of the Year*.

SIGNIFICANT CASES (1988-2016)

1988: Commonwealth vs. Sheila Davis

Defendant convicted of killing her husband, who was then a soldier assigned to Ft. Knox. The proof was primarily circumstantial, including evidence of the defendant's affair with another soldier, and the time of the defendant's death, based upon the contents of food in his digestive system.

1990: Commonwealth vs. Randy Bedell

Defendant was convicted of raping and murdering a young female paper carrier in the Brownsboro Rd. area of Jefferson County.

1990 – 1992: Commonwealth vs. Mel Ignatow; United States vs. Mel Ignatow

After Ignatow's acquittal of the state charges, the US Attorney's Office initiated federal perjury charges against Ignatow in January, 1992. In October, 1992, Ignatow plead guilty to perjury charges and received an 8-year prison sentence.

1994 – United States vs. Jersharo Amey

The defendant was convicted for the murder of his then girlfriend Jennifer O'Neil in February, '94. The crime occurred on Ft. Knox, thus giving jurisdiction for the murder in federal court. The defendant claimed the shooting was in self-defense; however, the proof belied that contention.

1997: United States vs. Suresh Kumar and Joe Logan

These two men were charged with setting fire to the Howard Johnson Motel in Bowling Green in January, 1996. During the fire, four people staying at the hotel died as a result of smoke inhalation. Both defendants were convicted after an 8-week trial, and both were sentenced to life imprisonment.

1997: United States vs. Gold Unlimited, Inc.

Husband and wife, David and Martha Crowe, owned and operated a multi-state, multi-national pyramid scheme, which generated tens of millions of dollars in proceeds from 90,000+ participants in the scheme. Both the defendants and the corporation were convicted after a three-week trial in federal court.

2001: United States v. Charley Stewart, [et.al.](#)

This was a murder cases involving multiple victims from Alabama through western Kentucky. The three defendants traveled through various states, breaking into the homes of elderly victims, killing them, then stealing their checks, which they used to get cash out of bank accounts before the murders were discovered. All three defendants were convicted and received sentences of life imprisonment.

2003: United States v. William Anthony Johnson, [et.al.](#)

This case involved two defendants who were part of a RICO gang, which perpetrated burglaries, thefts, and arsons for profit, and ultimately the murder of a fellow gang member. Both defendants were convicted at separate trials and received substantial prison sentences, including a life sentence for the ring leader, Johnson.

2011: United States vs. Steven Green

The defendant, a US soldier, was tried in a federal capital case in May, 2009, for the murder of four members of an Iraqi family. Green was convicted of the killings after a month-long trial and received a life sentence. His co-conspirators in these crimes were all prosecuted in military courts and received various sentences, all of which permitted them early release on parole.

2013: *United States vs. Billy Jo Smallwood*

The defendant, the wife of a soldier stationed at Ft. Campbell in 2007, was accused of setting fire to the family's apartment using gasoline in an effort to kill her husband and receive \$400,000 in life insurance payouts. The fire resulted in the deaths of two of her small children, ages 2 and 9. After a two-week trial, Smallwood was convicted and sentenced to 25 years.

2013: Commonwealth vs. Gregory O'Bryan

The defendant was charged with the murder of an 18-year-old Sullivan student and disposing of the victim's body in a garbage can, though the body was never found. O'Bryan claimed the victim's death was accidental; however, several days before his trial was to begin, the defendant plead guilty to murder.

2013: Commonwealth vs. Steven Pettway

The defendant was charged with the murder of Troya Sheckles, a State's witness in an ongoing murder investigation. Co-defendant Dejuan Hammond had contracted Pettway to commit the murder in order to eliminate a key witness in a separate murder with which Hammond's brother was charged. Pettway was found guilty of murder.

2016: Commonwealth vs. Gerard Garrett & Billy Richardson

The defendants were charged with the robbery and murder of two young men. The prosecution drew heavily upon cellphone records in order to create a cogent timeline for the crime. Both defendants were convicted and received lengthy sentences.