

THE HONORABLE MARISA J. DEMEO
MAGISTRATE JUDGE
SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Marisa J. Demeo was installed as a Magistrate Judge on September 7, 2007.

Magistrate Judge Demeo was born in Washington, D.C. and raised in Dale City, Virginia. She graduated from Princeton University in 1988, where she received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Politics with a concentration in Latin American studies. Ms. Demeo worked for two years as a paralegal for the U.S. Department of Justice's (DOJ) Civil Rights Division. She went on to receive her Juris Doctor from New York University School of Law (NYU) in 1993, where she served on the *Law Review*. At NYU, Ms. Demeo was selected as a Root-Tilden Scholar for her academic achievement and commitment to public interest. She also received graduation awards for her clinical work representing juveniles charged with offenses in New York Family Court and for her service to the law school.

After graduating from law school, Ms. Demeo served with distinction as an Honors Program trial attorney in DOJ's Civil Rights Division Employment Litigation Section, where she prosecuted public employers for pattern or practice employment discrimination in federal courts around the country and received two awards for her work. In 1997, she left DOJ to work for the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF), a national Latino civil rights organization, where she advocated on immigrants' rights issues. After a short period as a staff attorney at MALDEF, Ms. Demeo was promoted to head the MALDEF D.C. office, where she served as the national advocate on the Hill, in the White House, and with the federal agencies on a wide array of Latino civil rights issues, including employment, voting, immigration, education, and criminal justice. During her time at MALDEF, she received numerous community service and leadership awards, including from the Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia, the Congressional Black Caucus, NYU School of Law, the National Puerto Rican Coalition, and the U.S. Department of Commerce's Census Bureau.

In 2004, Ms. Demeo joined the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia (USAO) as an Assistant United States Attorney, where she served in the Misdemeanor Trial Section, the Felony Trial Section, the Grand Jury Section, and the Sex Offense/Domestic Violence Trial Section. During her time at the USAO, Ms. Demeo handled 45 criminal trials and presented over 30 felony cases to the grand jury, which were indicted. She received two awards for her work at the USAO.

In 2003 and 2005, Ms. Demeo served as an Adjunct Professor at Howard University School of Law, where she taught J.D. and L.L.M. students a survey course on immigration law. Also in 2005, Ms. Demeo was appointed by the District of Columbia Court of Appeals to the District of Columbia Access to Justice Commission, which is charged with the responsibility of increasing access for low and moderate income residents in the District to the civil justice system.