

LARSON · O'BRIEN_{LLP}



Melissa A. Meister

Melissa Meister is a trial and appellate lawyer with over 12 years of experience in both complex civil litigation and criminal prosecutions.

Ms. Meister previously served as an Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Arizona and the Southern District of California, during which time she successfully tried multiple cases to verdict and briefed and argued dozens of appeals before the Ninth Circuit. Before serving as an AUSA, Ms. Meister was a

Trial Attorney in the False Claims Act Section at the United States Department of Justice, where she investigated and litigated civil False Claims Act cases.

Ms. Meister has also worked on high-stakes civil and criminal litigation, including performing internal investigations and audits, working on complex fraud and securities matters, dealing extensively with government contracts, authoring a United States Supreme Court amicus brief, and briefing and arguing a death penalty appeal before the Fourth Circuit.

Ms. Meister graduated summa cum laude and Order of the Coif from The University of Arizona College of Law in 2003. During law school, Ms. Meister was an editor for the Arizona Law Review, won the College of Law's moot court competition, and had her law review note, "Murdering Innocence: The Constitutionality of Capital Rape Statutes" published. That note was subsequently cited by the United States Supreme Court in *Kennedy v. Louisiana*. After law school, Ms. Meister clerked for the Hon. William C. Canby on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Additionally, Ms. Meister spent two years as an adjunct professor of legal writing and argument at her alma mater, The University of Arizona College of Law.

Ms. Meister received her Bachelor's degree from the University of Arizona. She is admitted to practice in California, Arizona, and the District of Columbia.

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