

# MELESA N. JOHNSON

Melesa.nicole@gmail.com

## EXPERIENCE

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- Seyferth Blumenthal & Harris, LLC, Kansas City, MO** Fall 2019 – Present  
*Associate Attorney*
- Specializing in the areas of employment law, general commercial litigation, and insurance defense.
- U.S. Magistrate Judge Willie J. Epps, Jr., Jefferson City, MO** Summer 2018 – Summer 2019  
*Term Judicial Law Clerk*
- Draft legal opinions, research issues before the court, and daily docket management.
- Baker Sterchi Cowden & Rice, LLC, Kansas City, MO** Summer 2016 – Summer 2018  
*Associate Attorney*
- Specialized in the areas of personal injury defense, premises liability, product liability, and employment law.
- Jackson County Prosecutor's Office, Kansas City, MO** Fall 2014 – Summer 2016  
*Assistant Jackson County Prosecutor*
- 2016 Internship Program Coordinator
  - 2015 Rookie of the Year Award Recipient
- Missouri Supreme Court, Jefferson City, MO** Spring 2014  
*Judicial Law Clerk to the Honorable George Draper, III*
- Researched issues before the Court; assisted with research and analysis of legal opinions.
- Smith and Parnell, LLC, Columbia, MO** Summer 2013 – Summer 2014  
*Associate*
- Performed legal research and writing regarding family law, personal injury law, and criminal law matters.
  - Drafted settlement demand letters on behalf of injured clients.
- Missouri Attorney General's Office, Jefferson City, MO** Summer 2012  
*Intern*
- Conducted legal, factual, and investigative research for the agriculture and environment division.
  - Prepared the first criminal case template for the Canine Cruelty Prevention Unit.
- Honorable United States Congressman Emanuel Cleaver II** Summers 2010 & 2011 (Washington D.C.)  
*US Congressional Intern* Summer 2009 (Kansas City, MO)
- Hardwick Law Firm, LLC., Kansas City, MO** Summer 2009  
*Administrative Assistant*

## BAR ADMISSION

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Missouri, September 2014 (#67077)

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

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- COMBAT Crime Commission, *Former 2nd Legislative District Member*
- Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., *Member*
- Jackson County Bar Association, *Parliamentarian*
- Eitas Developmental Disability Services of Jackson County, *Former Board Member*
- Boys and Girls' Club of Greater Kansas City Emerging Leaders Counsel, *Board Member*
- Teach for America Champions Board, *Board Member*

## EDUCATION

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**University of Missouri School of Law, Columbia, MO**  
Juris Doctor, May 2014

**Honors:** Order of the Barristers  
Fred L Howard Prize for Excellence in the Advancement of Advocacy  
Ike Skelton, Sr. Prize  
1<sup>st</sup> place Scholarship Recipient, Jackson County Bar Association Annual Scholarship

**Activities:** Associate Editor, *Missouri Law Review*  
Judging Director, Board of Advocates  
Research Assistant, Professor Richard Reuben, University of Missouri School of Law  
National Runner Up, Thurgood Marshall Mock Trial Team  
Parliamentarian, Black Law Student Association

**Columbia University in the City of New York, Columbia College, New York, NY**

*Bachelor of Arts*, Political Science - Pre-Law specialization, 2011

**Honors:** Class of 2011 Commencement Ceremony Speaker

**Activities:** 2009 Captain, NCAA Division I Varsity Women's Track and Field Team