

CARLA E. ERSKINE, ESQ



Carla Erskine is originally from Montego Bay, Jamaica and moved to Florida at the age of nine, leaving her parents behind, in pursuit of academic and athletic goals, first studying at American Heritage School of Boca/Delray while competing on the junior circuit of the United States Tennis Association. In 2010 and at the age of 20, she completed her undergraduate education at Villanova University, where she graduated with cum laude honors, with a double major in Political Science and Geography & Environmental Studies. While at Villanova, she was a member of Villanova's Division 1 Women's Tennis team for all four years, serving as a team captain during her senior year.

In 2013 and by the age of 23, Carla earned a J.D. from Northeastern University School of Law and also graduated from Vermont Law School with cum laude honors, with a Master's degree in Environmental Law and Policy. During law school, she worked as a civil advocate in the Northeastern's Clinical Programs addressing civil rights and restorative justice, prisoners' rights, and domestic violence issues. Additionally, she was a judicial intern for The Honorable Dolores K. Sloviter in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit in Philadelphia, Pa., a law clerk for a litigation law firm in Honolulu, Hawaii, a law clerk with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Region 4) in Atlanta, Ga., and was recognized as a fellow by Oxfam America in Boston, Ma., where she worked as a PHRGE fellow on issues of corporate social responsibility. During college, she was selected as a participant in the Pfalzakademie International Seminar on Transatlantic Relations in Berlin, Germany, and she worked as an intern at both the Foreign Policy Research Institute in Philadelphia and the International Road Federation in Geneva, Switzerland.

Carla actively serves in an integral leadership position in her family's hotel, restaurant and real estate ventures in Montego Bay, Jamaica. From 2018 to 2020 Carla worked as an associate attorney in the Business Law Department of McDonald Hopkins, in West Palm Beach, Florida, focusing on land use and real estate transactions and business counseling – working with a range of clients including business owners, developers, and sports/fitness professionals. Prior to joining McDonald Hopkins, she worked as an associate for Ciklin Lubitz in West Palm Beach and Spiegel & Utrera, P.A., in Coral Gables. Carla has demonstrated a versatility handling transactional and litigation matters while gaining extensive experience in all facets of corporate, real estate and land use/governmental law. Additionally, several political candidates and legislators have benefited from Carla's expertise in policy and government relations initiatives, including having worked as a research and policy analyst for a 2016 candidate for the Florida House of Representatives.

Outside of the office, Carla is passionate about fitness and sports and has a competitive spirit, transitioning from student-athlete as a former Division One college tennis player, to attorney-athlete as nationally qualified bodybuilding fitness competitor. She is also a relentless community advocate and in her roles as Miss Boca Raton USA (2017-2018) and Miss Palm Beach County United States (2019) and as Miss Florida United States (2019), she prioritized civic engagement focused on health & wellness, environmental protection, youth mentorship, professional development and combating issues of poverty. Over the years, Carla has served on various boards to address these issues and more: The Marjorie S. Fisher Boys and Girls Club (2017 to 2018, Board Member); New Leaders Council of Palm Beach (2018 to 2019, Co-Director); (2018 to 2019, Vice-Chair); The F. Malcolm Cunningham, Sr. Bar Association (2019 to 2020, Secretary), Leadership Palm Beach County (Class of 2020). Carla's community and professional leadership and unwavering commitment to community service does not go unnoticed, she has been selected to various leadership institutes, including Leadership Palm Beach County, Class of 2020 and New Leaders Council Palm Beach County, Class of 2017. She has also been recognized by Legacy Magazine, "40 Under 40: Black Leaders of Today and Tomorrow" in South Florida for 2019.

CONTACT

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West Palm Beach, FL



EDUCATION

 VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY, 2010

 VERMONT LAW SCHOOL, 2013

 NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF LAW, 2013

As Seen On:

- *Legacy Magazine*
- *American Heritage Alumni Magazine*
- *Modeling Portfolio*
- *CE360 Youtube*
- *Carla's Instagram*