

Ashley Rafael Short Biography

Ms. Rafael is General Counsel to Midway Moving & Storage, Inc. where she practices commercial litigation and negotiates contracts with corporate clients and government agencies such as City of Chicago, Chicago Housing Authority, Board of Elections and Chicago Public Schools. Prior to joining Midway, she was an associate at two plaintiff personal injury law firms. To date, she has tried 25 jury trials to verdict as well as numerous bench trials. She is an arbitrator for the American Arbitration Association serving on its Commercial Division, Consumer Division, Employment Division and Uninsured/Underinsured Motorist Division panels. She is an adjunct Professor of Law at University of Illinois Chicago School of Law as well as a UIC Law Alumni Board member. She teaches Arbitration Advocacy as well as coaches law students for National trial and arbitration competitions. She is certified to preside as Chair Arbitrator for Cook County Mandatory Arbitration Program and the Commercial Calendar Mandatory Arbitration Program for the Law Division. She initiated and developed a program that provides employment opportunities for veterans and nonviolent ex-offenders, working closely with Cook County's Specialty Courts. She is a past member of the Chicago Bar Association Board of Managers, served on the CBA Mediation Program planning committee and seminar speaker, chairperson for the ADR committee, and has served on the CBA's JEC committee. She is a seminar speaker at CBA and AAA events. Her published articles have appeared in the Chicago Daily Law Bulletin and Women's Bar Association Newsletter. She supports many Chicago community organizations and performs pro bono work.