

LaSusa & Deb, PLLC

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Ms. “Mishty” (Gitanjali) Deb

Mishty is a talented attorney with over 10 years of experience in the public, private, and non-profit sectors. Along with her partner Raney LaSusa, she co-founded the law firm of LaSusa & Deb, PLLC. Mishty, who works primarily with small businesses owners and non-profits, focuses on providing practical counsel that helps transform business goals into reality. She prides herself on honesty and integrity and encourages her clients to think as she does: practically, critically, and creatively. She has worked on several high-profile litigation cases, but is an active advocate of alternative dispute resolution methods such as mediation. Mishty has received mediation certificates from both Mediation Dynamics in Tarrant County and Conflict Happens in Dallas County, focusing on high conflict dispute resolution techniques. She is also a volunteer with the SMU Dispute Resolution Center in Plano.

As a patron for women in business, she is also the CEO and Founder of the Sharks In Heels® series. Sharks In Heels is a fun and informative social networking organization geared towards connecting, educating, and training women or 'sharkettes' into becoming the future generation of successful women entrepreneurs. Each year the organization puts on four educational workshops and a business panel discussion. Mishty and her organization have been featured on Startup Dallas, Fox 4 Good Day, and the *Dallas Business Journal*.

She has taught training sessions for junior attorneys, CLE classes for colleagues, and has mentored business owners at several events including Dallas Start-Up Week's Women's Edition, Cookies and Content at the Grove, Women's Tech Co., and Dallas Bloggers's Collective.

In her spare time, Mishty loves to travel. She has been from Antarctica to Africa and believes that a diversity of experience is key to understanding the variety of perspectives of her clients. She knows that ultimately every client wants to be successful, but that the definition of success is different for each client.

Education

The University of Texas School of Law
Juris Doctor

Austin, TX
2005

The Southern Methodist University
Bachelor of Science, magna cum laude, GPA: 3.86
Majors: Economics; Environmental Science (Geology)

Dallas, TX
2002

Awards and Honors

- President Scholar
- Richter International Fellowship Grant recipient
- Lovejoy Memorial Departmental Award (Economics)
- Departmental Award (Geology)
- Golden Key Honor Society
- Mortar Board
- Certificate of Non-Profit Management from the Center for Non Profit

Certificates

- 40 Hour Basic Mediation Training- Mediation Dynamics, Tarrant County, Fort Worth, Texas
- 32 Hour Family Mediation Course- Conflict Happens, Dallas County, Dallas, Texas
- 4 Hour Family Violence Training for Mediators, Civil Practice- Dallas Bar Association, Dallas County, Dallas, Texas

Journals

- Editorial Board of Texas International Law Journal (UT Austin) 2003-2005

- Editorial Board of Texas Journal of Women and Law (UT Austin) 2003-2005

Professional Experience

LaSusa & Deb, PLLC

Dallas, Texas

Partner

January 2011- Present

Manage firm's non-profit, intellectual property, and small business practice groups. Manage civil litigation cases with outside attorneys and businesses in Dallas and Houston. Communicating and making presentations to Corporate Boards about options in active litigation, changes to governing documents, and good practices. Advise on multiple issues from curative title work to corporate entity choice. Advise on IP contracts and litigation. Make presentations to various groups on legal topics on behalf of the firm through Law Girl 101 program. Train and mentor associates and interns. Manage firm's marketing and client outreach.

Shark In Heels, LLC

Dallas, Texas

CEO/ Founder

January 2015-Present

Sharks in Heels® began as a workshop series I started for LaSusa & Deb, PLLC to reach out to women entrepreneurs and give them practical skills based training in the areas of law, business, IP, marketing, finance, and accounting. It has since grown into a non-profit organization of its' own due to its' popularity. Sharks in Heels® has a mission statement to inspire, connect, and empower women to become successful entrepreneurs. My vision is that Sharks In Heels® becomes a self-sustaining supportive networking environment for women entrepreneurs.

InCite Development, LLC

Dallas, TX

General Counsel and Consultant- Alternative Energy

July 2009- February 2011

Built new real estate finance consulting practice. Successfully targeted those funding sources that best fit the business goals of our clients and maximized their funding opportunities. Negotiated on behalf of our clients with governmental agencies, banks, legal counsel, and outside accreditation entities. Gave presentations for various groups regarding our services.

R. L. Marsh and Associates, PC.

Dallas, TX

Oil & Gas Energy Attorney

April 2008- December 2008

Project lead for title work cases including curative work, commercial tracts, public lands and residential subdivision work. Recognized as a top performer during firm meetings. Represented the firm as a guest lecturer for the Texas Bar Association's Continuing Legal Education. Interviewed and trained incoming associates.

U. S. Small Business Administration (Disaster Assistance)

Fort Worth, TX

Managing Attorney-Real Estate

October 2005- March 2008

Supervised legal team with 8 attorneys and 4 paralegals in areas of drafting, negotiating, modifying, and closing loans. Represented the SBA in complex negotiations with escrow agents, real estate agents, insurance agents and borrowers. Trained incoming attorneys. Received Gold Star for exemplary performance.

Journal Publications

“Stealing Gods: Illegal Trade” - Advocating Changes in International Fraud & Trade Regulations, Volume X, Issue 1, **Art, Antiquity and the Law, March 2005** (Peer Reviewed by Art & Law Institute in the UK).

“Atrazine and Frogs: A Case Study on the Regulation of EDCs – Advocating Changes in Evidentiary Standards for Federal Regulations,” **Temple Journal of Science, Technology and Environmental Law (lead article), Fall 2005.**

“The EU and the U.S. Regulation of EDCs,” **Temple Journal of Science, Technology and Environmental Law, Fall 2006.**

Lectures, Interviews and Speaking Engagements

Topic	Type	Year
Crossing Cultural Barriers: Multiple Perspectives on the Impact of Culture and Diversity in Mediation	Panel Discussion Hosted by Dallas Bar Associations Alternative Dispute Resolution Group	2017
Tips and Common Mistakes when Entrepreneurs Pitch to Investors	Rebel Role Model You Tube Chanel	
Sharks In Heels Annual Female Entrepreneur Contest	Shark Tank Style Pitch contest where female business owners pitched their ideas to a panel of judges. Contest was held at Septien Entertainment Studios	2016
Patents and Pumps: Trademarks, Copyrights and Patents- an IP primer for entrepreneurs	Sharks in Heels Workshop at Expo Skills Creative Studio	2015
Image Shark- Key Points of Start-up Planning	Sharks in Heels Workshop at Expo Skills Creative Studio	
Advice for Women in Business	Fox 4 Good Day TV Interview, regarding Sharks in Heels	
Interview with host Jason Croft regarding Women Entrepreneurship	Startup Dallas video blog series	
Social Shark- Legal Issues every woman in business needs to know about Social Media.	Sharks in Heels Workshop at Expo Skills Creative Studio	
Mentor/Coach for Business Startups	Dallas Start-Up Week- Women’s Edition	
Legality of blogs/legal issues of using social media in business (including copyright issues and SLAP Lawsuits)	Guest speaker for The Grove’s Cookies and Content Lecture Series.	
Expert Panelist	Dallas Bloggers Roundtable Discussion	
Top 5 Mistakes New Businesses Make	Sharks in Heels Workshop at UNT Dallas School of Law	
Advice for Women in Business	Chanel 47 the Broadcast TV interview, promoting Sharks in Heels Workshop	
Best Business Practices for Law and Technology	Law Girl 101 Lectures representing LaSusa & Deb, PLLC	2014
Small Businesses, Law ,and Technology	Law Girl 101 Lectures representing LaSusa & Deb, PLLC	
Wills & Estates- Top 5 Reasons to have a Will	Web Interview for Benefit Brainstorm Representing LaSusa & Deb, PLLC	
Speaker Introductions for Wendy Davis Campaign	Weekend of Action- Regarding Voter Registration for Wendy Davis Campaign	2013
Volunteer Trainer and Coordinator	Voter Registration Program	
Law of Antarctica	Green Drinks Presentation as Invited guest speaker representing Incite Development	2011
Joint Venture Agreements, Farm-in Agreements, and	CLE Lecture for the Half Moon Bay Sponsored CLE series	2008

Topic	Type	Year
Farm- Out Agreements	representing RL Marsh and Associates	