

ELISABETH M. W. TREFONAS

P.O. Box 2527, 175 S. King St., Suite 100, Jackson, WY 83001

Phone: (307) 203-9019; Fax: (800) 572-6458

EMWT@TrefonasLaw.com; www.TrefonasLaw.com; www.linkedin.com/in/e3voices

PROFESSIONAL LICENSURES

State Bar of California, *Member*, admitted June 2, 2006

State Bar of Wyoming, *Member*, admitted April 11, 2007

LANGUAGES – Fluent Spanish

EDUCATION

California Western School of Law, San Diego, CA

Juris Doctor, cum laude, August 2005

- Ranked top 8% - 27 of 342 students/ Dean's Honor List - 5 of 6 semesters
- Academic Achievement Awards (Highest Grade in Class) – Evidence, Legal Skills III, Professional Responsibility, Torts II, and Patent Law
- California Western International Law Journal and Law Review - Associate Editor

University of California, Santa Barbara, CA

Bachelor of Science, Microbiology, June 1999

- Teaching/Research Assistant for Mycology, 1997 – 1999, under Ian K. Ross, Ph.D.

WORK EXPERIENCE

TREFONAS LAW, P.C., Jackson WY

Attorney/Owner, June 2006 – Present

- Owner/manager of private practice focused on immigration and criminal law, with six support staff and 180 open and active cases as of January 2024 in Federal and State courts
- Representing clients in criminal cases in aggravated and general battery & assault, sexual assault, kidnapping, stalking, child abuse, drug trafficking & possession, intent to distribute and possession, larceny, burglary, fraud, DUI, MUI, probation revocation, failures to appear, *murder, and all forms of homicide, and trained to represent defendants in capital punishment cases*
- Representing clients in litigation against U.S. Attorney Generals in Federal District Courts
- Representing clients in removal proceedings in the Executive Office of Immigration Review and the Board of Immigration Appeals on asylum, withholding of removal, protection under the CAT, adjustment of status, cancellation of removal of Lawful Permanent Residents and Certain Nonpermanent Residents, and voluntary departure
- Completing Permanent Resident Visa applications, Professional Worker Visas (H1B), Temporary Agricultural Worker Visas (H2A), Temporary Seasonal Nonagricultural Worker Visas (H2B), abused and battered spouse self-petitions under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA I-360), Petitions for U Nonimmigrant Status
- Representing clients in civil claims, including breach of contract, landlord/tenant, child support, child custody, prenuptial agreements, divorce, and protection, stalking, and sexual assault orders
- Authored 9th and 10th Circuit Courts of Appeals and Board of Immigration Appeals briefs
- Presented Oral Argument at the Wyoming Supreme Court and the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals
- Teacher/Speaker: Wyoming Trial Lawyers Association, January 2011; Children's Justice Project, June 2011; Wyoming State Bar Convention, September 2011; Office of the State Public Defender 2013, 2015, 2019, 2022, 2023

Office of the State Public Defender, Teton and Sublette Counties, WY

Senior Assistant Public Defender, July 2013 – Present

Assistant Appellate Counsel, June 2011 – June 2013

Assistant Public Defender, February 2010 – June 2013

Extern, May 2005 – August 2005

- Only full-time public defender serving two counties with cases regularly in 5 counties, representing clients in all stages of litigation, including trial and post-conviction relief, in misdemeanor, felony, and juvenile cases
- Representing appellants in written appeals and oral arguments in the Wyoming Supreme Court, Partial Remand, and Evidentiary Hearings
- Supervising a paralegal, investigator, and independent contractors in both counties
- Representing defendants in all stages of proceedings, bench and jury trials, in district and circuit courts for murder in all degrees, felony-murder, negligent homicide, robbery and aggravated robbery, aggravated and general battery and assault, sexual assault, kidnapping, stalking, child abuse and neglect, drug trafficking, intent to distribute and possess, human trafficking, grand and general larceny, fraud, DUI, MUI, property destruction, trespassing, probation revocation, failures to appear, no driver's license, no insurance, various traffic citations

Legal Research Services, San Diego, CA and Wilson, WY

Independent Law Clerk, December 2002 – August 2007

Prior employment from 1999-2004 in microbiology & genetics industries is available upon request.

VOLUNTEER WORK AND MEMBERSHIPS

Teton County Treatment Court Program, Jackson, WY

Team Member, April 2014 – Present

Rotary Breakfast Club, Jackson, WY

Assistant Governor of District 5440, 2014-2017; President, 2011 – 2013; Member, June 2009 – Present

Riot Act, Inc., Jackson, WY

Board of Directors, March 2015 – March 2021

Womentum Mentor 2017

Mentor Member – September 2016 – 2017

Dancing with the Stars, Team Royals, Jackson, WY

Dancer- Star, October 2014 – Raised over \$250,000.00 for the Children's Learning Center

Legal Aid of Wyoming, Cheyenne, WY

Board of Directors, May 2009 – January 2017

American Immigration Lawyers Association, United States

Member, September 2006 – Present

PUBLICATIONS

- Baker-Donza & Trefonas, *The U Visa: Access to Justice for Victims of Crime, A crucial path to U.S. citizenship*, Wyo. Lawyer, Oct. 2021 at 42.
- Elisabeth M. W. Trefonas, *Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals: What It Is, What It Is Not, And Where It is Going*, Wyo. Lawyer, June 2014 at 32.
- Elisabeth M.W. Trefonas, *Access to Justice for Immigrants in Wyoming*, Wyo. Lawyer, Oct. 2011 at 24.
- Editor/Consultant for N. Pieter M. O’Leary, *Cock-a-Doodle-Do: Pandemic Avian Influenza and the Legal Preparation and Consequences of an H5N1 Influenza Outbreak*, 16 Health Matrix: J. of Law-Medicine 511 (2006).
- Editor/Consultant for N. Pieter M. O’Leary, *Bio-Terrorism or Avian Influenza: California, the Model State Emergency Health Powers Act, and Protecting Civil Liberties During a Public Health Emergency*, 42 Cal. W. L. Rev. 249 (2006).
- Elisabeth M. W. Trefonas, *Has the European Union Reopened the Door to Genetically Modified Agricultural Products?*, 8 J. Biolaw & Bus. 54 (August 2005).
- Elisabeth M. W. Trefonas, *Violation of Intellectual Property Agreements May Create Fiduciary Duty and Potential for Punitive Damages*, 8 J. Biolaw & Bus. 51 (April 2005).
- Elisabeth M. W. Trefonas, Comment, *California’s Regulation of Non-Consensual Private Property Tows: Why Section 22658(l) is Federally Preempted*, 41 Cal. W. L. Rev. 303 (2004).