

Maria E. Gless

Partner

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At a Glance

Maria advises school districts in the areas of student rights, expulsion proceedings, early intervention and inclusion, civil rights issues, and other special education related legal matters.

She presents seminars on the Individualized Education Program meeting, assessment procedures and disciplinary procedures.

Marie has authored and co-authored many publications and presentations on advocating for children in the legal realm.

Areas of Focus

Practices

[Education Law](#)

[Education Litigation](#)

[Special Education](#)

[Student Affairs](#)

Profile

Maria Gless represents school districts in mediations and hearings related to special education, as well as in court on a variety of matters. A partner in the Riverside office of Best Best & Krieger LLP, Maria advises a number of school districts in the areas of student rights, expulsion proceedings, early intervention and inclusion, civil rights issues, and other special education related legal matters.

Maria presents at conferences and seminars dealing with student issues and special education law. In 1999 she co-authored *Perspectives on Testifying at a Due Process Hearing: The School Psychologist as a Witness*, presented to

the National Association of School Psychologists in Las Vegas, Nevada. In January 2001 she co-authored and presented *Perspectives on Testifying at a Due Process Hearing: How to Become an Effective Witness for the Best Interests of the Child*, at the Association of California Administrators in Monterey, California. The presentation was updated and presented in January 2002.

Maria also presents many seminars discussing the topics of the Individualized Education Program meeting, assessment procedures and disciplinary procedures, including the manifestation determination procedures. She is co-author of *A Legal Overview of Burden of Proof in Special Education Disputes* published by LRP Publications 2003.

In law school, she was the recipient of the Verne Adrian & Annabel McGeorge Academic Achievement Scholarship and was a member of the Traynor Honor Society. Maria received the American Jurisprudence Award for Remedies and was a recipient of the Sacramento County Bar Association Summer Fellowship in 1994. Maria is admitted to practice law in the State of California.

Education

- University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law, J.D., *with distinction*
- University of California, Los Angeles, B.A., political science

Awards

- American Jurisprudence Award for Remedies
- Sacramento County Bar Association Summer Fellowship, 1994

Memberships

- Riverside County Bar Association
- National Council of School Attorneys
- California Council of School Attorneys

Authorships

- "A Legal Overview of Burden of Proof in Special Education Disputes," LRP Publications," 2003
- "Perspectives on Testifying at a Due Process Hearing: The School Psychologist as a Witness," 1999
- "Perspectives on Testifying at a Due Process Hearing: How to Become an Effective Witness for the Best Interests of the Child," January 2001

Authorships

AUTHORED ARTICLES & PUBLICATIONS | JAN 01, 2006

Burden of Proof in Special Ed Disputes

By Jack B. Clarke and Maria E. Gless

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- “Perspectives on Testifying at a Due Process Hearing: How to Become an Effective Witness for the Best Interests of the Child,” Association of California Administrators, January 2001
 - “Perspectives on Testifying at a Due Process Hearing: The School Psychologist as a Witness,” National Association of School Psychologists, 1999