



### Ashley Starks

Associate  
astarks@grantlawllc.com

230 West Monroe Street  
Suite 240  
Chicago, IL 60606  
P. 312.551.0111  
grantlawllc.com



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## Ashley Starks brings Grant Law clients a strong set of litigation skills gained from a unique legal background and extensive clerkship experience.

Ashley Starks, a bright and energetic member of the firm’s litigation team, offers the clients of Grant Law a legal expertise built upon a unique range of experience that includes work with matters of both governmental and civil law.

Prior to joining Grant Law, Ashley worked at the Office of the Illinois Attorney General, as an Assistant Attorney General representing the State of Illinois in a wide array of civil litigation. During her time there, she successfully argued motions, advised state agencies on legal matters, conducted settlement negotiations, and acted as a Lead Attorney on cases before the Civil Service Commission.

Her post law school experience also included serving as a judicial law clerk for Judge LeRoy K. Martin, Jr. and Judge Anna H. Demacopoulos in the Chancery Division of the Circuit Court of Cook County. Following her clerkship, Ashley transferred to the Criminal Division of the Circuit Court of Cook County as a staff attorney, assisting a team of judges with a variety of criminal and constitutional matters.

### Community Involvement

While studying at the Loyola University Chicago School of Law, Ashley worked as an Assistant Program Director for *Just the Beginning—A Pipeline Organization*, and as a tax preparer for the non-profit organization *Ladder Up*. Currently, she volunteers as a Group Leader for Minority Legal Education

Resources, where she oversees a group of tutors as well as spearheads group classes for recent law school graduates preparing for the Illinois bar exam.

### Education

Ashley Starks earned her law degree in 2014 from the Loyola University Chicago School of Law. In her years at Loyola, she served as: Staff Editor for the *Public Interest Law Reporter*; Student Representative for the Federal Income Tax Clinic; Civil Procedure Research Assistant to Professor Emeritus Richard A. Michael; member of the Black Law Student’s Association; and earned membership on the Loyola University Chicago School of Law Dean’s List.

Ms. Starks also earned a Certificate in Trial Advocacy from the Loyola University Chicago School of Law’s Dan K. Webb Center for Advocacy, the mission of which is to develop and educate ethical advocates for justice and the rule of law that are conscientious, persuasive and highly effective in their representation of clients across diverse practice environments.

Prior to law school, Ashley attended the University of Florida, where she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Economics and double-minored in Business Administration and English.

### Areas of Practice

- Commercial Litigation
- Employment Litigation

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#### Education

- Loyola University Chicago School of Law
- University of Florida

#### Certification and Awards

- Loyola University Chicago School of Law Dean’s List
- Certificate in Trial Advocacy (from Loyola’s Dan K. Webb Center of Advocacy)

#### Clerkships

- Circuit Court of Cook County, Honorable Anna H. Demacopoulos (2016-2017)
- Circuit Court of Cook County, Honorable LeRoy K. Martin, Jr. (2015-2016)

#### Bar Memberships

- Chicago Bar Association
- Cook County Bar Association
- Black Women Lawyers’ Association

#### Board Memberships and Committees

- Cook County Bar Association (Professional Development Committee and Young Lawyers Section)