

Biographical Information: Elizabeth Dunphy Farris

Elizabeth Dunphy Farris, Esq. has been a prosecutor in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for the last thirty-one (31) years.

Since January 2011, she has served as Legal Counsel to the Hampden District Attorney in Springfield, Massachusetts. During her legal career, she has held various executive-level administrative, trial and appellate positions as an Assistant District Attorney, including Deputy First Assistant District Attorney, Chief Trial Counsel and Chief of the Appeals and Elders and Persons with Disabilities Units. Attorney Farris has completed forty-nine (49) homicide prosecutions, and appeared before the appellate courts of the Commonwealth at all levels in over two hundred (200) cases. Aside from homicides, she has been involved in the prosecution of all major felonies encompassing narcotics, organized crime, robbery, sexual assault, child abuse, domestic violence, sexually dangerous persons and abuse and crimes committed against elders and persons with disabilities.

Attorney Farris was the first woman recipient of the William C. O'Malley, Prosecutor of the Year Award from the Massachusetts District Attorney's Association, and has been recognized, by award, by other state and regional agencies for professionalism and devotion to duty in complex criminal investigations. Attorney Farris has served on the Supreme Judicial Court's (MA) Standing Advisory Committee on the Rules of Criminal Procedure and Committee on Model Jury Instructions for Homicide. She was appointed to the National Institute of Justice's (NIJ) Planning Panel for Crime Scene Investigation (NPPCSI) and NIJ's Technical Working Group for Crime Scene Investigation (TWGCSI) from which a national best practices guide and training curriculum were developed for first responders and other law enforcement investigators arriving at crime scenes in an effort to minimize scene and/or evidence contamination.

In 2012, Attorney Farris co-authored the Multidisciplinary Response to Crime Victims with Disabilities, State-Level Replication Guide available from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs. She also serves on the Steering Committee of the Massachusetts' Building Partnerships Initiative for the Protection of Persons with Disabilities.