

Biography of Michelle R. McKown

Michelle received her J.D. in 1999, and an LL.M. in international and comparative law in 2000, both from Georgetown University Law Center. She began her legal career in 2000 at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) as a law clerk for the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel in Rockville, Maryland. While at the NRC, Michelle worked on litigations involving the construction and authorization request for the Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility at the Savannah River site and the licensing of a private spent fuel storage facility in Utah. She also assisted the Panel on its preparation for the license application for the high level waste repository in Nevada.

After her tenure at the NRC ended in 2003, Michelle took a position as a staff attorney to the Chief Special Master of the Vaccine Program at the United States Court of Federal Claims in Washington, D.C. For over three years, Michelle advised and assisted the Chief Special Master in managing a docket of over 200 cases, and assisted in managing the omnibus autism litigation involving approximately 5,000 cases.

In 2006, Michelle moved to Chicago where she worked in private practice in litigation for several years. In 2008, Michelle was recruited to her current position as an attorney at the Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Science – Chicago Office, working in both the General and Intellectual Property Law divisions. Her primary areas of concentration are in environmental, employment, and patent law.