

# Shelice R. Tolbert

Shelice R. Tolbert is a partner at Tolbert & Tolbert, LLC law firm in Gary, Indiana. Shelice was born and raised in Gary, Indiana, and attended West Side High School, graduating in 1993. Shelice obtained her Bachelor of Arts in Business Management from Wittenberg University in 1997, and her Juris Doctorate from Valparaiso University School of Law in 2000. Shelice was admitted to the Indiana State Bar on November 13, 2000, as well as the United States District Court in the Northern and Southern Districts of Indiana.

Shelice has been nominated as a Northwest Indiana Influential Woman in Business in the Legal category in 2011, 2012, 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017. She was also selected by the Indiana Super Lawyers as a Rising Star in 2013, 2014, and 2015. In 2011, Shelice served on the Task Force and Transition Team for Gary Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson.

Shelice concentrates her practice in the areas of civil litigation, personal injury, municipal law, business and contract matters, and police liability excessive force cases. Shelice has served as an adjunct professor at Valparaiso University School of Law, teaching Trial Practice from 2007-2017.

Shelice was appointed to the Indiana Judges and Lawyers Assistance Program Committee by the Indiana Supreme Court, serving on the Committee from 2011-2014. Shelice was then appointed to the Indiana State Board of Law Examiners by the Indiana Supreme Court in 2014. She has served with distinction as President of the James C. Kimbrough Minority Bar Association from 2010-2011, and served as President of the Porter County Chapter of the American Inns of Court from 2014-2015. She served as the President of the Lake County Bar Association in 2016, as well as chairing the Wellness Committee in 2014 and 2015. She served as Counsel to the 2018 President of the Lake County Bar Association.

Shelice served on the Board of Governors of the Indiana State Bar Association as a district representative from 2011-2013, and actively participates on the Diversity and Wellness Committees. She currently serves on a special state bar association committee that addresses the Future of the Provision of Legal Services as well as the Women In Law Committee.

Shelice has been recognized in the business community by Building Indiana magazine as a 2012 Mover & Shaker of Northwest Indiana. She is a graduate of Leadership Northwest Indiana (LNI 31), and is now an associate alumnus of the program. Shelice was honored as the 2012 recipient of the Valparaiso University Black Law Students Association's Alumni Award. In 2015, Shelice was selected as one of the 20 Under 40 award recipients by the Northwest Indiana Times Media Business Magazine. In 2016, Shelice was selected for membership in The National Black Lawyers Top 100 organization.

Shelice continues her community efforts with her involvement as Chair of the UNCF Northwest Indiana Leadership Council. She is an active member of the Gary Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and has served on the Board of Directors for the Lake Area United Way. Shelice also serves on the Board of Directors of the Gary Literacy Coalition, where she holds the position of treasurer, and she has been involved with the scholarship committee of the Legacy Foundation since 2008. She is also a life member of the Gary Chapter of the NAACP.

Shelice has been married to Michael E. Tolbert since 2006 and is a member of Embassies of Christ Kingdom Ministries Church, where she serves as vision guardian for the Employment Ministry. Shelice and her

husband received the Co-Merit of Distinction Award from the Katie Hall Education Foundation in 2017. Shelice continues to speak at schools in Gary and around Northwest Indiana, mentoring and encouraging the youth in our communities.