

JAMES M. PLOTKIN, ESQ.

EXPERIENCE

MA Department of Public Health, Boston, MA 2025 – Present

Administrative Magistrate

- Adjudicate alleged statute and code violations related to public health; licensure fitness determinations; enforcement of licensing regulations and laws. Examine witnesses; determine due process issues, and weigh credibility of testimony and evidence

MA Office of Public Safety and Inspections, Div. of Occupational Licensure 2017 – 2025

(prev. Div. of Professional Licensure until July 2021)

MA Dept. of Public Safety, Boston, MA 2015 – 2017

Hearing Officer, Legal Counsel

- Adjudicated alleged statute and code violations related to: public safety and occupational regulation and compliance; licensure fitness determinations; enforcement of licensing regulations and laws. Examined witnesses; determined due process issues, and weighed credibility of testimony and evidence
- Advised and provided analyses on laws and on matters relating to the promulgation of regulations as well as the conduct of G.L. c. 30A public hearings in regulated areas including: construction supervisors; elevators; amusement operators; warehouse operators; hoisting; and boilers; and State Building Code Appeals Board, Board of Elevator Appeals, and the Architectural Access Board

James M. Plotkin, Esq., New York, NY & Boston, MA 2001 – 2015

Solo Practitioner, Attorney at Law

- Managed all phases of criminal and civil litigation, including real estate, commercial and insurance defense; bankruptcy representation
- Prepared estates, including wills, trusts and health care
- Prepared zoning, land use and administrative filings and appeals
- Negotiated commercial and residential transactions and related matters
- Represented respondents in civil code enforcement proceedings and appeals

New York City Taxi & Limousine Commission, New York, NY

Managing Attorney for Prosecution 2013 – 2014

- Supervised investigation and litigation of consumer complaints in the Prosecution Division, including 23 prosecuting attorneys, law student interns, inspectors and clerical support staff
- Reviewed work product and conducted trainings for attorneys, interns and legal fellows; researched, prepared and presented legal and educational materials; oversaw witness preparation
- Monitored licensee compliance with regulations including analysis of DMV records, insurance, safety and emission records; mediated and facilitated settlements

New York City Department of Consumer Affairs, New York, NY

Deputy Director of Adjudication 2010 – 2013

Principal Administrative Law Judge 2009 – 2010

- Supervised thirty people in hearing and settlement units, appeals and clerical support; reviewed attorney work product and conducted trainings for ALJs, interns and legal fellows; researched, prepared and presented legal and educational materials
- Ensured timely issuance of decisions and orders; worked with HR in enforcing tasks and standards, quality assurance and discipline; reviewed and processed time sheets and leave requests; assisted IT in developing data management software
- Developed templates and protocols; oversaw current settlement and fine schedules

- Adjudicated alleged violations of city and state codes relating to: consumer protection; licensure fitness determinations; enforcement of licensing laws; examined witnesses; determined due process issues and credibility of testimony and evidence
- Mediated and facilitated settlements of consumer actions seeking restitution and punitive damages against licensees, including home improvement contractors, used car dealerships, tow truck companies, process servers, electronics stores and parking garages
- Award – 2013 Excellence in Customer Service, NYC Government (for managing a walk-in service center that received a perfect score during 2013 CORE inspections)

New York City Government, New York, NY

2001 – 2009

Administrative Law Judge

- Adjudicated alleged violations of city and state codes including building and construction, zoning and fire ratings, sanitation, parks, health and transportation in: Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings; Dept. of Environmental Protection; Dept. of Finance; Taxi & Limousine Commission
- Evaluated evidence and testimony in sworn hearings; ensured timely issuance of publishable decisions

Klein & O'Brien, LLP, New York, NY

1997 – 2001

Associate

- Handled all aspects of a boutique zoning and land-use office including commercial and residential real estate transactions, litigation management, and administrative law issues

EDUCATION

Columbia University, School of International and Public Affairs

October 1997

Master in International Affairs

International Political Economy and Russian Regional Studies

Brooklyn Law School, Juris Doctor

May 1997

- Temple University International Law Program, Tokyo, Japan

Brandeis University, Bachelor of Arts in Russian with Honors

May 1990

- Middlebury College Russian Language Program
- Institute for European Studies, Vienna, Austria

LICENSES: Massachusetts; New York; Washington, D.C.; England & Wales; Scotland
FINRA Arbitration