

Back

Diana Florence

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Diana Florence began her career as a prosecutor 25 years ago in the Manhattan District Attorney's Office, focusing on domestic violence cases, then complex frauds and corruption in the Special Prosecutions Bureau and Labor Racketeering Unit, and later becoming the head of the first of its kind Construction Fraud Task Force. She won landmark convictions against companies and individuals for defrauding 9/11 charities, [violent crimes](#), [corruption](#), domestic violence, [wage theft](#), and deadly work conditions. She has taught trial advocacy for over two decades to lawyers in the DA's Office and has lectured investigators and lawyers from around the world on topics ranging from inter-agency cooperation to prosecuting fraud, racketeering and workplace homicide.

As an ADA, Diana held powerful interests accountable by prosecuting developers and [corrupt corporations](#) for cheating workers, [tenants](#) and [taxpayers](#). In an historic case against Harco Construction, she ultimately secured justice for the family of a 22-year-old construction worker, Carlos Moncayo, who was buried alive at work. Using the existing criminal law, [Diana charged the corporations and site supervisors, who had been repeatedly warned of hazardous conditions, with manslaughter and criminally negligent homicide for Moncayo's death](#). As a result, she drafted legislation (A10728) named after Carlos Moncayo, known as "[Carlos' Law](#)" that would establish higher fines for corporations for endangering workers' lives.

Diana has made prosecuting wage theft a centerpiece of her career, notably working alongside

[IronWorkers Local 361 to secure \\$6 million in stolen wages and back-pay from AGL Industries.](#) Diana subsequently wrote a bill ([A06795](#)) with Assemblymember Catalina Cruz (D-Queens) to reclassify wage theft as the more serious crime of larceny. Other jurisdictions— like the Pittsburgh City Council and [Philadelphia DA Larry Krasner](#)— subsequently created similar prosecution models for wage theft.

Diana has [worked side-by-side with community-based groups](#), unions, workers centers, and government agencies to create an innovative prosecution model heavily rooted in broad based participation. She is also a fluent Spanish speaker.

Diana graduated with honors from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, receiving a BA in Art History with a concentration in Spanish as well as her law degree. She has taught trial advocacy for over two decades to lawyers in the DA's Office and has lectured investigators and lawyers from around the world on topics ranging from inter-agency cooperation to prosecuting fraud, racketeering and workplace homicide.

Born in Manhattan, Diana is a long-time resident of Kips Bay where she lives with her husband and two children.