



Office of the General Counsel

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Bio for Hillary E. Byrnes

Hillary Byrnes is Assistant General Counsel for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) in Washington, DC. Hillary serves as lead staff to the Ad Hoc Committee for Religious Liberty, which the U.S. bishops established in 2011 to address growing concerns over the erosion of freedom of religion in America. Hillary also focuses on legal issues affecting Catholic education in the U.S.

Before joining the USCCB, Hillary worked as an associate at the law firm of Hunton & Williams in Washington, DC for four years. Before that, she served as a Trial Attorney at the U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Division.

Hillary graduated from the University of Notre Dame Law School, *cum laude*, where she was an Article Editor of the *Notre Dame Journal of Law, Ethics & Public Policy*. She also served on Notre Dame Law School's Jessup International Law Moot Court Team, which competed in Aberdeen, Scotland. Before law school, Hillary earned her B.S. in Foreign Service, *magna cum laude*, from Georgetown University.

Hillary has discussed religious liberty topics in speeches, on radio and television, and in print media. She is a member of the bars of New York and the District of Columbia and has been admitted to practice before several federal trial and appellate courts, including the United States Supreme Court.