



**Maria F. Manuel**  
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## **LAWYER SPOTLIGHT**

Maria Manuel was born in Lafayette, Louisiana, and spent the first years of her life in Kaplan, Louisiana. She was raised in Luling, Louisiana, where her family moved when she was three years old.

Maria is proud to be a product of Louisiana's public education system and is a 1984 graduate of Hahnville High School. After high school, she returned to Lafayette, Louisiana to attend college at the University of Southwestern Louisiana (USL). She graduated with a degree in English Education in 1988. After three years teaching middle school, Maria enrolled in the Louisiana State University (LSU) Law Center in 1993. Being married and having a one-year old son when she started law school made the experience both challenging and rewarding. She served as Senior Editor of the Louisiana Law Review and graduated with honors in 1996.

Since graduating from law school, Maria has practiced labor and employment law with the Onebane Law Firm. Her practice focuses on representing employers. The part of her practice that she enjoys the most is providing advice to employers because she believes that avoiding a lawsuit is always better than defending one in court.

Maria enjoys spending time with her husband, Troy, and her children, Troy, Jr. and Celeste. She also enjoys cheering on the football teams of her alma maters, USL (now UL) and LSU. She is an avid reader of both classic literature and modern novels.

