



The Heart Of The Matter

The Law Offices of Nellie L. King, P.A. • Nellie L. King



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Nellie King sees the good, the bad, and the ugly in people each day. As a renowned Palm Beach criminal defense attorney, Nellie has risen to the top of her field as a result of the local, state, and national leadership roles she has undertaken, her fierce advocacy on behalf of her clients, and a career dedicated to important community endeavors.

Having handled cases ranging from murder and child abuse to drug trafficking and white collar offenses, Nellie is frequently asked, “How do you defend someone who is guilty?” “Importantly, you don’t know they are guilty and I am honored and privileged to help people through the most difficult time in their life,” she replies with compassion in her voice. With that heart and unrelenting drive, Nellie has made a difference in the lives of those she represents, while also impacting national criminal justice policy issues.

Nellie’s tireless efforts include enlisting hundreds of Florida lawyers as volunteers to draft executive summaries for President Barack Obama’s Clemency Project. This initiative sought to right the wrongs of minimum-mandatory sentencing policies which resulted in the incarceration of thousands of Americans for non-violent drug offenses. In total, 1,715 qualifying incarcerated men and women were notified by the White House they will be going home. One of only four women elected President of the Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, Nellie currently serves on the Boards of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, Boys Town South Florida, and the Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission.

Reflecting on the sensitive nature of her work, Nellie believes women add something unique when dealing with those accused of crimes. “I see my clients for more than the worst thing for which they have been accused—they are someone’s child, brother, father, mother.”