

ANTONIA MERZON

Antonia Merzon joined the New York County (Manhattan) District Attorney's Office in 1998. As an Assistant District Attorney assigned to the Trial Division, she engaged in every aspect of prosecution, from investigation and arrest through trial. Ms. Merzon tried serious felonies and complex cases, including the lengthy trial of a major commercial burglary ring under New York State's racketeering laws.

In 2004, District Attorney Robert M. Morgenthau appointed Ms. Merzon to create and run an Identity Theft Unit, one of the first of its kind in the country. Ms. Merzon supervised two Deputy Unit Chiefs, over 80 Assistant District Attorneys, as well as several investigators and analysts, in the investigation and prosecution of identity theft, cyber crime and financial fraud. The Unit handled approximately 250 new cases per month, working closely with federal and local law enforcement agencies. In her role as Unit Chief, Ms. Merzon oversaw numerous multifaceted investigations into criminal organizations stealing and fraudulently using personal identifying information. She also directed prosecutions into such groups using complex vehicles such as conspiracy and racketeering charges. Ms. Merzon worked to develop computer forensic and internet investigative capacity within the Unit, resulting in innovative cyber crime prosecutions.

Ms. Merzon has been a frequent lecturer on topics related to identity theft and cyber crime. She has provided talks and trainings to law enforcement agencies, community groups, industry associations and bar associations, including the United States Secret Service, the New York/New Jersey Electronic Crimes Task Force, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the New York City Police Department, the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, the New York City Bar Association, the National White Collar Crime Center and the High Technology Crime Investigation Association.

After over eleven years at the Manhattan District Attorney's Office, Ms. Merzon moved to Colorado with her family. The Manhattan District Attorney's Office retained Ms. Merzon on a consultancy basis for another year to serve as Special Assistant District Attorney, providing guidance in the development of cyber crime investigation and digital forensic capabilities, as well as policy recommendations in areas related to electronic evidence and cyber crime.

In January 2015, the Colorado Best Practices Committee for Prosecutors – through the Colorado District Attorneys' Council and the Colorado Attorney General's Office - asked Ms. Merzon to serve as a consultant regarding policy issues of concern to the state's law enforcement community. Ms. Merzon is currently serving in this capacity.

Ms. Merzon is a graduate of Princeton University and Fordham University School of Law.