

# Meghan C. Cooper

JOB: ASSOCIATE, NOLAN, PERRONI, HARRINGTON, LOWELL | AGE: 28

GRADUATED: NEW ENGLAND SCHOOL OF LAW (NOW NEW ENGLAND LAW|BOSTON) |

BAR ADMISSION: 2011

At a time when police officers have come under national scrutiny, Meghan C. Cooper proudly represents and defends them in a variety of civil and criminal actions. The firm she practices at represents more than 70 local police unions. She also takes on cases defending people who have hit low points in their lives. Described by her boss, Peter J. Perroni, as “quiet but confident,” the results of Cooper’s hard work speak loudly.

“Sometimes it weighs on you knowing that you have another person’s future or livelihood in your hands.”



PHOTO BY MERRILL SHEA

**Q.** What do you consider your biggest achievement as a lawyer to date?

**A.** I reached a point in my career where I can be confident in my own work and earn the confidence of my clients.

**Q.** What’s the most satisfying case or matter you’ve worked on so far?

**A.** I had the honor of representing an officer who was shot in the line of duty, and while bleeding out he stayed vigilant and was more concerned about the safety of others than the fact that his own health was in danger.

**Q.** Who was your most important mentor, and how has that person impacted your career?

**A.** My mother. She instilled in me from a very young age the value of hard work and independence.

**Q.** What is the best piece of professional advice you ever received?

**A.** Care about the work that you do and always do your best.

**Q.** Professionally, what keeps you up at night?

**A.** Sometimes it weighs on you knowing that you have another person’s future or livelihood in your hands.

**Q.** What advice would you offer new law school graduates?

**A.** There’s a reason it’s called the practice of law. You’re not the only one who doesn’t have all the answers.

**Q.** On a scale of 1 to 10, how hard is it to be a lawyer?

**A.** It depends on the day. It’s difficult, but also rewarding.

**Q.** How many hours a week do you work? Did you anticipate it was going to be that much?

**A.** Forty up to 80. I did anticipate it would be a lot of work.

**Q.** Is there a practice area you would like to expand into at some point?

**A.** More appellate work.

**Q.** What’s the biggest mistake you’ve made professionally?

**A.** Not being more involved in the legal community.

**Q.** Is there anything about practicing law that’s surprised you so far?

**A.** The transition from law school to clerking to practicing was a lot harder than I expected.

**Q.** Would you tell someone about to graduate from college to pursue law school?

**A.** It’s hard work and you really have to believe in what you do to enjoy it.

**Q.** What is the trait you most dislike in yourself?

**A.** I am impatient.

**Q.** What’s one thing about you that might surprise people?

**A.** There’s nothing I enjoy more than a day on my couch watching trashy reality TV shows.

**Q.** What was your very first job?

**A.** Babysitting.

**Q.** Describe yourself in one word.

**A.** Awesome. 