

Rochelle Westlund is the Director of Government Relations for the Minnesota Retailers Association. In this position she represents the diverse membership of retail merchants at the Minnesota State Capitol. Her advocacy and lobbying efforts protect the priorities and positions set forth by the MnRA. She analyzes proposed legislation, policy issues and regulations that affect MnRA members and speaks on behalf of retailers to ensure the safeguarding of retail business in the marketplace.

Rochelle comes to the Minnesota Retailers from Groshek Law, a boutique firm located downtown Minneapolis. As an Associate Attorney Rochelle negotiated settlement agreements, co-chaired trials, conducted contested hearings and completed complex financial accounting on white collar cases. Prior to her work at Groshek Law, Rochelle worked in Development at The Salvation Army Northern Divisional Headquarters where she analyzed fundraising initiatives, and assisted in creating strategy to meet development goals. Rochelle received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Hamline University, where she majored in Economics and Environmental Studies. She also has her Juris Doctor degree from William Mitchell College of Law.

Throughout her education, Rochelle has partnered with a variety of organizations including The Louisiana Justice Institute, The Capital Post-Conviction Project of Louisiana, the St. Louis Dream Center, the Minnesota House of Representatives, the Roseville Parks and Recreation Commission, as well as numerous political campaigns, and non-profit organizations.

During law school, Rochelle clerked with the Washington County Public Defender's Office, and Joslin & Moore P.A., where she handled the prosecution of petty misdemeanors and misdemeanors for the City of Isanti. Rochelle studied abroad in the Cayman Islands, focusing on Off-Shore Banking and International Coastal Law. She also completed an externship with Tulane University where she was able to live and study in New Orleans where she found a passion for Cajun cooking.

Rochelle brings diverse experience working with a variety of organizations and people groups including stakeholders, policy makers, volunteer groups and clients. She is excited to advocate pro-business policy at the capital as she represents the retail industry in Minnesota.