

2023 TOP WOMEN IN LAW

R. LEIGH FROST

DEWITT LLP

In her 23 years of practicing family law, R. Leigh Frost has done her best to help each client navigate emotionally exhausting issues and land in a mental space where they feel that life can take a positive turn. Frost is good at this because she's had plenty of experience putting positivity and determination into action to turn her own life around.

Adopted at 2 years old, she was legally deaf, but initially was not properly diagnosed, so she didn't have corrective surgery until she was 8. In grade school, Frost's teachers expressed a concern that she might have a learning disability. She had surgery that restored her hearing, but her early education followed her until college. In high school, she was told by a counselor



that she should consider tech school because she wasn't college material.

Fortunately, Frost said, she surrounded herself with smart friends through high school. "All of these things – the adoption, not quite fitting in, and not being able to hear everything – all of them just made me go, 'That doesn't define who I know I am,'" she said.

She graduated from the University of Minnesota with a de-

gree in Women's Studies, which she realized wouldn't produce the sort of career she was after. Frost earned her law degree with the intent to advocate for women's rights but began practicing family law and never looked back. She said she especially enjoys advocating for children.

Frost commits substantial hours to pro bono work for the Tubman Safety Project, providing legal representation primarily in Hennepin and Ramsey counties to low-income victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. She has been recognized as a Family Law Attorney of the Year by Tubman.

She also was instrumental in creating and promoting a Pro Bono Week Fair, which has become an annual event introducing attorneys to pro bono legal representation opportunities.