



# The State Bar of California

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## **OPEN SESSION**

## **AGENDA ITEM**

**54-116 JULY 2020**

## **BOARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE III.C**

**DATE:** July 16, 2020

**TO:** Members, Board Executive Committee  
Members, Board of Trustees

**FROM:** Elizabeth Hom, Acting Program Manager, Office of Access & Inclusion  
Christal Bundang, Senior Program Analyst, Office of Access & Inclusion

**SUBJECT:** California Rural Legal Assistance - Appointment to Serve on Board of Directors

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### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Periodically, the State Bar of California is called upon to appoint representatives to the Boards of certain multi-county, federally funded legal services programs in California. The Board of Trustees Policy Manual section 4.15.3 authorizes the Board to appoint representatives to serve on boards of directors of programs funded by the Legal Services Corporation.

Under the bylaws of the California Rural Legal Assistance (CRLA), the State Bar appoints directors to the CRLA Board of Directors, who serve three-year terms. CRLA requests two appointments and six reappointments to its board.

CRLA and staff recommend the following appointments to one three-year term: Michael Bracamontes, Peter Carson, and Nicole Philips.

CRLA and staff recommend the following reappointments to one three-year term: Alejandro Delgado, Anthony LoPresti, David Martinez, Camille Pannu, and Jacq Wilson.

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### **BACKGROUND**

Pursuant to federal regulations of the Legal Services Corporation (45 C.F.R. §1607 et seq.), the State Bar of California makes appointments to multi-county, federally funded legal services organizations upon their request and recommendation. The Board of Trustees Policy Manual

section 4.15.3 authorizes the Board to appoint representatives to serve on boards of directors of programs funded by the Legal Services Corporation (LSC). The State Bar is in a position to help individual organizations reach out to a larger and more diverse pool of attorneys across county lines which in turn allows the organizations to attract stronger candidates, and ultimately ensures the organizations have better governance and are more effective delivering legal services to low-income Californians.

Staff has developed a new process to manage the appointments process for LSC-funded organizations. The new process anticipates a six-month timeline from the organization's initial request to the Board for appointment. The legal aid organization's request for appointments must provide relevant appointment information such as current vacancies, member requirements, and term limits, which are posted on the State Bar website and social media. Interested applicants have 30 days to apply directly with the organization. Based on applications received, the organization submits a list of appointment recommendations to the State Bar. The Board then reviews the recommendations, taking into consideration the applicant's professional experience, familiarity with legal aid and access to justice issues, and as with all State Bar appointments, diversity of applicants and the legal aid organization's board.

CRLA is a nonprofit legal services organization that serves low-income individuals residing in 23 California counties, with increasing reach in additional counties.<sup>1</sup> While CRLA maintains specialized programs that focus on services for farmworker populations, CRLA serves an array of clients including individuals with disabilities, immigrant populations, school children, LGBT populations, seniors, and individuals with limited English proficiency.

CRLA's current 45-member board is comprised of eight State Bar appointed attorneys, 15 County Bar appointed attorneys, 15 client members and seven other members. For the 2020 State Bar appointments, CRLA received nine applications for eight vacancies. CRLA recommends appointing three new members and reappointing five members to its Board. Two of the five reappointments are for second terms; two are for third terms; and the third is for reappointment after a break from board service. Current CRLA board members may serve up to three consecutive terms, but may be reappointed again after a one-year break following their third term. If approved, those members would each serve a three-year term, effective at the close of the July 2020 Board meeting.

## **DISCUSSION**

State Bar staff has reviewed CRLA's appointment recommendations to confirm each applicant's skills, experience, and perspectives in relation to both CRLA's mission and the State Bar's strategic goals and objectives.

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<sup>1</sup> Colusa, Fresno, Imperial, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, Monterey, Napa, Riverside, San Benito, San Diego, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tulare, Ventura, and Yuba.

According to Article IV. 4.01(A)(1) of CRLA's bylaws, "the members of the Board must support CRLA's mission and have an interest and knowledge of delivery of 'quality legal services to the poor' must reasonably reflect the interests of eligible clients; and must reasonably reflect the diversity of attorneys and potential clients in CRLA's service area." In addition, section 4.2 of the Board Policy Manual provides that the Board should "seek to ensure that the candidates and composition of the entities are inclusive and broadly representative of the diversity of California's population."

CRLA provided the chart below describing the Board's composition by gender, race/ethnicity, and appointing authority currently, and as it would look with the eight applicants for appointment or reappointment under consideration by the State Bar Board of Trustees today.

**CRLA Board Composition (as reported by CRLA)**

	State Bar Appointed Attorneys		County Bar Appointed Attorneys	Clients	Other	Total	
	Current	Proposed				Current	Proposed
<b>Male</b>	6	6	7	13	4	30	30
<b>Female</b>	2	2	8	2	3	15	15
<b>Caucasian</b>	2	3	7	0	2	11	12
<b>Hispanic</b>	4	3	7	15	5	31	30
<b>Black</b>	1	1	1	0	0	2	2
<b>Asian</b>	1	1	0	0	0	1	1
<b>Native American</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	8	8	15	15	7	45	45

CRLA serves over 23 counties statewide. Below is an overview of the demographic data of: (1) California's population as reported by the U.S. Census Bureau;<sup>2</sup> (2) California attorneys as reported by the 2019 State Bar attorney census;<sup>3</sup> and (3) CRLA's clients as reported by CRLA.<sup>4</sup> Staff has compared these percentage compositions with CRLA's current and proposed board.

**Diversity Composition Comparisons**

	California Population	California Attorneys	CRLA Clients	CRLA Board (Current)	CRLA Board (Proposed)
<b>Male</b>	49.7%	57%	39.7%	66.7%	66.7%
<b>Female</b>	50.3%	42%	59.6%	33.3%	33.3%
<b>White or Caucasian</b>	36.5%	68%	22.5%	24.4%	26.7%
<b>Hispanic/Latino</b>	39.4%	7%	62.6%	68.9%	66.7%
<b>Black or African American</b>	6.5%	4%	6.7%	4.4%	4.4%

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/CA> (data reported as of 06/25/20)

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/BarBrief/Bar-Brief-1.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> CRLA is a State Bar grantee and provides this information as part of annual reporting requirements.

<b>Asian</b>	15.5%	13%	1.9%	2.2%	2.2%
<b>Native American and Other Pacific Islander</b>	0.5%	Not Reported	2.3%	0%	0%
<b>Two or More Races/Other</b>	4.0%	4.0%	1.0%	Not Reported	Not Reported

Based on the data, people who identify as Hispanic/Latino are the most underrepresented in California's attorney population, but are the largest represented group both in the state's population and CRLA's client population. While the proposed board composition would have one less Hispanic/Latino member, the overall Hispanic/Latino representation would still be two-thirds of the Board. Additionally, Mr. Wilson identifies as African American and Ms. Pannu identifies as Asian American. Their reappointments would maintain current diversity composition on CRLA's board.

In terms of gender diversity, CRLA is heavily comprised of male members. Of the nine appointment applications received, only two candidates are female attorneys, and both are recommended by CRLA. Ms. Philips's appointment and Ms. Pannu's reappointment would maintain the ratio of one-third female representation on CRLA's board. CRLA recognizes that its board would benefit from having additional gender diversity and is actively working to improve outreach efforts in this area.

The recommended candidates are all qualified to serve on CRLA's board based on their legal experience, connection to the community, and in some cases, prior board service. The recommendation letter from CRLA, appointment applications, and resumes for the applicants are attached. A brief overview of each of the recommended applicants is listed below. Candidates are listed in alphabetical order, with applicants for new appointments listed first.

**1. New Appointment: Michael Bracamontes**

Michael Bracamontes is the founding Partner of Bracamontes & Vlasak, P.C., and CRLA reports that he was instrumental in directing cy pres funds to CRLA. Mr. Bracamontes has been an ambassador at several CRLA functions, has co-counseled with CRLA on housing and civil rights cases, and has presented at CRLA's Annual Housing training/seminar.

**2. New Appointment: Peter Carson**

Peter Carson is a Partner at Sheppard Mullin and has been a supporter of CRLA since 2000. He has extensive pro bono experience, having represented CRLA on a pro bono basis during its merger of LSC grantees in Monterey and Ventura Counties, and is a member of Sheppard Mullin's national pro bono committee, where he would be able to connect CRLA to pro bono resources. Mr. Carson also has leadership experience as a former board member of multiple organizations of other legal services nonprofits, including Bay Area Legal Aid and Earthjustice. Mr. Carson has also served on State Bar subentities, including various Section leadership roles and as cochair for the Legal Services Trust Fund Commission.

**3. New Appointment: Nicole Philips**

Nicole Philips is the Legal Director of Haitian Bridge Alliance, a nonprofit organization that advocates for fair and humane immigration policies and connects migrants with legal, social, and humanitarian services. CRLA believes that Ms. Philips' experience in strategic planning, fundraising, and governance of nonprofit organizations would be a valuable addition to its board.

**4. Reappointment: Alejandro Delgado**

Alejandro Delgado is a Partner at Weinberg, Roger & Rosenfeld, P.C., and has served on CRLA's Board of Directors since 2014. If reappointed, Mr. Delgado would be serving a third consecutive term. Mr. Delgado currently serves as an at-large member of CRLA's Board Executive Committee and is a member of both the Finance Committee and the Governance Committee. In addition, Mr. Delgado has expertise in labor and employment law and a dedicated commitment to social justice.

**5. Reappointment: Anthony LoPresti**

Anthony LoPresti is Deputy County Counsel for the County of Santa Clara and has served on CRLA's Board of Directors since 2016. If reappointed, Mr. LoPresti would be serving a second consecutive term. He is a member of CRLA's Board Executive Committee and of the Retirement Committee, where he participated in an overhaul of CRLA's staff retirement plan, resulting in a plan that better serves the organization's employees. Mr. LoPresti brings years of experience working in environmental justice and rural communities of color and has a commitment to social justice work.

**6. Reappointment: David Martinez**

David Martinez is a Partner at Robins Kaplan LLP and has served on CRLA's Board of Directors from 2008 through 2014. If reappointed, Mr. Martinez would be serving a nonconsecutive first term. During his time on the board, Mr. Martinez has participated as a member of the host committee of the CRLA's Los Angeles Tardeada, one of CRLA's major events that secure donations and sponsorships for the organization. According to CRLA, Mr. Martinez has also been recognized for his outstanding commitment to pro bono advocacy.

**7. Reappointment: Camille Pannu**

Camille Pannu is a Visiting Assistant Clinical Professor of Law at the University of California, Irvine, School of Law. Ms. Pannu has served on CRLA's Board of Directors since 2013. If reappointed, she would be serving a third consecutive term. Ms. Pannu currently serves as Vice President of the Board of Directors, where CRLA affirms her effective and strategic leadership. Ms. Pannu's background as a clinical professor of law and legal services attorney includes work with very low-income, rural communities in the areas of access to infrastructure, food security, and community development.

**8. Reappointment: Jacq Wilson**

Jacq Wilson is a Senior Litigation Attorney at Allan M. Schuman & Associates and has served on CRLA's Board of Directors since 2018. If reappointed, Mr. Wilson would be serving a second consecutive term. Mr. Wilson co-founded Advocates for Justice in

Modesto, a nonprofit advocate organization created to fix school-discipline problem and disrupt the flow of students into the school-to-prison pipeline in Modesto city schools, and has expertise in rural education equity, which is one of CRLA's priority areas.

CRLA also received an application from Robert Sandoval, who was not recommended for appointment. CRLA staff indicated that one of the Board's goals is to strengthen its fundraising capacity and determined that other applicants had more experience in this area; however, CRLA staff was impressed with Mr. Sandoval's application and have reached out to him to become involved in other activities.

Given CRLA's reasoning and committed efforts related to board diversity, staff supports CRLA's recommended slate of appointment and reappointment candidates.

### **FISCAL/PERSONNEL IMPACT**

None

### **AMENDMENTS TO RULES OF THE STATE BAR**

None

### **AMENDMENTS TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES POLICY MANUAL**

None

### **STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS & OBJECTIVES**

None – core business operations

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Should the Board Executive Committee concur in the proposed action, passage of the following resolution is recommended:**

**RESOLVED**, that the Board Executive Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees appoints the following representatives to the Board of Directors of California Rural Legal Assistance for a three-year term effective at the close of the July 2020 Board meeting through July 2023: Michael Bracamontes, Peter Carson, and Nicole Philips; and it is

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board Executive Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees reappoints the following representatives to the Board of Directors of California Rural Legal Assistance for a three-year term, effective at the close of the July

2020 Board meeting through July 2023: Alejandro Delgado, Anthony LoPresti, David Martinez, Camille Pannu, and Jacq Wilson.

**Should the Board of Trustees concur in the proposed action, passage of the following resolution is recommended:**

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the Board Executive Committee, appoints the following representatives to the Board of Directors of California Rural Legal Assistance for a three-year term effective at the close of the July 2020 Board meeting through July 2023: Michael Bracamontes, Peter Carson, and Nicole Philips; and it is

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the Board Executive Committee, reappoints the following representatives to the Board of Directors of California Rural Legal Assistance for a three-year term, effective at the close of the July 2020 Board meeting through July 2023: Alejandro Delgado, Anthony LoPresti, David Martinez, Camille Pannu, and Jacq Wilson.

#### **ATTACHMENT(S) LIST**

- A.** Letter of Recommendation from CRLA
- B.** Applications and Resumes for Appointment to CRLA

## CRLA, Inc. Board of Directors - State Bar of California Appointee Recommendations

California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc.'s mission *to fight for justice and individual rights alongside the most exploited communities of our society* supports the State Bar of California's efforts to provide greater access to, and inclusion in, the legal system. The dedication of CRLA's Board of Directors is critical to the organization's success, and we thank the State Bar of California for considering our recommendations for Appointees to the CRLA Board of Directors.

### New Appointment Recommendations

#### Peter Carson

Peter Carson has been a supporter and partner of CRLA for twenty years, starting in 2000, when he represented CRLA pro bono to manage the merger of LSC grantees in Monterey and Ventura Counties with CRLA.

A member of Sheppard Mullin's national pro bono committee, Peter has been instrumental in helping to connect CRLA with pro bono resources. In addition, he has secured a number of sponsorships from his firm and has served on CRLA's Northern California Fundraiser Host Committee.

Not only does Peter have a long history of commitment to CRLA, but he also brings deep experience serving on the boards of other high profile organizations, Bay Area Legal Aid and Earthjustice.

#### Nicole Phillips

Recommended by outgoing CRLA board member Susan Scott, Nicole offers a varied background in employment, immigration, housing, and human rights advocacy.

Nicole currently serves as Legal Director of Haitian Bridge Alliance, a non-profit organization that advocates for fair and humane immigration policies and connects migrants with legal, social, and humanitarian services, with a particular focus on black migrants, the Haitian community, women, LGBTQ individuals, and survivors of torture and other human rights abuses. Her experience in strategic planning, fundraising, and governance of nonprofit organizations will be a valuable addition of experience for CRLA's board.

#### Michael Bracamontes

Recently, Michael Bracamontes was instrumental in helping to have CRLA named as the recipient of cy pres funds. In addition, Michael is a CRLA donor and has acted as an ambassador at several CRLA functions. Michael's expression of interest in and inclination for fundraising make him a welcome addition.

Michael also offers legal expertise: he has co-counseled with CRLA on housing and civil rights cases and has presented at the CRLA Annual Housing training/seminar on multiple occasions.

### Re-appointment Recommendations

#### Camille Pannu

An active and engaged member of CRLA's Board of Directors, Camille Pannu recently led a significant governance review and redrafting of the organization's bylaws. She has served as a member of the Board's Executive Committee for several years including chairing the Board's Committee on Long-Term and Financial Planning and its Audit Committee. Camille currently serves as Vice President of the Board



of Directors, where she is an effective and strategic leader. In addition to her role on the Executive Committee, Camille also serves on the Governance Committee (Nominations sub-committee).

Her background as a clinical professor of law and legal services attorney includes work with very low-income, rural communities in the areas of access to infrastructure, food security, and community development. She brings extensive knowledge and experience in community-based organizations, social enterprises (nonprofits, LLCs, worker cooperatives, joint ventures), and water justice. As an Asian-American female, Camille helps to ensure diverse representation on the board.

#### [Anthony LoPresti](#)

Anthony LoPresti has served on CRLA's Board of Directors since 2016. He is a member of CRLA Board Executive Committee and of the Retirement Committee, where he participated in an overhaul of CRLA's staff retirement plan, resulting in a plan that better serves the organization's employees.

Anthony brings years of experience in environmental justice and rural communities of color and a commitment to social justice work.

#### [Jacq Wilson](#)

Jacq Wilson is one of the founders of the organization Advocates For Justice (AFJ), which was formed to disrupt the flow of students into the school-to-prison pipeline by reducing suspensions and expulsions in Modesto City Schools. Jacq offers expertise in rural education equity, one of CRLA's priority areas, and has collaborated extensively with CRLA's staff on education work.

As one of CRLA's African American board members, Jacq represents an important voice in the organization's effort to reflect the diverse constituents of rural California. Jacq currently serves on CRLA's Board Audit Committee and has acted as a spokesperson for the organization at fundraising events.

#### [David Martinez](#)

David Martinez has been friend and supporter of CRLA for over fifteen years, including more than a decade of board membership, substantial and consistent financial contributions, direct legal representation, and event planning and fundraising. He has been recognized by public and private entities for outstanding commitment to pro bono advocacy.

David has participated as a member of the host committee for CRLA's signature event, the Los Angeles Tardeada for several years. CRLA's Development staff relies on host committee members to leverage relationships to secure donations and sponsorships for the event. David has secured significant sponsorships from his firm, Robbins Kaplan, LLP.

#### [Alejandro Delgado](#)

A consistent donor himself, Alejandro last year joined the host committee for CRLA's signature event, the Los Angeles Tardeada. Alejandro also serves as an at-large member of CRLA's Board Executive Committee, and he is a member of both the Finance Committee and the Governance Committee. A partner at WEINBERG, ROGER & ROSENFELD, PC, one of the largest labor and employment law firms in the United States, Alejandro brings expertise in labor and employment law as well as a commitment to social justice.

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February 19, 2020

Monica Yu  
CRLA Chief Development Officer  
1430 Franklin Street, Suite 103  
Oakland, California 94612  
[myu@crla.org](mailto:myu@crla.org)

**VIA E-MAIL**

Re: *Application for Appointment to CRLA Board*

Dear Ms. Yu:

Please accept my application for an appointment to CRLA's board. I have been a long-time admirer, supporter, and partner of CRLA. Representing the rural poor concerning housing, employment, and immigration matters is the type of legal work that conjures the noblest ideas of our profession. When I think of social justice warriors, CRLA is an organization that has been on the frontlines for many years.

I co-founded Bracamontes & Vlasak, P.C. almost twelve years ago. We are a San Francisco based law firm handling catastrophic injury, wrongful death, tenant law, fire litigation, police misconduct, and employment cases including discrimination and harassment claims under the FEHA. We have successfully handled large multi-tenant and class action cases involving carbon monoxide, fire, mold, and other habitability and tenant issues. Our firm was founded to provide victims of civil injustice with diligent and effective representation.

In addition to CRLA's mission aligning closely with my law firm's, there are personal reasons that also drive my desire to work with CRLA. My wife grew up in Tulare, California. Her father worked in the fields and became a farmer himself. So, although I was raised in Los Angeles, I have spent a considerable amount of time in the Central Valley. My commitment to social justice combined with the great need for competent legal services in rural California keeps me motivated to assist CRLA in any way that I can.

I have presented at the CRLA Annual Housing training/seminar on a couple of occasions. Our firm has co-counseled with CRLA on various housing and civil rights cases across California; from Santa Maria to Modesto. I have attended multiple CRLA functions and was recently fortunate enough to obtain a *cy pres* award for CRLA through a class action settlement.

I believe my experience as a civil rights attorney will be a valuable asset to CRLA and I look forward to working with CRLA in advancing the cause of justice.

In Solidarity,

/s/

Michael R. Bracamontes, Esq.

[mbracamontes@bvlawsf.com](mailto:mbracamontes@bvlawsf.com)

# Michael R. Bracamontes, Esq.

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## Education

### UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY SCHOOL OF LAW

- J.D., May 2005
- Activities:
  - Worker's Rights Clinic - East Bay Community Law Center
  - Native American Law Students Association – Treasurer
  - La Raza Law Journal – Member

### UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE

- B.A., Political Science, 2001
- Minor in Philosophy

## Legal Experience

### LICENSES

- Admitted to practice in California, Federal District Court of California (Northern, Eastern, Central Districts), Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

### BRACAMONTES & VLASAK, P.C.

- Founding Partner, 2008 – Present
- Founded a plaintiff's litigation firm in San Francisco serving clients across the State. We focus on helping individuals in landlord-tenant, employment, and personal injury matters.
- Landlord/Tenant Cases: We have litigated single and multi-tenant cases involving exposure to mold, fire, carbon monoxide, uninhabitable premises, and dangerous conditions. We have been named lead counsel in a class action lawsuit brought on behalf of tenants at a dilapidated motel. We have handled wrongful evictions concerning fraudulent owner move-ins and tenant harassment. Co-counseled with California Rural Legal Assistance ("CRLA") on multiple cases, one involved the police evicting a family without due process and without a court order.
- Personal Injury Cases: Often our personal injury cases will overlap with the landlord/tenant cases. For example, we have handled cases involving anoxic brain injuries resulting from carbon monoxide exposure and serious physical injuries resulting from a landlord's failure to maintain the premises. We have also successfully resolved more traditional serious personal injury claims involving falls, motor vehicle accidents, and sexual assaults.
- Employment Cases: Primarily, our employment cases involve racial harassment/discrimination and sexual harassment and hostile work environment claims. We have litigated cases against large corporations and municipalities in both State and Federal court.

- Conducted multiple jury and bench trials including a recent jury trial brought against California Highway Patrol for their failure to obtain medical treatment for a 20-year-old man who ultimately died because of their negligence.

### **BRADSHAW & ASSOCIATES, P.C.**

- Associate Attorney, 2006-2008
- Obtained significant trial and law and motion experience including: drafting and arguing Anti-SLAPP motions, motions for summary judgment, and discovery motions.
- Took and defended numerous depositions.
- Second chaired several trials, drafted and argued motions *in limine*, *voir dire*, and jury instructions.
- Conducted direct examinations in both State and Federal court.

### **PUBLISHED WORKS**

- *Understanding the Foreclosure Trend on the West Coast*, Thomson Reuters/Aspastore, 2009;
- *Should non-lawyers be allowed to hold ownership interests in law firms?* - CAOC Forum, 2019.

### **SEMINARS & SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS**

- San Francisco Bar Association, The Client Intake: Screening, Signing & Rejecting – June 2019
- Consulate General of Mexico – Labor Rights Week; Racial Discrimination and Sexual Harassment – August 2016.
- UC Hastings Women Law Journal, Employment Discrimination of H.I.V.-Positive Persons – February 2016.
- Volkswagen Class Action & Multi-District Litigation Conference, Bridgeport Legal Conferences – Program Chair – San Francisco - November 2015.
- California Rural Legal Assistance Fair Housing Training – Wrongful Police Evictions, Code Enforcement & Civil Rights - July 2015.
- California Rural Legal Assistance Annual Housing Seminar - Affirmative Habitability, Code Enforcement, and Discrimination - July 2014.
- Workshop for SF Tenants and Landlords - Sponsored by SF Supervisor Katy Tang - January 2014.
- Landlord Tenant Law Overview - City College, San Francisco - January 2014.
- Twitter, Inc., Worldwide Headquarters – Tenants’ Rights - September, 2013.
- Advent, Inc. - Tenants’ Rights - San Francisco, 2013.

### **HONORS & AWARDS**

- Super Lawyers – Rising Star – 2016-2019.
- Attorney of the Year – ALRP (Aids Legal Referral Panel) – 2010.

### **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS**

- Consumer Attorneys of California, Board of Directors 2020
- Consumer Attorneys of California, Diversity Committee
- San Francisco Bar Association
- San Francisco Trial Lawyers Association
- AIDS Legal Referral Panel
- Alameda County Bar Association, Past-Member
- National Police Accountability Project, Past-Member



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February 24, 2020

0100-923005

Monica Yu,  
CRLA Chief Development Officer  
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Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Application for Appointment by the California State Bar Board of Trustees to the Board of Directors of California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc.

Dear Ms. Yu:

I was delighted when Jeff Ponting reached out to encourage me to apply for appointment by the State Bar to the CRLA board of directors as an attorney member. As you know, I have been a steadfast partner of CRLA, committed to its success and the success of its mission for more than two decades. While I have served on past CRLA advisory committees and working groups, including many years on the planning committee for the Northern California Tardeada, I have yet to serve CRLA as a board member. I would be honored if CRLA and the State Bar believe that I can make an important contribution to CRLA by serving a three year State Bar appointed term as an attorney member.

I have included my web bio from my law firm, Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP, where I am a San Francisco based finance partner. The web bio lists many of my legal services and related community activities and leadership positions. Here also is a link to the page on the CRLA website entitled "*Peter Carson: Shrinking the Justice Gap*," which was prepared in connection with CRLA's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and is used by CRLA to encourage financial and pro bono support - <https://www.crla.org/peter-carson-shrinking-justice-gap>.

My first significant involvement with CRLA came back in 2000. I had served for several years on the board of Neighborhood Legal Assistance Foundation, the LSC funded program that served San Francisco County. After a change in LSC policy led to an LSC decision to consolidate the LSC grants in the seven Bay Area counties, I led an eight law firm pro bono effort that merged existing grantee programs and created Bay Area Legal Aid (I then continued to serve BALA as treasurer and as a board member up until 2011). LSC then decided that its grants in Monterey and Ventura Counties should be consolidated into CRLA. On behalf of my then firm, Cooley LLP, I represented CRLA pro bono in connection with those consolidations, helping to bring both counties fully within the CRLA family.

At that point I became a committed supporter of CRLA, both personally and through my law firm. At Cooley, through 2003, and then at Bingham McCutchen LLP, 2003 – 2013, I chaired each





California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc.  
February 24, 2020  
Page 2

firm's national pro bono committee and led each firm to not only become law firm contributors to CRLA but also to take on significant pro bono projects with CRLA. In addition, while at Bingham I persuaded the firm to fund Equal Justice Fellows at CRLA (the Salinas office) and the CRLA Foundation.

With the approaching demise of the Bingham firm, I joined Sheppard Mullin in 2013 where I now practice. As a member of the firm's national pro bono committee, I helped innovate successful projects to revamp and uplift both the firm's pro bono practice and its contribution program in support of legal services. Whereas Sheppard Mullin previously had no relationship with CRLA, the firm now is a committed financial contributor and a substantial provider of pro bono services both in Northern and Southern California (both directly and through referrals). I am delighted that Sheppard Mullin is requesting CRLA to be a featured pro bono client in this year's firm pro bono video.

It may help to highlight some of my additional legal services and public interest contributions. As a transactional lawyer I have served the ABA's Business Law Section in many leadership capacities, including for many years as the chair of the Section's Pro Bono Committee. Among other things, the Section awards the ABA's National Public Service Award, honoring business law pro bono. I continue to co-chair the selection of that award. I served three years as the Section's liaison to the ABA's Standing Committee on Pro Bono and Public Service before being appointed to the Standing Committee itself for a very active three year term that coincided with the national pro bono effort that arose to address Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath. I subsequently served on the ABA's Presidential Special Task Force on Civil Gideon.

I have also served the California State Bar in many leadership roles, including chairing committees of its Business Law Section and serving on the Section's Executive Committee (before the separation of the Sections into the California Lawyers Association – I continue to serve on the Section's Legal Opinions Committee). But relevant to this letter, in 2006 I was appointed to the California Legal Services Trust Fund Commission, serving as its co-Chair 2008-2010 through the depth of the financial crisis. I have had no greater experience familiarizing myself with the participants in the statewide legal services delivery and support system than I did during my years serving on the Commission.

As noted above, I served on the board of Bay Area Legal Aid (and its predecessor the Neighborhood Legal Assistance Foundation) until 2011. In that year, and as a graduate of UC Berkeley School of Law, I joined the board of the East Bay Community Law Center, where I continue to serve. I also have served on the predecessor board to the Justice & Diversity Center (BASF's Volunteer Legal Services Program) and on advisory committee's to JDC and Public Counsel.

Lastly, I have for the past 32 years enjoyed a deep engagement with Earthjustice (previously known as the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund), starting with many significant impact pro bono



California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc.  
February 24, 2020  
Page 3

matters and then, in 2003, as a member of its board of trustees. I served as chair of the board 2012 – 2015 and then chair emeritus. I have returned to the board (after serving a required term limited year off the board), which is very important to me, especially given the existential threats of climate change and the current Administration, and have been playing an active role in its transformative DEI initiatives.

I am truly committed to CRLA and would welcome to the opportunity to broaden that commitment through a State Bar appointment to the board.

Please feel free to follow up with any questions.

Much appreciated.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Peter H. Carson".

Peter H. Carson

Encl.

SMRH:4851-8082-8853.1





## → Peter Carson

**Partner**

Four Embarcadero Center  
Seventeenth Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94111

T: +1.415.774.2935

F: +1.415.403.6045

pcarson@sheppardmullin.com

Peter Carson is a partner in the Finance & Bankruptcy Practice Group in the firm's San Francisco office.

**Areas of Practice**

Peter's practice is focused on representing U.S. and foreign banks, commercial finance lenders, debt funds, and other institutional lenders. Peter represents these clients in all aspects of complex secured and unsecured debt financings, including acquisition, senior syndicated, asset-based, mezzanine, second lien, bridge, debtor-in possession, credit enhancement, private placement, leveraged lease and other financings, recapitalizations, and restructurings across a range of industries, such as healthcare, technology, retail, transportation and distribution, media and telecommunications, ski resorts, sport franchises, food and beverage, agriculture, and forest products.

In addition, Peter devotes a substantial portion of his practice to representing buyers, sellers and private equity deal sponsors in various types of merger and acquisition transactions (including mergers involving nonprofits) and to advising institutional lenders, private equity and company clients on Uniform Commercial Code and other commercial law issues.

**Honors**

Leading Lawyer in Banking and Finance (California), *Chambers USA*, 2007-2019; "Peter Carson is well known for his formidable finance practice, which is routinely employed by domestic and international lenders in a series of transactions."

Northern California Super Lawyer, *Super Lawyers*, 2005-2019

Lawyer of the Year, *Best Lawyers*, 2015, 2017, 2018

Leading Lawyer in Banking Law and Structured Finance Law, *Best Lawyers*, 2007-2020

**Speaking Engagements**

Frequent speaker on panels and programs relating to topics of leveraged finance and commercial law for the American Bar Association, ALI-ABA, and the California Bar Association

Panelist, 2018 Americas Annual Survey of Letter of Credit Law & Practice conference in Charlotte, North Carolina, March 15-16, 2018

## Memberships

Elected Member, American Law Institute

Past President and Member of Board of Regents, American College of Commercial Finance Lawyers

Life Fellow, American Bar Foundation

Opinions Committee of the California Lawyers Association

Member and Past Chair, Board of Trustees, Earthjustice

Past Chair, Secured Transactions Subcommittee of the Uniform Commercial Code Committee of the Business Law Section, American Bar Association

Past Chair, Letter of Credit Subcommittee of the Uniform Commercial Code Committee of the Business Law Section, American Bar Association

Past Chair, Uniform Commercial Code Committee; Past member, Executive Committee of the Business Law Section, State Bar of California

Past Co-Chair, California Legal Services Trust Fund (IOLTA) Commission

Past Member, Standing Committee on Pro Bono and Public Service, American Bar Association; Past Chair Pro Bono Committee of the Business Law Section, American Bar Association

Member, Board of Directors, East Bay Community Law Center

Past member, Board of Directors, California Bar Foundation, Bar Association of San Francisco Foundation; Bay Area Legal Aid; China U.S. Energy Efficiency Alliance; British American Business Counsel of the Bay Area; Mid-Peninsula Media Center

## Practices

Syndicated Credit Facilities

Asset Based Lending

Commercial Lending and Financial Transactions

Equity Sponsor Finance

Healthcare

Public Finance

## Industries

Energy, Infrastructure and Project Finance

Food and Beverage

Healthcare

Hospitality

## Education

J.D., University of California, Berkeley School of Law (Boalt Hall), 1985

B.A., University of California, Berkeley, 1980

## Admissions

California

U.S. Supreme Court

# Alejandro Francisco Delgado

1800 N Harvard Blvd. Apt. 2, Los Angeles, CA 90027 | (972) 916-1623 | [afmdelgado@gmail.com](mailto:afmdelgado@gmail.com)

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## EDUCATION

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### UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY, SCHOOL OF LAW

#### J.D. Candidate, 2014

Honors: Berkeley Law Foundation Phoenix Fellow

Activities: *Berkeley Journal of Employment and Labor Law* (Speakers Co-Editor); *Berkeley La Raza Law Journal* (Articles Editor); National Lawyers Guild (Labor and Employment Committee Member); La Raza Students Association (Recruitment Co-chair); UAW 2865 (Member)

### YALE UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

#### M.Phil, History, 2010

#### M.A., History, 2009

Honors: Ford Foundation Diversity Predoctoral Fellowship; Richard J. Franke Fellowship (for academic excellence)

Activities: Graduate Employees and Students Organization Steering Committee; Organization of American Historians

### COLGATE UNIVERSITY

#### B.A., *summa cum laude*, History and Latin American Studies, 2004

Honors: Award for Excellence in History (award for top student); OAS Award for Excellence in Latin American Studies (award for top student); History Honors Award (distinguished thesis); Alumni Memorial Scholarship Award (full scholarship)

Activities: Latin American Student Organization (President); Student Admissions Committee on Diversity (Chair); La Casa (RA)

Study Abroad: Pontificia Universidad Católica Madre y Maestra, Santiago, Dominican Republic (Spring 2003); Colgate Extended Study, Pátzcuaro, Mexico (Winter 2002)

### PRINCETON UNIVERSITY, WOODROW WILSON SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Public Policy and International Affairs Fellow, Summer 2003

## EXPERIENCE

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### WEINBERG, ROGER & ROSENFELD, PC, Los Angeles and Alameda, CA

#### Attorney (Partner since October 2019)

September 2014 – Present

Drafted a brief submitted to NLRB administrative law judge challenging the results of a recent union election, an arbitration brief challenging the termination of a union worker, an arbitration brief in a contract interpretation case, and a pre-hearing asylum brief for a Guatemalan immigrant worker. Assisted in taking depositions, developing legal strategies, and revising memoranda of points and authorities for motion to compel class certification in two wage and hour class actions on behalf of veterans and immigrant workers. Conducted direct-examination of key witnesses during an arbitration hearing in a discipline case. Provided legal support to campaign organizing fast food workers and conducted intakes of immigrant workers. Performed legal research and drafted memoranda on a union's use of a corporate trademark in its campaign videos, wage and overtime provisions under the FLSA, language discrimination claims under FEHA, and pro rata vacation pay and compensation for split shifts. Assisted attorneys in bargaining session addressing reclassification of union jobs and in trainings for long-term care workers and truck drivers on organizing strategies and grievance procedures. Observed oral arguments and proceedings at the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, the California Supreme Court, the NLRB, and arbitration hearings.

### LEGAL AID SOCIETY – EMPLOYMENT LAW CENTER, San Francisco, CA

#### Law Clerk, National Origins, Immigration, & Language Rights Project

August 2013 – December 2013

Researched and drafted legal memoranda on national origins, immigration, and language employment discrimination claims for immigrant workers. Conducted extensive research and assisted attorneys in developing litigation strategies on naturalized U.S. citizen's state equal protection claim for discrimination on the basis of prior immigration status and hostile work environment claim based on national origins discrimination for restaurant workers. Reviewed and analyzed DHS documents and correspondence for FOIA appeal by I-9 Working Group seeking to challenge silent raids conducted by ICE. Represented and secured \$6,500 settlement for immigrant truck driver in administrative hearing for wage and hour claim before the California Labor Commissioner. Conducted intake and provided direct services for immigrant workers. Observed settlement conference at the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California and oral argument at the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

### NINTH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS, San Francisco, CA

#### Judicial Extern to the Honorable Marsha S. Berzon

January 2013 – May 2013

Drafted bench memorandum for a complex immigration asylum case. Performed legal research and drafted memoranda on a Foreign Service Immunities Act case involving the commercial activity exception, the applicability of the relevant statute of limitations in a Native American land claim case, and the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines in two securities fraud cases. Edited and cite-checked opinions, memorandum dispositions, and bench memos, and observed court proceedings.

**EAST BAY COMMUNITY LAW CENTER WELFARE LAW AND POLICY CLINIC, Berkeley, CA****Law Clerk**

August 2012 – December 2012

Interviewed and counseled low-income clients on a broad range of issues related to welfare, medical, and food stamp benefits. Represented clients at administrative hearings. Performed legal research and drafted position statements, declarations, and memoranda. Negotiated with Alameda County Social Services Agency to improve clients' access to welfare aid. Served as the Clinic's representative in strategy sessions of working group of legal advocates focused on improving disabled clients' access to welfare benefits. Attended weekly unit meetings and training sessions on interviewing clients, negotiations, and direct- and cross-examination. Performed telephone intake.

**ACLU OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, Los Angeles, CA****Legal Intern, Immigrant Rights**

May 2012 – August 2012

Researched and drafted memoranda on constitutional issues related to the mass detention of immigrants by federal and local law enforcement officials. Conducted extensive research on recent case law developments in connection with legal remedies available to transgender immigrants and the right to counsel in immigration proceedings of immigrants with mental disabilities. Collected data on conditions in local jails and detention centers. Attended negotiation and litigation strategy sessions with staff attorneys. Assisted in interviewing clients. Observed oral arguments at the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and California Supreme Court. Performed telephone intake.

**WORKERS' RIGHTS CLINIC, Berkeley, CA****Legal Counselor**

September 2011 – May 2012

Interviewed and counseled low-income clients regarding wage claims, workplace discrimination, and other employment issues. Researched employment law and consulted with supervising attorneys to identify legal issues and determine viable remedies for clients. Represented and secured \$3,000 in unpaid wages, overtime, and waiting time penalties for a Latina worker at an administrative hearing before the California Labor Commissioner.

**INTERNATIONAL CORPORATE ACCOUNTABILITY CLINIC, Berkeley, CA****Clinic Participant**

September 2011 – December 2011

Worked with Accountability Counsel (San Francisco). Conducted research for a resource guide to help communities affected by international development projects file formal complaints regarding human rights and environmental abuses with the accountability mechanisms of international financial institutions.

**FOSTERQUAN, LLP, Austin, TX****Legal Assistant**

July 2010 – July 2011

Prepared and filed nonimmigrant and immigrant visa petitions with U.S. Customs and Immigration Service and waivers of inadmissibility with the U.S. State Department. Researched occupational visa requirements and drafted statements in support for employment-based visa applications. Interviewed and counseled clients.

**WORKERS DEFENSE PROJECT, Austin, TX****Workers' Rights Advocate**

August 2009 – July 2011

Worked with undocumented construction workers to file employment discrimination and wage claims against employers with the Texas Workforce Commission. Negotiated with employers for repayment of wages. Participated in actions and protests at construction sites to pressure employers to pay workers' wages. Filed wage-theft claims with the Austin Police Department. Performed intake and created and maintained case files.

**AUSTIN IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COALITION, Austin, TX****Policy Committee Member**

January 2010 – July 2011

Attended weekly committee meetings and helped plan 2011 May Day march and other local immigration-related events, including a state immigration conference calling for more just local, state, and national policies that contribute to improving the lives of immigrants.

**YALE UNIVERSITY HISTORY DEPARTMENT, New Haven, CT****Teaching Assistant**

September 2008 – May 2009

Collaborated in the design and evaluation of semester assignments and led weekly seminar-style discussion sections for two history courses, "Mexican Americans and the U.S.-Mexico Borderlands since 1848" and "African American History: From Emancipation to Present."

**JUNTA FOR PROGRESSIVE ACTION, New Haven, CT****Volunteer**

June 2007

Worked with JUNTA for Progressive Action, Unidad Latina en Acción, and the Yale Law School Worker and Immigrant Rights Advocacy Clinic to collect and translate declarations for thirty-two undocumented New Haven families who were raided by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

**UNITE-HERE GRADUATE EMPLOYEES AND STUDENTS ORGANIZATION, New Haven, CT****Steering Committee Member and Equal Rights and Access Committee (ERAC) Co-Chair**

September 2006 – August 2009

Organized graduate students and workers at Yale University around contingent job classifications, access to healthcare, and other workplace issues. Organized hotel workers at two Sheraton hotels in Philadelphia as part of the nation-wide Hotel Workers Rising campaign (Summer 2007). As ERAC Co-chair (September 2007 – December 2008), led the design and initial stages of a forthcoming

## ATTACHMENT B

report on the impact of contingent job classifications on the academic and non-academic workforce at Yale. Coordinated weekly committee meetings and the collection of more than 100 interviews from graduate and professional students, undergraduates, workers, staff members, and local leaders in the Yale and New Haven communities.

**TEACH FOR AMERICA**, Brownsville, TX

**AP World History Teacher, James Pace High School**

August 2004 – August 2006

Established the first AP World History course in the school district. Designed weekly lesson plans and assignments, lectured, and led classroom discussions. Ninety-seven percent passing rate on the state-mandated TAKS World History Test.

### PRESENTATIONS

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**“The U.S.-Mexico Border and Mexican Migration to the United States, 1880-2010.”** Guest Lecture in “Mexico from the Nineteenth Century to the Present.” Yale University, 6 April 2010.

**“The Bracero Program, the Cold War, and Mexican Removal, 1942-1964.”** Guest Lecture in “Mexicans, Mexican Americans and the U.S.-Mexico Borderlands since 1848.” Yale University, 12 November 2008.

**“Making ‘Wetback Nationals’: Mexican Laborers, Unsanctioned Migration, and Binational Maritime Deportation.”** Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association Conference, Pasadena, CA, 7 August 2008.

### LANGUAGE SKILLS

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Fluent in Spanish.

### PERSONAL INTERESTS

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Enjoy reading histories of labor and civil rights struggles, playing soccer and rooting for the FC Barcelona, and watching films by Spike Lee, Pedro Almodóvar, Guillermo del Toro, Alfonso Cuarón, Alejandro González Iñárritu, and the Coen Brothers.

**TONY LOPRESTI**

625 Civic Center St. Richmond, CA 94804 ■ (619) 850-4027 ■ tlopresti1@gmail.com

**February 24, 2020**

***Delivered via Electronic Email***

Monica Yu  
CRLA  
Chief Development Officer  
1430 Franklin Street, Suit 103  
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Application for re-appointment to CRLA Board

Dear Ms. Yu,

It is my honor to submit this letter of interest in a re-appointment to the CRLA Board. I have served on the Board since 2016, and have thoroughly enjoyed the experience. I look forward to making a continued contribution on the Executive Committee, Retirement Committee, and in other capacities. It has been my life's work to contribute to movements for social and environmental justice, and I view CRLA as a critical organization in advancing those movements. I am enclosing my CV. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/ Tony LoPresti

# TONY LOPRESTI

625 Civic Center St. Richmond, CA 94804 ■ (619) 850-4027 ■ tlopresti1@gmail.com

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### County of Santa Clara Office of County Counsel

Nov. 2018–Present

#### *Deputy County Counsel*

Dual appointment to Social Justice and Impact Litigation Section and Finance, Government Operations, and Environment Section, representing Office of Supportive Housing and Department of Parks and Recreation

### Altshuler Berzon LLP

Sept. 2014–Oct. 2018

*Associate* (Sept. 2016–Present); *Altshuler Berzon / NRDC Litigation Fellow* (Aug 2014–Aug 2016);

Practice labor, employment, and environmental law: draft pleadings and briefing; conduct legal research and discovery; draft legislation at the local and state level; draft administrative comments; provide legal and strategic support for client advocacy campaigns.

### U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

Sept. 2013–Sept. 2014

*Law Clerk to the Hon. Richard A. Paez*

Conducted legal research; drafted bench memoranda; assisted in drafting orders and opinions.

### U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit

Aug. 2012–Aug. 2013

*Law Clerk to the Hon. Roger L. Gregory*

Conducted legal research; drafted bench memoranda; assisted in drafting orders and opinions.

### Sustainable Economies Law Center

Summer 2011

*Summer Law Clerk*

Organized legal clinic supporting Hmong farmers and workers in Central Valley; drafted memorandum examining the application of federal labor law to consumer cooperative interns.

### Center on Race, Poverty & the Environment

Summer 2010

*Summer Law Clerk*

Conducted policy research on improved regulation of air emissions from dairies; assisted in CEQA case briefing; drafted letter to EPA regarding its failure to act on Title VI complaint.

### Environmental Health Coalition

Feb. 2005–June 2009

*Campaign Director* (2008–09) / *Policy Advocate* (2005–08)

Coordinated comprehensive organizing and advocacy campaigns to win progressive environmental justice policies in immigrant communities in the San Diego/Tijuana border region; directed Land Use, Clean Ports, and Toxic Free Neighborhoods campaigns; coordinated leadership development program.

### Center for Justice, Tolerance, and Community

Mar. 2002–Jan. 2005

*Research Associate* (2003–05) / *Research Assistant* (2002–03)

Worked with community-based organizations (“CBOs”) to develop policy responses to global trade agreements; drafted report on public participation practices in environmental justice communities for the California Integrated Waste Management Board; developed popular education curriculum for CBOs.

## EDUCATION

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### University of California, Berkeley School of Law (Boalt Hall)

Aug. 2009–May 2012

J.D., *Order of the Coif*

*Article:* *Reclaiming the Authentic Future: The Role of Redevelopment in Unincorporated California*  
[awarded 2011 Smith-Babcock-Williams National Writing Prize]

*Honors:* Six American Jurisprudence Awards  
Distinguished Oralist Award, Jessup Moot Court Competition, Pacific Super-Regionals (2011)  
Best Oralist Award in Written and Oral Advocacy (2010)



*Awards:* Eleanor Swift Award for Public Service at Boalt (2012)  
Sandals Fellowship for Environmental Leadership (2011)  
Coblentz Land Use Scholarship (2011)

*Activities:* Students for Economic & Environmental Justice, *Coordinator* (2010–12)  
Campus Rights Project, *Student Protester Representative* (2010)  
Community Legal Outreach, Housing Division, *Volunteer* (2009)

**University of California, Santa Cruz** **Sept. 2001–June 2003**  
B.A., with *Highest Honors in the Major*, Latin American Latino Studies

**University of San Diego** **Sept. 1996–Dec. 1998**  
Scholar Athlete of the Year—Baseball Team (1997)

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

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### SCHOLARLY WORK

*Realizing the Promise of Environmental Civil Rights: The Renewed Effort to Enforce Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964*, 65 ADMIN. L. REV. 757 (2013).

*Empowered Partnerships: Participatory Action Research for Environmental Justice*, with Chris Bacon, Mary Louise Frampton, Saneta de Vuono Powell & Camille Pannu, 6 ENVTL. JUSTICE 1 (Feb. 2013).

*Reclaiming the Authentic Future: The Role of Redevelopment in Unincorporated California*, 44 URB. LAW. 135 (2012).

*¡Sí Se Puede! Using Participatory Research to Promote Environmental Justice in a Latino Community in San Diego, CA*, with Meredith Minkler, Analilia Garcia, Jane Lilly & Joy Williams, 87 J. OF URB. HEALTH 796 (Sept. 2010).

*The Color in Miami: Building Grassroots Leadership of Color in the U.S. Global Justice Movement*, with Manuel Pastor, 3 CRIT. SOCIOLOGY 795 (2007).

### POPULAR PRESS

*Community Planning for Power: A Case Study*, with Diane Takvorian et al., RACE, POVERTY & THE ENVT. (2008) (article).

*National City Redevelopment: Who Really Benefits?*, with Diane Takvorian, SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIB., Mar. 9, 2006 (opinion editorial).

*Thinking Locally: How Community Organizers are Connecting the Global-Local Dots*, with Manuel Pastor, RACE, POVERTY & THE ENVT. (2004) (article).

*Mobilizing Miami*, with Manuel Pastor, THENATION.COM, Nov. 13, 2003 (article).

## BOARD MEMBERSHIPS AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

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California Rural Legal Assistance (CRLA), <i>Board Member</i>	<b>May 2016– Present</b>
City Heights Community Development Corporation, <i>Board Member</i>	<b>June 2005–July 2009</b>
City Heights Redevelopment Project Area Committee, <i>Vice Chair / Member</i>	<b>June 2007–July 2009</b>
San Diego Community Land Trust, <i>Board Member</i>	<b>June 2008–June 2009</b>

## LANGUAGES, BAR ADMISSIONS, AND OTHER EXPERIENCE

---

*Languages:* Fluent in Spanish

**ATTACHMENT B**  
**TONY LOPRESTI**

*Bar Admissions:* State of California; U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit; U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California; U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California

*Other Experience:* Professional Baseball Player, Italian League (1999); Bread Deliveryman (1999); Bartender (1998); Waiter (1996-98; 2000-01); Busboy (1994-95); Fisherman (1993–96)

**From:** [Martinez, David](#)  
**To:** [Monica K. Yu](#)  
**Subject:** David Martinez request for appointment to State Bar position on CRLA Board  
**Date:** Monday, February 24, 2020 4:07:18 PM

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Dear Monica –

Please allow this to serve as my letter requesting appointment to the State Bar position on the Board of Directors of California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc. I have been a proud friend and supporter of CRLA over the last fifteen years, including through more than a decade of board membership, substantial and consistent financial contributions, direct legal representation and event planning and fund raising. I have also been recognized by public and private entities for outstanding commitment to pro bono advocacy. My resume is found here - <https://www.robinskaplan.com/professionals/m/david-martinez>.

With warmest regards and great appreciation for your consideration,

**David Martinez**

**ROBINS KAPLAN LLP**

Robins Kaplan LLP | 2049 Century Park East | Suite 3400 | Los Angeles, CA 90067-3208  
p (310) 552-0130 | d (310) 229-5826 | [dmartinez@RobinsKaplan.com](mailto:dmartinez@RobinsKaplan.com) | [RobinsKaplan.com](http://www.robinskaplan.com)  
<http://www.robinskaplan.com/lawyers/david-martinez>

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Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Robins Kaplan LLP  
<http://www.robinskaplan.com>

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February 16, 2020

Monica Yu  
California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc.  
1430 Franklin Street, Ste. 103  
Oakland, CA 94612  
[myu@crla.org](mailto:myu@crla.org)

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

**RE: Application to Serve on the Board of California Rural Legal Assistance**

Dear Ms. Yu:

I write to express my strong interest in serving on the Board of Directors for California Rural Legal Assistance (CRLA). I believe my professional and pro bono experience with rural communities, my prior service on CRLA's Board, and my belief in CRLA's mission and model would enable me to serve as a strong Board member.

I have had the pleasure of serving on CRLA's Board of Directors since June 2013, where I have been a highly engaged Board member. In addition to overseeing a significant governance review and redrafting of the organization's bylaws, I have served as a member of the Board's Executive Committee and have, at different times, chaired the Board's Committee on Long-Term and Financial Planning and its Audit Committee. CRLA has done tremendous work to expand its Board capacity, and I hope to continue to contribute to those efforts.

As a clinical professor of law and legal services attorney, I have worked primarily with very low-income, rural communities in the areas of access to infrastructure, food security, and community development. I am a transactional practitioner who specializes in community-based organizations, social enterprises (nonprofits, LLCs, worker cooperatives, joint ventures) and water justice. Through those experiences, I have seen first-hand CRLA's dramatic positive impact on the lives of rural Californians. I believe that CRLA is the backbone of the State Bar's access to justice efforts, and it plays a crucial role in connecting low-income communities that are structurally excluded from local decision-making, as well as from legal services concentrated in the state's urban core.

I would be honored to dedicate time to supporting CRLA's continued growth. I would love to discuss my application further, and should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone (925) 899-8383 or email ([camille.pannu@gmail.com](mailto:camille.pannu@gmail.com)). Thank you for your consideration.

All best,



Camille Pannu

# Camille Pannu

401 E. PELTASON DRIVE • IRVINE, CA 92617 • 949.824.9454 • cpannu@law.uci.edu

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

---

**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE, SCHOOL OF LAW** 2019–*present*

*Visiting Assistant Clinical Professor of Law*, Community Economic Development Clinic

Service: Chair, AALS Provisional Section on Community Economic Development (2019–*present*)  
 Member, Planning Committee–Towards Safe Water from Every Tap, Environmental Health Matters Initiative, National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine (2019–2020)  
 AALS Clinical Law Section, Committee on Transactional Law (2018–*present*)  
 Clinical Workshop Committee, UC Irvine School of Law (2019–*present*)

**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS, SCHOOL OF LAW (KING HALL)** 2016–2019

*Founding Director*, Water Justice Clinic, Aoki Center for Critical Race & Nation Studies

*Fellow*, UC Davis John Muir Institute of the Environment (2018–*present*)

*Faculty Affiliate*, UC Water Security and Sustainability Initiative (2018–*present*)

Service: Ad-Hoc Committee on Public Interest & Public Service, UC Davis School of Law (2017–19)  
 Brian M. Sax Prize for Clinical Advocacy Committee, UC Berkeley School of Law (2019)  
 Northern California Clinical Conference Planning Committee (2018–19)

## EDUCATION

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**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY, SCHOOL OF LAW, 2011**

J.D., Certificate in Environmental Law

Honors: Francine Marie Diaz Memorial Award  
 University of California Human Rights Fellow (2009)  
 William K. Coblentz Civil Rights Fellow (2010–11)  
 Activities: Senior Articles Editor, *California Law Review* (Vol. 99)  
 Founder and Co-Coordinator, Students for Economic and Environmental Justice, Women of Color Collective, Graduate Working Group in Environmental Justice

**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY, 2006**

B.A., *Honors with Distinction*, International Political Economy (PEIS)

Honors Thesis: *Black: Identity, Class & Political Solidarity Among British Afro-Caribbeans and British Asians* (awarded Il Torno Prize for outstanding original research; fieldwork in London).

Honors: Library Prize for Undergraduate Research (university-wide award conferred to three seniors for outstanding original research); Prytanean Society; Public Policy & International Affairs Fellow (Princeton, 2005).

## JUDICIAL CLERKSHIPS

---

**HONORABLE RICHARD A. PAEZ**, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, 2015–16.

**HONORABLE STEFAN R. UNDERHILL**, U.S. District Court for the District of Connecticut, 2013–15.

## EXPERIENCE

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**SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIES LAW CENTER**, Fresno, CA

Jan.–Aug. 2013

*Equal Justice Works Fellow & Staff Attorney*

Created program to provide transactional legal services and build capacity for community-based organizations and residents of rural and low-income communities in California's San Joaquin Valley.

**CENTER ON RACE, POVERTY & THE ENVIRONMENT**

Sept. 2011–Dec. 2012

*Equal Justice Works Fellow & Staff Attorney* (Delano)*California Leaders of Color Fellow* (2011–12)

Launched new community economic development practice to serve very low-income, rural communities of color through transactional direct services, coalition building, legislative advocacy and the creation of pro bono programs in land use, water, business associations, local government, real property, insurance, and tax law.

*Legal Intern* (San Francisco)

Summer 2010

Drafted state and federal trial and appellate briefs and filed administrative comments for environmental and civil rights cases regarding racially disparate environmental hazards impacting California's low-income, rural communities of color.

**COMMUNITIES FOR A BETTER ENVIRONMENT, Oakland, CA**

Summer 2009

*Legal Intern*

Drafted memoranda and brief sections on state and federal anti-discrimination law, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and the Clean Air Act. Testified on health impacts of non-renewable power plant construction on low-income communities of color in Los Angeles.

**YALE LAW SCHOOL, New Haven, CT**

June 2007–July 2008

*Postgraduate Research Fellow (Law & Economics)*

Provided econometric analysis and research support to Prof. John J. Donohue III regarding social policy, incarceration, and capital punishment in the Connecticut Death Penalty Report (resulting in the elimination of the death penalty in Connecticut) and additional papers.

*Student Director, Community and Economic Development Clinic*

Sept. 2007–July 2008

At the Jerome N. Frank Legal Services Organization, coordinated three teams of students to provide transactional legal services and support to develop a workers' center, launch a farm-to-school food program, and guide a real estate sale for several New Haven community-based organizations.

**INNOVATIONS FOR POVERTY ACTION / MIT POVERTY ACTION LAB, Kenya**

April–Nov. 2006

*Evaluation Coordinator & Research Assistant, Rural Water Project* (Busia)

Directed field research activities, supervised a staff of forty, coordinated logistics, drafted survey and analysis codes, and contributed to research design for development policy intervention on rural drinking water and children's health.

**PUBLICATIONS**SCHOLARLY JOURNALS

*Bridging the Safe Drinking Water Gap for California's Rural Poor* (14th Annual California Water Law Symposium), 24 HASTINGS ENVTL. L. J. 253 (2018) (invited).

*Introduction to Empowered Partnerships: Community-Based Participatory Action Research for Environmental Justice*, 6 ENVTL. JUSTICE 1, 1–3, 8–10 (2013) (peer-reviewed), with Christopher Bacon, Saneta DeVuonopowell, Mary Louise Frampton & Tony LoPresti.

*Drinking Water & Exclusion: A Case Study from California's Central Valley*, Comment, 100 CALIF. L. REV. 223 (2012) (awarded Shute Mihaly Prize for Land-Use and Local Government Writing).

*The Legacy of Environmental Racism in Richmond, California*, 3 THEMIS J. ENVT. HEALTH & DEV. 40 (2006).

WHITE PAPERS, POLICY ANALYSES & WORKSHOP SYNTHESSES

LEARNING FROM CALIFORNIA'S EXPERIENCE WITH SMALL WATER SYSTEM CONSOLIDATIONS: A WORKSHOP SUMMARY, with Nell Green Nylen (lead author) and Michael Kiparsky, Wheeler Water Inst., Ctr. for Law, Energy & the Env't., UC Berkeley School of Law (Apr. 2018).

THE STRUGGLE FOR WATER JUSTICE IN CALIFORNIA'S SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY: A FOCUS ON DISADVANTAGED UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITIES (Report), with Jonathan London (lead author), Amanda Fencl et al., UC Davis Ctr. for Regional Change (Feb. 2018).

POPULAR PRESS

*Clean water bill will resolve public health crisis*, Op-Ed, SACRAMENTO BEE (May 22, 2018).

**PRESENTATIONS, GUEST LECTURES & TRAININGS**

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PRESENTATIONS

- “Water Justice,” *Clinical Law Review* Writers’ Workshop, NYU School of Law (Sept. 22, 2019).
- Panelist, Plenary Session on Water, *People Power: Building Healthy Homes for All*, Network for Energy, Water and Health in Affordable Buildings (NEWHAB) + Energy Efficiency for All (EEFA) 2019 Convening, Los Angeles, CA (May 22, 2019).
- Panelist, “What’s Economic Inequality Got to Do with It? Everything! Strategies for Teaching Economic Inequality in Clinics,” AALS Conference on Clinical Legal Education, San Francisco, CA (May 5, 2019).
- Panelist, “Building Community Collaborations: The Power (and Challenges) of Collective Action,” 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Transactional Clinical Conference, Berkeley, CA (May 3, 2019).
- Discussant, “Building Bridges: Examining Race and Privilege in Community Economic Development,” AALS Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA (Jan. 6, 2019).
- Panelist, “Rural Access to Justice,” AALS Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA (Jan. 5, 2019).
- Panelist, “Transactional Representation in Environmental Law Clinics,” Environmental Law Clinics Directors’ Conference, Columbia Law School (Nov. 9, 2018).
- Panelist, “Infrastructure and Economic Development,” *The Urgency of Poverty Symposium*, University of Tennessee School of Law (Oct. 25, 2018).
- Keynote, *Forging Sovereignty, Self Determination & Solidarity Through Water Law Symposium*, University of Denver Water Law Review, University of Denver Sturm College of Law (Mar. 30, 2018).
- Moderator, “Environmental Justice in the Central Valley,” *Humans and Their Environment: Protecting Our Planet and Its Inhabitants Symposium*, Environmental Law Society, UC Davis School of Law (Mar. 9, 2018).
- “Water Inequality in California,” Intellectual Enrichment Series, UC Davis School of Law (Feb. 7, 2018).
- Panelist, “Environmental Justice and Safe Drinking Water” and “The Challenges of an Evolving Climate: A Case Study of the Impacts of Wildfire on California’s Water Infrastructure,” *14<sup>th</sup> Annual California Water Law Symposium*, UC Berkeley International House (Jan. 20, 2018).
- “The Color of Water,” Aoki Center for Critical Race & Nation Studies Interdisciplinary Research Seminar Series, UC Davis School of Law (Oct. 19, 2017).
- “Who Speaks for the People?: Democratizing the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act,” California Environmental Law & Policy Center Lecture Series, UC Davis School of Law (Sept. 13, 2017).
- Keynote, “Linking Rural & Urban Societies & Ecologies,” *Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences Annual Conference*, Duquesne University (June 21, 2013).
- “The Role of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in Rural Transportation Planning,” *Environmental Law Symposium*, UC Davis School of Law (Apr. 12, 2013).
- “Community Economic Development as the Future of the Environmental Justice Movement,” *Ruth Chance Memorial Lecture*, UC Berkeley School of Law (Mar. 11, 2013).
- “A Call to Action in Rural America,” Roundtable on Access to Justice, *Overcoming Invisibility: Environmental Justice in Rural America Symposium*, UC Berkeley School of Law (Mar. 2, 2012).
- “Structural Barriers to Drinking Water Access in the Rural West,” *Conference on Implementing the Human Right to Water in the West*, Willamette University College of Law (Feb. 7, 2011).

SELECTED TRAININGS & PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

- Moderator, “Uncooperative Federalism,” the Environmental Conference at Yosemite (CLE), California Lawyers Association Environmental Law Section (Oct. 18, 2019).
- “Water Justice 101,” with Phoebe Seaton, Webinar (CLE), ImpactFund (July 7, 2019).
- “Environmental Justice: Assisting Rural Communities,” Webinar (CLE), Practising Law Institute (Jan. 9, 2019).
- Moderator, “Existing and Developing Legal Theories for Clean Water Advocacy,” *Clean Water Forum*, Impact Fund, Fresno, CA (Dec. 6, 2018).

- Panelist, “Public Interest Careers,” Asian Pacific American Law Students Association, UC Davis School of Law (Sept. 25, 2018).
- Panelist, “Making the Human Right to Water a Reality” (CLE), Water Education Foundation Annual Symposium, Sacramento, CA (Sept. 20, 2018).
- Panelist, “Water Justice in the Valley: Are We Meeting or Ducking the Challenge?” (CLE), *Your Valley, Your Voice: Bringing Environmental Justice to San Joaquin Valley Communities*, California Lawyers Association Environmental Law Section, Visalia, CA (May 18, 2018).
- Keynote, *Ecology Law Quarterly* Annual Dinner, UC Berkeley School of Law (Apr. 20, 2018).
- Panelist, “Careers in Environmental Justice,” Students for Economic & Environmental Justice, UC Berkeley School of Law (Jan. 30, 2018).
- Panelist, “Public Service/Public Interest Transactional Law Careers in Environmental Enforcement,” Environmental Law Society, UC Davis School of Law (Nov. 1, 2018).
- Panelist, “Water and Social Justice,” *Civil Rights in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: UC Public Service Law Conference*, UCLA Luskin Conference Center (Sept. 23, 2017).
- “Innovating in Practice: Creating, Developing and Updating Pro Bono Projects that Serve Rural or Isolated Communities,” *ABA/NLADA Equal Justice Conference*, Pittsburgh, PA (May 4, 2017).
- “Engaging Sponsors and Stakeholders for Pro Bono Projects,” “Leveraging Resources for Pro Bono Clinics,” “Building an Equal Justice Works Network,” and “Linking Public Interest Community Economic Development Resources,” *Equal Justice Works National Leadership Development Training Conference*, Washington, D.C. (Oct. 2012, Oct. 2013, Oct. 2014 & Oct. 2016).
- “Providing Legal Services to Communities in Rural Areas,” *Equal Justice Works Conference* (Oct. 24, 2014).
- “La Zonificación,” and “El Riesgo,” *Training on Forming Your Cooperative Business* (Spanish), Latina Center, Richmond, CA (July 13, 2013).
- “Introduction to Transactional Practice for the Sharing Economy” (CLE), *Law Intern and Pro Bono Attorney Training*, Berkeley, CA (June 3–4, 2013).
- “Introduction to Legal Issues for Worker Coops,” Training for the 2013 Democracy at Work Network (DAWN) Cohort, U.S. Federation of Worker Cooperatives, San Francisco, CA (May 2013 & Nov. 2014).
- “Community Organizations and Food Security: Legal Tools for Aspiring Non-Profits,” Community Workshop (Spanish), Delano, CA (Apr. 13, 2013).
- “Involving Communities in Cooperative Cultivation,” “Cooperative Organizing in Underserved Communities,” and “Legal Issues for Food Coops” (CLE), *California Cooperative Conference*, Los Angeles, CA (Apr. 6, 2013).
- Panelist, “Beyond Legal Aid: Building Community Power for Equal Justice,” Gideon at 50, American Constitution Society Student Convention, Stanford University School of Law (Mar. 2, 2013).
- “Best Practices for Working with Rural, Immigrant Communities,” “Identifying Community Assets,” and “Working with Multi-Ethnic and Multi-Lingual Worker Cooperatives,” *2013 Summit on Best Practices in Co-op Development with Rural and Underserved Groups*, San Diego, CA (Jan. 15–16, 2013).
- “Food for the People: Tactics to Claim Land and Increase Food Sovereignty in Communities of Color,” *National Urban Agriculture & Small Farms Conference*, Milwaukee, WI (Sept. 8, 2012).
- “The Farm Bill: Economic and Social Justice Considerations for Farm Worker Communities and Rural Communities of Color,” Webinar, Applied Research Center (July 17, 2012).
- “Land-Use and Community Agriculture” (CLE), OneJustice (July 6, 2012).
- “Providing Culturally-Appropriate Legal Services in Rural California” (CLE), OneJustice (May 10, 2012).
- “Community Organizing, Community Economic Development, and Worker Cooperatives: Urban and Rural Models,” Workshop, *U.S. Federation of Worker Cooperatives Annual Conference*, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (June 22, 2012).
- “Integrating Racial and Economic Justice in Transactional Legal Services,” “Issue-spotting Transactional Legal Issues: Choice of Entity, Formation, Land-Use, Immigration, Employment and Labor, and Intellectual Property” (CLE), Law Intern and Pro Bono Attorney Training, Berkeley, CA (May 29, May 30 & June 3, 2012).
- “Community Economic Development for Rural Communities,” Webinar, Clinical Training for McGeorge Law School students (Mar. 22, 2012).



Keynote, *For People of Color, Inc., Workshop on Law Admissions*, UC Merced (Feb. 25, 2012).

Panelist, “Civil Rights Careers After *Ricci*,” *Southern California Public Interest Conference*, UCLA School of Law (Feb. 11, 2012).

“Community Lawyering and the Role of Lawyers in the Environmental Justice Movement,” Clinical Training, UC Berkeley School of Law (Sept. 17, 2011).

## **ADMISSIONS**

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*Admissions:* California; U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit; U.S. District Courts for the Central, Eastern and Northern Districts of California.

## **PRO BONO & COMMUNITY SERVICE**

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- *Member*, Legal Committee, ACLU of Northern California (2019–*present*)
- *Board Director*, California Law Review, Inc. (2019–*present*)
- *Board Director* (State Bar Representative), California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc. (2013–*present*)

Nicole M. Phillips, Esq.  
Human Rights Legal Advisor  
38 Van Buren Street  
San Francisco, CA 94131  
Tel: (510) 715-2855  
nmp.law@gmail.com

*Sent Via email*

February 21, 2020

Monica Yu, Chief Development Officer  
California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc.  
1430 Franklin Street, Suite 103  
Oakland, CA 94612  
[myu@crla.org](mailto:myu@crla.org)

Re: Statement of Interest for CRLA Board of Directors

Dear Ms. Yu,

Susan Scott has kindly put me in touch with Jose Padilla to take her place as a CLRA board member. I was a union labor lawyer with Weinberg Roger & Rosenfeld (WRR) in Oakland from 2000 – 2010, and remember reading important legal cases brought by CLRA's team to defend the employment rights of migrants. It looks like CLRA works on a variety of other critical legal violations facing migrants, such as the right to housing, education and clean water. Of course, these rights intertwine, and I applaud CLRA's wholistic approach to protecting migrant communities.

After leaving WRR in 2010, I moved to Haiti for 8 years and was based at a Haitian public interest law firm that worked in solidarity with grassroots social movements. I joined teams of Haitian lawyers to provide direct services, litigation, advocacy, media and policy work around gender-based violence, as well as housing, employment, LGBTQ and voting rights, most of which are services provided by CRLA. My focus was leading legal advocacy campaigns with the United Nations, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, and U.S. and Haitian policy makers to accompany Haitian litigation strategies.

Since moving back to San Francisco in 2018, I have turned my focus to immigration advocacy as the Legal Director of Haitian Bridge Alliance, a non-profit organization that advocates for fair and humane immigration policies and connects migrants with legal, social and humanitarian services, with a particular focus on black migrants, the Haitian community, women, LGBTQ individuals and survivors of torture and other human rights abuses. In addition to fundraising, I'm helping establish legal assistance programs for migrants in Tijuana and Tapachula, Mexico.

Hopefully this varied background in employment, immigration, housing and human rights advocacy can be helpful to the CRLA board. My approach to legal work is one of collaboration and solidarity. CRLA's work is not only important for migrants in rural California, it is also model of skillful solidarity work for the rest of the world.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nicole Phillips", written in a cursive style.

Nicole Phillips, Esq.

Encl: CV

**Nicole M. Phillips**  
38 Van Buren Street  
San Francisco, California  
(510) 715.2855 • nmp.law@gmail.com

## **CURRENT PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

**Human Rights and Rule of Law Advisor**, San Francisco, CA and Port-au-Prince, Haïti  
*Consultant*, October 2018 – Present

**Haitian Bridge Alliance**, San Diego, CA  
*Volunteer Legal Director*, September 2019 – Present

**Université de la Fondation Dr. Aristide Faculté des Sciences Juridiques et Politiques**, Port-au-Prince, Haïti  
*Law Professor*, October 2013 – Present

**UC Hastings College of the Law**, San Francisco, CA  
*Adjunct Law Professor*, January 2015 – Present

**Freedom House**, New York, NY  
*Analyst*, 2014 – Present

**Word and Action**, Miami, FL  
*Board Member*, June 2019 – Present

## **EDUCATION**

**University of San Francisco School of Law**, San Francisco, CA  
J.D. Degree, May 1999

**University of California San Diego**, La Jolla, CA  
B.A. in Political Science, Minors in History and International Studies, June 1994

## **ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS**

*Judicial Corruption in Haiti: The Need for Discipline and Civil Society Participation*, 39 Hastings Int'l & Comp. L. Rev. 1, 183 (2015), co-authored with Mario Joseph.

*Comparative Perspectives on Gender Violence: Lessons from Efforts Worldwide* (Rashmi Goel and Leigh Goodmark eds. 2015), authored Chapter 4, *The vital role of grassroots movements in combatting sexual violence and intimate partner abuse in Haiti*.

*Tectonic Shifts: Haiti Since the Earthquake* (Kumarian Press, 2012), co-authored Chapter 9, *Rights and Public Health*.

*A Rights-Based Approach to Lawyering: Legal Empowerment as an Alternative to Legal Aid in Post-Disaster Haiti*, 10 Nw. U. J. Int'l Hum. Rts. 7 (2011), co-authored with Meena Jagannath and Jeena Shah.

*Enforcing Remedies from the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights: Forced Evictions and Post-Earthquake Haiti*, 19 No. 1 Hum. Rts. Brief 13 (2011), co-authored with Kathleen Bergin, Jennifer Goldsmith and Laura Carr.

## **HUMAN RIGHTS REPORTS**

HAITI: FREEDOM IN THE WORLD 2019, published by Freedom House (2019).

HAITI: FREEDOM IN THE WORLD 2018, published by Freedom House (2018).

HAITI'S UNREPRESENTED DEMOCRACY: EXCLUSION AND DISCOURAGEMENT IN THE NOVEMBER 20, 2016 ELECTIONS, published by the National Lawyers Guild and International Association of Democratic Lawyers (2017), co-authored.

HAITI: FREEDOM IN THE WORLD 2017, published by Freedom House (2017).

HUMAN RIGHTS-BASED APPROACH TO POST-HURRICANE MATTHEW ASSISTANCE IN HAITI, submission to United National Independent Expert on the Situation of Human Rights in Haiti, Gustavo Gallón, submitted by Allard K. Lowenstein International Human Rights Clinic, Yale Law School; Bureau des Avocats Internationaux; Gender Action; Global Justice Clinic, NYU School of Law; Institute for Justice & Democracy in Haiti; Li, Li, Li! Read; and Réseau National de Défense des Droits Humains (2016), co-authored.

DEMOCRACY DISCOURAGED: INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS AND HAITI'S 2015 ELECTIONS, published by the National Lawyers Guild and International Association of Democratic Lawyers (2016), co-authored.

HAITI: FREEDOM IN THE WORLD 2016, published by Freedom House (2016).

HAITI: FREEDOM IN THE PRESS 2016, published by Freedom House (2016).

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, TRAFFICKING, PROSTITUTION, AND EXPLOITATION BY UN PEACEKEEPERS, submission to the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women for Haiti's review (2016), co-authored.

GENDER ISSUES FACING WOMEN AND GIRLS, submission to the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women for Haiti's review (2016), co-authored.

ACCESS TO JUDICIAL REMEDIES IN HAITI, submission to the United National Human Rights Council for Haiti's Universal Periodic Review (2016), co-authored.

VIOLATIONS OF THE RIGHT TO WORK IN HAITI, submission to the United Nations Human Rights Council (2016), co-authored.

REPORT OF THE NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD AND INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DEMOCRATIC LAWYERS DELEGATION ON THE OCTOBER 25, 2015, PRESIDENTIAL AND LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS IN HAITI, published by the National Lawyers Guild and International Association of Democratic Lawyers (2015), co-authored.

ENSURING FAIR ELECTIONS IN HAITI: LEGAL ANALYSIS OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS, published by IJDH (2015).

HAITI: FREEDOM IN THE WORLD 2015, published by Freedom House (2015).

ACCESS TO JUDICIAL REMEDIES, submission to United Nations Human Rights Committee for Haiti's review (2014), co-authored.

HAITIAN LABOR MOVEMENT STRUGGLES AS WORKERS FACE INCREASE IN PERSECUTION AND WAGE SUPPRESSION, published by IJDH (2014).

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS IN LONG-TERM ASSESSMENT OF HAITIAN GOVERNMENT'S 16/6 HOUSING PLAN FOR EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS, published by IJDH (2014).

FREEDOM OF THE PRESS IN HAITI: THE CHILLING EFFECT ON JOURNALISTS CRITICAL OF THE GOVERNMENT, published by the University of San Francisco School of Law and IJDH (2012).

HAITI'S HOUSING CRISIS: RESULTS OF A HOUSEHOLD SURVEY ON THE PROGRESS OF PRESIDENT MICHEL MARTELLY'S 100-DAY PLAN TO CLOSE SIX IDP CAMPS, published by the University of San Francisco School of Law and IJDH (2011).

ONE YEAR AFTER THE EARTHQUAKE: HAITIANS STILL LIVING IN CRISIS, published by IJDH (2011), co-authored.

HAITI'S RENEWAL OF MINUSTAH'S MANDATE IN VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE HAITIAN PEOPLE, submission to the United Nations Human Rights Council for Haiti's Universal Periodic Review (2011).

HAITI'S NOVEMBER 28 ELECTIONS: TRYING TO LEGITIMIZE THE ILLEGITIMATE, published by IJDH (2010).

WE'VE BEEN FORGOTTEN: CONDITIONS IN HAITI'S DISPLACEMENT CAMPS ONE YEAR AFTER THE EARTHQUAKE, published by IJDH (2010), co-authored.

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY SHOULD PRESSURE THE HAITIAN GOVERNMENT FOR PROMPT AND FAIR ELECTIONS, published by IJDH (2010).

## **MEDIA APPERANCES**

Appearances in national and international media outlets, including: CNN; BBC; Canadian Broadcasting Company; Al Jazeera; KPFA; NPR; PRI; Radio France International; Christian Science Monitor; New York Times; Newsweek Magazine; Washington Post; Huffington Post; Associated Press; Reuters; *Le Nouvelliste*.

## **MEDIA ARTICLES**

*No cheerleading for Martelly*, Miami Herald Tribune, Jan. 21, 2015, co-authored with Morenike Fajana.

*Reinstatement of criminal case against Duvalier momentous victory for Haitians*, Boston Haitian Reporter, Mar. 2014.

*Leading Human Rights Activist Daniel Dorsainvil and Wife Killed*, Ryot News, Feb. 18, 2014.

*100 days into presidency, Martelly's 100-day housing plan does little for the displaced*, Boston Haitian Reporter, Oct. 2011.

*U.S. Must Stand Up to Unlawful Evictions of Haitians from Displacement Camps*, The Center for International Policy, June 6, 2011, co-authored with Kathleen Bergin.

*Michel Martelly's Short Honeymoon*, The Fresh Outlook, May 3, 2011.

*Hold new, open, fair elections*, Miami Herald Tribune, Jan. 3, 2011, co-authored with Nicolas Pascal.

*Five Reasons to Care: Haiti's Sham Elections*, Counterpunch, Nov. 26, 2010, co-authored with Bill Quigley.

*MINUSTAH: Obstacle to Democracy in Haiti*, The Fresh Outlook, Nov. 24, 2010, co-authored with Kevin Edmonds.

*Facing man-made disaster in Haiti: Failed policies leave people with few options*, Houston Chronicle, Nov. 8, 2010, co-authored with Kathleen Bergin.

*Members of Congress are right to urge changes to Haiti's flawed electoral process*, The Hill, Oct. 11, 2010.

## **OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

### **Institute for Justice & Democracy in Haiti**, Port-au-Prince, Haiti

*Staff Attorney* based half-time in Haiti, worked with public interest law firm *Bureau des Avocats Internationaux* providing strategy and litigation support to Haitian lawyers on high-profile human rights cases; drafted and coordinated international claims with grassroots organization to United Nations human rights bodies and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, April 2010 – October 2018

### **Human Rights Advocates**, San Francisco, CA

*Member of Board of Directors*, 2000 – 2016

### **North Star Rescue**, Pacifica, CA

*Legal Counsel and Member of Board of Directors*, 2014 – 2016

### **University of San Francisco School of Law**, San Francisco, CA

*Adjunct Professor and Assistant Director for Haiti Programs*, April 2006 – August 2013

### **Weinberg, Roger & Rosenfeld**, Alameda, CA

*Legal counsel* to dozens of unions and benefit trust funds at the largest trade union law firm in the United States, July 2000 - April 2010 (made partner/shareholder in 2005)

### **Asian Law Caucus**, San Francisco, CA

*Volunteer Attorney*, August 2002 - August 2006

### **Leonard, Carder, Nathan, Zuckerman, Ross, Chin & Remar**, San Francisco, CA

*Law Fellow* at union-side labor law firm, September 1999 - June 2000

### **U.S. Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security Administration**, San Francisco, CA

*Investigator* of fringe benefit plans for fiduciary and other violations under the Employee Retirement Income Securities Act (ERISA), January 1998 - May 1999

### **USF School of Law, Center for Law and Global Justice**, San Francisco, CA

*Legal Intern* with Cambodian Labor Project, Spring 1997 - Summer 1998

### **Legal Aid Society Employment Law Center**, San Francisco, CA

*Legal Intern*, Winter 1998 and Spring 1999

### **EEOC and Small Claims Court Voluntary Mediation Program**, San Francisco, CA

*Volunteer Mediator*, Fall 1998

### **District Attorney's Office, Domestic Violence Unit**, San Francisco, CA

*Legal Intern*, Summer 1997

### **City Attorney's Office, Domestic Violence Unit**, San Diego, CA

*Victim Advocate*, Summer 1996

**YWCA, Division of Domestic Violence**, San Diego, CA

*Legal Advocate*, April 1995 - July 1996

**Amnesty International, Refugee Project**, Toulouse, France

*Volunteer*, Winter 1993 - Summer 1993

## **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

California State Bar; Ninth Circuit Court of Appeal; Federal District Court for the Northern, Central, Eastern and Southern Districts of California; National Lawyers Guild International Committee; National Association of Democratic Lawyers

## **LANGUAGES**

French, Spanish and Haitian Creole

## **OTHER**

Completed a 9-month Lawyers Mindfulness Teacher Training program (2015 – 2016).

Student of Ram Dass, Buddhist Dzogchen master Lama Surya Das, archetypal psychologist and mythologist Dr. Howard Teich, and Haitian Manbo (vodou priestess) Marie Evans.

Dances Haitian folklore and Latin dance (salsa, bachata, cha cha cha).



**Robert Sandoval**

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743 Grove Street, Apt. 1 • San Francisco, CA 94102 • (562) 746-3571 • robert.sandoval@outlook.com

February 17, 2020

Monica Yu  
Chief Development Officer  
California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc.  
1430 Franklin Street, Suite 103  
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Ms. Yu:

I am a litigation associate at the international law firm of Morrison & Foerster and I am interested in serving on the Board of Directors for California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc. ("CRLA"). As a Mexican American lawyer, and the grandson of an immigrant steelworker, I want to use my law degree to help provide policy recommendations in support of CRLA because of the invaluable work they do to support today's exploited workers and rural poor. In addition to my personal interest in serving CRLA, my professional experiences have prepared me to effectively advise CRLA as a member of its Board of Directors.

In my litigation practice, I have had the privilege of advising a variety of clients on policy decisions that affect their operation and the lives of their constituents. As a Deputy Attorney General for California Attorney General Xavier Becerra, I advised the Executive Team on the H-2A temporary agricultural workers visa program. I not only utilized legal research skills, but I met with interests on both sides of the H-2A visa program issue to assess where the State of California might assert some involvement, and then proposed a policy plan. At Morrison & Foerster, I continue to counsel progressive non-profit clients on impactful policies—I am researching duty to warn laws to identify states in need of stricter gun control, and I am proposing policies on safe injection sites to prevent unnecessary overdose and death in our communities.

In addition to my professional policy work, I have experience serving on Boards of Directors. I currently serve on the Board of Directors of San Francisco La Raza Lawyers' Association, and was Vice President of Membership on the Board, where I took on a larger role to ensure our operations reached all our members and interests. From 2017 to 2019, I also served as a member of the Young Leaders Board for a non-profit called Aim High, which provides free summer school to underprivileged youth in the Bay Area. In each role, I provided guidance to the organization to further its missions and values.

I am eager to contribute to CRLA's mission of fighting for justice and individual rights for the rural poor as a member of its Board of Directors. I am available at your convenience; please feel free to contact me at (562) 746-3571 or robert.sandoval@outlook.com.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Robert S. Sandoval

## Robert Sandoval

743 Grove Street, Apt. 1 • San Francisco, CA 94102 • (562) 746-3571 • robert.sandoval@outlook.com

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### EDUCATION

#### **The University of Chicago Law School, Chicago, IL**

Juris Doctor, June 2016

- JOURNAL: Executive Comments Editor, The University of Chicago Legal Forum
- AWARDS: National 1st Place and Best Brief, 2014-15 Lefkowitz Moot Court on Trademark and Unfair Competition Law
- ACTIVITIES: President, Latino Law Students Association  
 Research Assistant to Professors Eric Posner and Todd Henderson, 2014-15  
 Researcher, International Immersion Program in Switzerland
- PUBLICATIONS: *Restricted Subject Matters: Misconceptions of Speech and Ballot Initiatives*, 2015 U. Chi. Legal F. 669 (2015)  
*The Impact of Law Firm Litigation in International Trade Disputes*, Law School IIP Papers No. 13 (2015)  
 Contributor, *Faithfully Executed: Obama's Immigration Plan and the Supreme Court*, Huffington Post (2016)

#### **Stanford Graduate School of Business, Stanford, CA**

Cert., Summer Institute of General Management, Summer 2013

#### **Occidental College, Los Angeles, CA**

Bachelor of Arts, *cum laude*, Majors: Politics, Economics; Minor: Classical Studies, May 2013

- AWARDS: Hispanic Scholarship Fund HSBC-North America Scholarship, Top Latino Economics Senior in the U.S.  
 Larry Caldwell Most Outstanding Senior Politics Major Award

### RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

#### **Morrison & Foerster LLP, San Francisco, CA**

*Litigation Associate*, 2019 – Present

- Represent numerous Bay Area companies in general business disputes and class action matters
- Advise a non-profit on gun laws through a national research survey
- Counsel a non-profit on the legality and risk of operating a safe injection site
- Represent victims of racial discrimination in an excessive force police misconduct matter

#### **United States District Court, Northern District of California, San Francisco, CA**

*Judicial Law Clerk to The Hon. Richard Seeborg and The Hon. William H. Orrick*, 2018 – 2019

- Conducted research and drafted orders on issues and legal cases before the Court

#### **California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General, San Francisco, CA**

*Honors Deputy Attorney General, Civil Division*, 2016 – 2018

- *State of California v. Department of Homeland Security*: participated on the litigation team against the federal government's rescission of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)
- Provided policy proposals to the Attorney General's Executive team regarding immigration and visas
- Authored many other motions and briefs, and appeared in trial and appellate courts

#### **United States Securities and Exchange Commission, Washington, DC**

*Law Clerk, Enforcement Division & Trial Group*, Summer 2015

- Prepared an attorney for moots and oral argument on the constitutionality of SEC administrative law judges

#### **Susman Godfrey LLP, Los Angeles, CA**

*Trial Lawyer Fellow*, Summer 2014

- Assisted attorneys with witness preparation for a products liability class action jury trial

#### **United States Attorney's Office, Central District of California, Los Angeles, CA**

*Law Clerk, Civil Division*, Summer 2014

- Investigated for a civil excessive force case against LA County Jails and former Sheriff Lee Baca

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

*Board of Directors, former Vice President of Membership*; San Francisco La Raza Lawyers' Association, 2017 – Present

*Young Leaders Board Member*; Aim High, youth educational nonprofit, San Francisco 2017 – 2019

*Judges Reception Committee Member*; Bar Association of San Francisco, 2017 – 2018

*TYL Editorial Board, Associate Editor*; American Bar Association, 2017 – 2018



# Advocates For Justice

February 20, 2020

Ms. Sharon Ngim  
State Bar of California,  
Office of Legal Services  
180 Howard Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

## Re: **LETTER OF INTEREST FOR REAPPOINTMENT TO CRLA'S BOARD**

Dear Ms. Ngim:

In 2018, I was appointed by the State Bar of California to the board of directors of California Rural Legal Assistance's (CRLA). I am honored and humbled by the thought of being reappointed to CRLA's board. I desire to serve and be a part of CRLA in its fight and struggle for justice because I aspire to be a part of something permanent, magnificent, and righteous. I am inspired by CRLA's 50-year legacy of standing up to social injustices, fighting for civil and minority rights, and shining a spotlight on everyday inequalities that confront "the most exploited communities of our society."

I believe in CRLA's mission "To fight for justice and individual rights alongside the most exploited communities of our society." My life's mission statement is to "be like Jesus, Moses, Mother Teresa, Cesar Chavez, or Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., to the least of us", which resonates with CRLA's mission.

I am an ideal member for the CRLA's board due to my upbringing and life's work. I was born and raised in the farm working communities (Sacramento and Modesto) of the Central Valley. My father, an honored veteran and an active member with the NAACP for more years than I can remember, instilled in me at an early age the importance of giving back to my community and of advocating for the voiceless, powerless, and victims.

I graduated from U.C. Hastings College of the Law in 1999 and became a personal injury attorney. I help accident victims and their families when they have been injured, harmed or inconvenienced by the fault of others. I have assisted in and achieved numerous six-figure and million dollar settlements and awards. Litigating on behalf of injury victims and their families is the very essence of my practice.

Given my upbringing, passion, and mission to serve others, I have also represented indigent and pro-bono clients from "all walks of life" and have significant experience working with "the most exploited communities of our society".

Ms. Sharon Ngim  
State Bar of California,  
Office of Legal Services  
February 20, 2020  
Page 2 of 2

In 2006 my twin brother, Jacque Wilson, a well-respected San Francisco Public Defender, and I founded Advocates For Justice (AFJ). AFJ is an advocacy group that was created to give a voice to the voiceless in a way that was never before possible. We serve all children, as well as their families, who feel unneeded, unwanted, and unloved. We provide a voice to children with discipline problems, foster students, students with disabilities, disadvantaged youth, poor kids, and struggling students from farm working communities.

In 2019, at the request of Assembly Member Chris Holden (Assembly District 41), I testified before the California Assembly Education Committee on AB 982: Homework assignments for suspended pupils. I was also asked to give testimony on AB 982 for the Senate Committee of Health.

I continue to be humbled and honored when the people and organizations I've helped in their struggles and fight for justice call me to tell me they received the justice they expected, read their experience in the newspaper, or saw their story on television. Over the years I have discovered that many people or organizations that had experienced injustice or had been exploited simply wanted their story told so that others could learn from their stories and avoid making the same or similar mistakes. I have attached to this "Letter of Interest" a few links to articles and videos of people and organizations that AFJ has worked with or helped in the past. Like CRLA, AFJ provides legal services, help, and hope to the most vulnerable in our communities.

With regards to my lifetime commitment to my community, I have received numerous community service awards for pro bono work on racial and educational justice. Please see my attached resume.

Of course, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at [attyjacq@yahoo.com](mailto:attyjacq@yahoo.com), (415) 563-2111 – office, or (415) 608-9579 - cell.

Thank you in advance for your time, consideration, and for helping me "be the change I hope to create." I look forward to being reappointed to CRLA's board and to contributing its storied legacy.

Your friend and advocate,

Jacq M. Wilson, Esq.

Enclosures:

1. Resume of Jacq M. Wilson (2 pages)

**JACQ M. WILSON**

19056 Santa Maria Avenue, Castro Valley, California 94546  
(415) 608-9579 \* attyjacq@yahoo.com

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**LEGAL EXPERIENCE**

2000 – Present **ALLAN M. SCHUMAN & ASSOCIATES, San Francisco, CA**  
(nineteen years of plaintiff's personal injury experience)

Senior Litigation Attorney at Allan M. Schuman & Associates.

Concentrates in litigation on behalf of injury victims in bodily injury claims, including, but not limited to, wrongful death, auto and motorcycle injuries, dog bites, slip and fall accidents, and injuries to children.

Supervises daily operations of a personal injury law firm. Successfully settled, mediated/arbitrated, or litigated thousands of cases.

Recognized as a "Lawyer Who Is Changing the World for the Better" for his extraordinary pro bono contributions for disenfranchised individuals.

Assisted in and achieved numerous large settlements, including, but not limited to, a **\$1,000,000.00 settlement** in *Marquez v. XYZ Ladder Co* (a defective ladder case in the Stanislaus Superior Court), a **\$3,500,000.00 settlement** in *Brewer v. City of Modesto* (a dangerous intersection case in the Stanislaus Superior Court), **\$1,255,000.00 settlement** in *Burk v. Moctezuma* (a forklift case in the Orange County Superior Court), a **\$500,000.00 settlement** in a very complex slip and fall case, and others . . .

2006 – Present **ADVOCATES FOR JUSTICE, Modesto, CA**

Program coordinator and legal counsel for a non-profit advocate organization formed to fix the school-discipline problem and disrupt the flow of students into the school-to-prison pipeline by reducing suspensions and expulsions in Modesto City Schools.

Established, maintained, and fostered positive relationships and partnerships with nonprofit organizations, corporations, and government agencies. Planned and executed monthly professional development seminars.

Mentored hundreds of students through AFJ's mentor program.

**NOTEWORTHY ACHIEVEMENTS**

2006 Co-Founded Advocates For Justice (AFJ)

2009 Keynote Speaker at California State University, Fresno

- 2009 Human & Civil Rights Certificate of Recognition Award
- 2015 Delta Iota Iota 2015 Citizen of the Year
- 2017 Car-camping committee chair & fishing merit badge counselor for Boy Scouts of America, Troop 722
- 2018 “Community Service Award” from the NAACP Modesto/Stanslaus Branch 1048
- 2018 “Martin Luther King Jr. Legacy Award” from Modesto Junior College
- 2018 “Living the Dream Award” from Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights,
- 2018 “Champions of Educational Justice” Award from California Rural Legal Assistance (CRLA)
- 2018 Appointed by the State Bar of California to the Board of Directors of CRLA
- 2019 “Crystal Clear Award” from “Staff of Life” Ministries for “Outstanding Community Service in Community Activism & Law
- 2019 “The Ones Who Came Back” Award from the Modesto Policy Clergy Council
- 2019 Testified before the California Assembly Education Committee on AB 982: Homework assignments for suspended pupils; was also asked to give testimony on AB 982 for the Senate Committee of Health.
- 2019 Keynote Speaker for NAACP, Modesto/Stanslaus Branch 1048’s Annual Freedom Fund Dinner

## EDUCATION

### UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

**HASTINGS COLLEGE OF THE LAW**, San Francisco, CA  
Juris Doctorate, 1999

### CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

Bachelor of Science in Criminology, 1996

\*Cumulative G.P.A.: 3.84; Dean’s List every term; Graduated Magnum Cum Laude.

\***Dean’s Medalist** for the Division of Student Affairs

\***Editor-In-Chief**, *Uhuru Na Umoja*, C.S.U., Fresno campus newspaper