

EXPERIENCE

CHILDREN AND FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER, BLUHM LEGAL CLINIC

NORTHWESTERN PRITZKER SCHOOL OF LAW, Chicago, IL February 2008 – present
Clinical Associate Professor; Project Director, Illinois Coalition for the Fair Sentencing of Children

- Teaches seminar classes, supervises law students, and represents clients in criminal and juvenile cases at trial, sentencing, and resentencing, on appeal and in post-conviction and other collateral proceedings
- Directs and coordinates advocacy and litigation initiatives of a statewide coalition dedicated to ensuring fair sentencing policies and practices for children
- Advises students on research papers, memoranda and projects

OFFICE OF THE STATE APPELLATE DEFENDER, Chicago, IL

January 2003 – February 2008

Assistant Appellate Defender

- Responsible for all aspects of juvenile, criminal and post-conviction appeals in the Illinois Appellate Court and Illinois Supreme Court
- Argued before the Illinois Appellate Court and Illinois Supreme Court
- Obtained a favorable decision in *People v. Suarez*, 224 Ill. 2d 37 (2007), a case involving the duties of attorneys representing post-conviction petitioners

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO SCHOOL OF LAW, Chicago, IL

August 2004 – February 2008

Adjunct Professor, Appellate Advocacy

- Instructed second-year law students in researching, writing and arguing appeals
- *Mentor, Loyola University Chicago Law Journal*
- Advised law student in the research and preparation of an article for the *Loyola Law Journal*, Megan M. Sulok, *Extended Jurisdictions Juvenile Prosecutions: To Revoke or Not To Revoke*

SACHNOFF & WEAVER, LTD., Chicago, IL

Summer 1998, 1999 – 2002

Associate, Litigation Group

- Drafted motions, briefs and legal memoranda, took and defended depositions, negotiated settlement agreements, argued motions and handled all aspects of trial preparation in civil and criminal cases
- Handled various aspects of *pro bono* cases involving juvenile delinquency, immigration appeals, death penalty appeals and post-conviction litigation

MCCUTCHEN, DOYLE, BROWN & ENERSEN LLP, San Francisco, CA

Summer 1998

Summer Associate

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, San Diego, CA

Summer 1997

Law Clerk

EDUCATION

NORTHWESTERN PRITZKER SCHOOL OF LAW, Chicago, IL

Juris Doctor 1999

- *Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology, Coordinating Articles Editor*
- Bluhm Legal Clinic, *Student Advocate*, represented clients in domestic violence, juvenile delinquency and criminal cases

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, Berkeley, CA

B.A., Environmental Sciences,

Honors 1996

- Thesis: *Effect of California Serpentine and Sandstone on Native Species*

SCHOLARSHIP & PRESENTATIONS

Scholarship

- *The Illinois Juvenile Defender Practice Notebook* (Children and Family Justice Center and National Juvenile Defender Center 2008)
- “Becoming an Effective Champion for the (Child) Client on Appeal: Tips for Smart Appellate Advocacy for Appealing Findings of Delinquency and Convictions in State Criminal Court,” *The Champion* (April 2011)
- “Extreme Sentencing of Youth in the United States: The Imposition of the Sentence of Life without the Possibility of Parole for Youth,” *Promise Unfulfilled: Juvenile Justice in America*, International Debate Education Association (2012)
- Book Review: Virginia M. Kendall and T. Markus Funk, *Child Exploitation and Trafficking: Examining the Global Challenges and U.S. Responses* (Rowman & Littlefield Publishers Inc. 2012), “Investigating and Prosecuting Child Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking: A Prosecutorial Perspective on a Complex Issue,” *Eyes on the ICC*, Volume 9, No. 1 (2012-2013)
- “Youth Matters: The New Juvenile Jurisprudence After *Roper*, *Graham*, *J.D.B.*, and *Miller*,” *The Champion* (March 2014)
- “Reimagining the Throwaway Kid,” *N.Y.U. Review of Law and Social Change*, *Harbinger*, Vol. 41, 164-69 (July 7, 2016)
- “The Diversity Imperative Revisited: Racial and Gender Inclusion in Clinical Law Faculty,” 26 *Clinical L. Rev.* 127 (September 2019)
- “Explainer: Felony Murder,” *The Appeal*, with Professor Steven Drizin (work-in-progress, expected publication March 2021)

Presentations

- “*Crawford*’s Specific Application to Juveniles,” *presenter*, Juvenile Appellate Training Conference (March 2005)
- “Sentencing Strategies for Youthful Clients,” *panelist*, Cook County Public Defender Training Conference, (September 2009)
- “Brainstorming Session: Using *Roper* & *Graham* in Delinquency Cases,” and “Appellate Case Rounds,” *panelist*, National Juvenile Defender Center Leadership Summit (October 2010)
- “Extending *Graham v. Florida* to Juveniles and Adults Beyond Life without Parole Cases,” *presenter*, Illinois Public Defender Association (October 2010)
- “The Effective Appellate Advocate: Smart Tips and Strategies for Representing your Client on Appeal in State Criminal Cases,” with Professor Joshua Tepfer (September 2011)
- “Bite-Sized Pro Bono Opportunities for Women,” *panelist*, National Association of Women Lawyers (February 2013)
- Testimony before Illinois House Restorative Justice Committee regarding *Miller v. Alabama* and Illinois sentencing statutes (March 2013)
- Presentation on *Miller v. Alabama* and other Supreme Court precedent relevant to long-term sentencing of youth, statutes in Illinois, Chicago Bar Association legislative committee (March 2013)
- “One Size Doesn’t Fit All: Every Child’s Right to a Tailored Defense,” *panelist*, Ohio Defender Conference (April 2013)
- Pursuing Justice: A Constitutional and Human Rights Jurisprudence for the Child, panel entitled “Abolish JLWOP: Taking *Miller* to the Ground,” (September 2013)
- “Making Periodic Review Meaningful,” *panelist*, Campaign for the Fair Sentencing of Youth: National Convening (November 2013)
- “The Post-*Miller v. Alabama* World—Redefining Juvenile Justice and Life Without Parole,” *panelist*, American Bar Association (February 2014)
- “Sentencing and Resentencing in a Post-*Miller v. Alabama* World,” *organizing committee member, speaker and panelist*, Children and Family Justice Center and the Illinois Coalition for the Fair Sentencing of Children at the Bluhm Legal Clinic, Northwestern University School of Law (July 2014)

- “*Miller v. Alabama*: Developments and Strategies in a Post-*Miller* Landscape,” Law Office of the Cook County Public Defender’s “Indigent Defense: Three Days in a Nutshell Conference,” *presenter* (August 2014, August 2015)
- “Defending Children Accused of Violent Crimes,” *presenter*, Illinois Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, First Annual Violent Crimes Seminar, “Defending Violent Crimes Cases: Elite Training from the Experts” (November 2014)
- “Innovative Approaches to Reform,” *panelist*, Campaign for the Fair Sentencing of Youth, National Convening (November 2014)
- “*Montgomery* Roundtable Discussion for Litigators,” *panelist*, Campaign for the Fair Sentencing of Youth, National Convening (November 2015)
- “Applying *Miller* in Illinois: What Judges Have Said,” *presenter*, National Juvenile Defender Summit (October 2016)
- “Investigating and Presenting Mitigation,” *webinar*, National Association of Public Defenders (January 2017)
- “Trial Advocacy Program: Trying a *Miller/Montgomery* Sentencing/Resentencing Case,” *faculty and presenter*, National Institute of Trial Advocacy, Juvenile Law Center and Baker & McKenzie (July 2017)
- “*Miller* Cases Need Juvenile Defenders,” *panelist*, National Juvenile Defender Center Juvenile Defender Summit (October 2017)
- “Preparing for Review,” *panelist*, Campaign for the Fair Sentencing of Youth National Convening (November 2017)
- “The Sun Rises & Sets Just the Same: Did the Presidential Election Impact Our Clients and the Work We Do as Criminal Justice, Education and Disability Clinical Teachers and Advocates?” *panelist*, 2018 AALS Conference on Clinical Legal Education (May 2018)
- “Persuasively Presenting your Client’s Life History in Court,” *presenter*, Colorado Public Defender Conference, (September 2018)
- “Bridging Divides: Fostering Students’ Abilities to Overcome Difference and Create Connection,” *panelist*, AALS Conference on Clinical Legal Education (May 2019)
- “*People v. Buffer* and the New Definition of a Life Sentence for Youth in Illinois,” Law Office of the Cook County Public Defender’s “Indigent Defense: Three Days in a Nutshell Conference,” *presenter* (August 2019)
- “*People v. Buffer*, Exploring the Boundaries of *Miller v. Alabama* in Illinois,” *presenter*, Law Office of the Cook County Public Defender Post-Conviction Unit Training (November 2019)
- “Kids are Different: The Scientific and Developmental Foundations for the Sentencing of Youth” and “The Nuts & Bolts of Representing *Miller-Buffer* Youth in Post-conviction Proceedings and Sentencing,” *presenter*, Illinois Juvenile Defender Resource Center Training (November 2019)
- “Meaningful Youth Engagement in a Virtual Legal World,” *presenter*, National Association of Counsel for Children Training Series (August 2020)
- “Addressing the SRO Problem,” *presenter*, National Juvenile Defender Summit (October 2020)
- “Desperate Times: How Students Can Be Fierce Advocates for Incarcerated Clients During a Pandemic,” *presenter*, COVID Care Crisis Symposium, Indiana University Bloomington, Hamilton Lugar School of Global and International Studies (January 2021)

ACTIVITIES & MEMBERSHIPS

- Admitted, Illinois State Bar, 1999
- Admitted, United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, 2014
- Admitted, United States Supreme Court Bar, 2015
- Admitted, United States Court of Appeal for the Seventh Circuit, 2020
- Asian American Bar Association, *Board Member and Committee Chair*, 1999-2001
- South Asian American Bar Association Chicago Foundation, *Trustee*, 2015-2017
- Restore Justice Foundation, *Board Member*, 2015-present
- Clinical Legal Education Association, *Board Member*, January 2019-present; co-vice president/co-president-elect, January 2021-present