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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

October 2008 – Present

**Associate Clinical Professor of Law
Assistant Director, Legal Clinic
University of Akron School of Law**

- Clinics Taught

Reentry Clinic

Clemency Project

The Clemency Project prepares pardon petitions to the Ohio governor. The clinic assists clients who are ineligible to have their convictions sealed by the court.

Certificate of Qualification for Employment (CQE) Clinic

The CQE clinic is a walk-in clinic staffed by volunteer law students. It assists with the online CQE application. The clinic collaborates the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction.

Expungement Clinic (April 2013 to Present)

The clinic assists clients with the court process to seal criminal convictions.

Human Trafficking

The Human Trafficking clinic assists victims of human trafficking with expungement of their convictions.

Reentry Clinic Recognition

2015 AALS Innovative and Outstanding Program

(<http://www.aals.org/home/innovative-and-other-outstanding-programs/>)

2014 National Jurist Magazine, Top 15 Innovative Clinic

(<http://www.nationaljurist.com/content/most-innovative-clinics>)

Reentry Clinic Fundraising

Secured the following funding to support the Reentry Clinic:

- May 2016: 18-month \$100,000 Juvenile Reentry Assistance Program Grant from Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Yearly: \$25,000 grant from City of Akron
- Yearly: \$30,000 grant from Summit County Department of Job and Family Services

Civil Practice Clinic. The clinic assists low-income clients with housing issues. The clinic is a multidisciplinary clinic staffed by law students and social work students. The clinic is a collaborative effort with the local legal aid organization.

Civil Practice Clinic Recognition

2010 Community Legal Aid Volunteer Law Firm of the Year

- Other Courses Taught

Appellate Practice and Procedure

- Community and Pro Bono Publico Service Coordinator

Co-coordinate a program that requires all law students to complete, for graduation, 30 hours of pro bono and community service. Assist law students with obtaining community service and pro bono placements. Coordinate the annual law school community service event - Akron Law Cares.

- Site Supervisor, Law and Leadership Institute (2009-2015)

Supervised a statewide pipeline program that encourages minority and disadvantaged students to attend law school. Approximately 70 high school students attended the Akron Law and Leadership program.

March 1999 -
October 2008

**Staff Attorney, Housing Unit
Community Legal Aid Services, Inc.**

Represented clients in housing cases and expungement cases. Representation included appearances at court and administrative agencies. Conducted community presentations on a variety of legal topics.

Major Projects:

Akron Municipal Court Project: Worked collaboratively with Akron Municipal Court judges and personnel to establish a bi-weekly clinic directed to attendees sued for credit card debt or for eviction.

Clemency Project: Began a project in an eight-county region to assist low-income clients with seeking a pardon from the governor of Ohio.

Financial Information and Legal Education (FILE): Developed a financial literacy power point and presentation aimed at low-income people who faced impediments to self-sufficiency. Sought and achieved a grant from the city of Akron to support the program.

Social Welfare Practitioner Training: Organized and presented a landlord-tenant training for all social welfare practitioners in eight-county region. Purpose of presentation was to educate social welfare practitioners on landlord-tenant issues faced by their clients.

October 1996-
August 1998

**Staff Attorney, Housing Unit
The Legal Aid Society of Columbus**

Represented clients who were facing eviction or foreclosure in Municipal and Common Pleas courts.

October 1995-
October 1996

**Contract Work
Denver, Colorado**

Prepared projects on a contract basis. Projects included a capital appeal to the California Supreme Court; a capital state habeas to the California Supreme Court; a double murder appeal to the Colorado Court of Appeals; death penalty motions' practice for Colorado

trial court; a capital habeas brief to the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals; and briefs to Ohio Appellate Courts.

August 1993-
May 1995

**Chief Appellate Counsel
Death Penalty Section
Ohio Public Defender Commission**

Supervised eleven attorneys involved in litigating capital cases on direct appeal and in the state post-conviction process in the Ohio courts. Represented clients before the Ohio Courts of Appeals and the Ohio Supreme Court. Also represented clients in the Federal District Court, the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals, and the United States Supreme Court. Provided legal assistance to attorneys throughout Ohio involved in capital trials and appeals. Recruited, interviewed, hired, and trained new employees for the Death Penalty Section.

October 1992-
August 1993

**Supervisor
Death Penalty Section
Ohio Public Defender Commission**

Supervised, on an interim basis, a staff of thirty-seven attorneys, mitigation specialists, criminal investigators and support personnel involved in representing clients convicted of capital crimes. Provided legal assistance to trial and appellate attorneys representing capital clients throughout Ohio. Represented clients in state direct appeals process and state post-conviction.

March 1990 -
October 1992

**Chief Appellate Counsel
Death Penalty Section
Ohio Public Defender Commission**

Supervised eight attorneys and two law clerks involved in direct appeals of capital cases in Ohio courts. Represented clients before the Ohio Courts of Appeals, Ohio Supreme Court and the United States Supreme Court. Provided legal assistance to attorneys throughout Ohio involved in capital appeals. Recruited, interviewed, hired, and trained new employees for the Death Penalty Section.

November 1986 -
March 1990

**Assistant State Public Defender
Ohio Public Defender Commission**

Represented clients in state direct appeals and in state post-conviction cases. Reviewed transcripts, identified issues, prepared strategy and drafted motions, appellate briefs and post-conviction petitions.

September 1986 -
December 1986

Adjunct Professor
University of Akron School of Law

Instructed approximately thirty students in Legal research, analysis and writing in Basic Legal Communications. Taught approximately twenty students' appellate brief writing and oral argument skills in Intermediate Legal Communications.

NOTABLE CASES

- UNIVERSITY OF AKRON SCHOOL OF LAW

In Re R.L.B., 2018-Ohio-3660

State v. Boykin, 138 Ohio St.3d 97
(2013)

- COMMUNITY LEGAL AID SERVICES, INC.

Coker v. Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority
Summit App. No. 20350, (July 5, 2001)

- OHIO PUBLIC DEFENDER COMMISSION

United States Supreme Court

Successfully briefed and argued *Ohio v. Huertas*
498 U.S. 336 (1991) - resulted in State's appeal
being dismissed as improvidently allowed.

Ohio Supreme Court

State v. Jeffrey Lundgren, 73 Ohio St. 3d 474
(1995)

State v. Derrick Evans, 63 Ohio St. 3d 231 (1992)

State v. Von Clark Davis, 63 Ohio St. 3d 44 (1992)

State v. Reginald Jells, 53 Ohio St. 3d 22 (1990)
State v. Ediberto Huertas, 51 Ohio St. 3d 22
(1990), *certiorari granted* 498 U.S. 807 (1990),
certiorari dismissed 498 U.S. 336 (1991)
State v. Arthur Tyler, 50 Ohio St. 3d 24 (1990)
State v. Joseph Murphy, 49 Ohio St. 3d 293 (1990)
State v. David Brewer, 48 Ohio St. 3d 50 (1990)

Other Reported Decisions

State v. Clifford Williams, 73 Ohio St. 3d 153
(1995)
State v. Jose Loza, 71 Ohio St. 3d 61 (1994)
State v. Charles Lorraine, 66 Ohio St. 3d 414
(1993)
State v. Joseph Murphy, 65 Ohio St. 3d 554 (1992)
State v. William Wickline, 50 Ohio St. 3d 114
(1990)
State v. Rhett DePew, 38 Ohio St. 3d 275 (1989)

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

August 1983 - The University of Akron School of Law
June 1986 Degree: Juris Doctor (1986)

September 1979 - The Ohio State University
June 1983 Degree: Bachelor of Arts
Major: Political Science

SUBJECTS TAUGHT

Civil Practice Clinic
Reentry Clinic
Appellate Practice Clinic
Appellate Practice and Procedure
Social Justice Lawyering Clinic
Clinical Seminar I (Externships)
Basic Legal Communications (Adjunct)
Intermediate Legal Communications (Adjunct)

PUBLICATIONS

Ohio's Certificate of Qualification: Four Years Later, Ohio Lawyer Magazine, September/October 2017, p. 26

Available

https://issuu.com/ohiostatebarassociation/docs/ol_sep-oct_web

Can We Forgive Those Who Batter? Proposing an End to the Collateral Consequences of Civil Domestic Violence Cases, 100 MARQUETTE LAW REVIEW 527 (2016).

Battling Collateral Consequences: The Long Road to Redemption

Criminal Law Bulletin, Vol. 49, No. 3, 2013, p. 383

Not Eligible for Expungement? Executive Clemency May Be Option

Law You Can Use Column

Ohio State Bar Foundation

Available

<http://www.ohioabar.org/Members/Pages/LawYouCanUseDetail.aspx?itemID=514>

Understanding How Criminal Records Are Sealed

Law You Can Use Column

Ohio State Bar Foundation

Available

<https://www.ohioabar.org/ForPublic/Resources/LawYouCanUse/Pages/Understanding-How-Criminal-Records-Are-Sealed.aspx> .

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

May 2018

Hiring Employees with Criminal Convictions: Certificates of Qualification for Employment (CQE), Court Sealings and Pardons
2018 Akron Area SHRM Legislative Conference

February 2018

Second Chance Laws in Ohio: Certificate of Qualification for Employment (CQE), Sealing and Expungement
Ohio Courts of Appeals Judges Association
Winter Conference

October 2016

PHAs Creating Access to Housing for People with Criminal Records: Examples from the Field

National Association of Housing and Redevelopment
Officials (NAHRO) Conference

*The Ohio CQE Project: Crossing Law School
Boundaries to Address a Pressing Community Need*
Midwest Clinicians' Conference

August 2016

*Incorporating Lab and Other Practical Components
into Substantive Courses*
SEALS Conference

May 2016

*One Big Happy Family: How Clinicians and Doctrinal
Faculty Can Create Projects that Address Community
Needs*
AALS Clinical Conference

Ohio's Statewide CQE Project
AALS Clinical Conference
Poster Presentation

October 2015

*Summit County Response to Human Trafficking:
Expungement*
Summit Collaborative Against Human Trafficking

September 2015

First, The Basics
Housing Policy Summit: Rethinking Reentry

*Remedies to Help Those with Criminal Convictions:
Sealing's, CQEs and Pardons*
Summit on Making Northeast Ohio Communities
Safer

June 2015

Reentry: Giving Deserving Citizens a Second Chance
Kenyon College John W. Adams Summer Scholars
Program in Socio-legal Studies: Race, Crime and
Social Justice

April 2014

*What We Can Learn about Clemency From
The States*
Panel Presentation given at *Mercy in the Criminal
Justice System, Clemency and Post-Conviction
Strategies* Conference

New York University Law School's Center on the
Administration of Criminal Law's 6th Annual
Conference

- March 2013 *SB 337, HB 86, and the Civil Impacts of Criminal
Convictions: What Defense Attorneys, Prosecutors
and Judges Need to Know*
Community Legal Aid Services CLE
- February 2013 *Pro Bono Issues in Law School*
Cleveland Bar Association
- October 2012 *Collaborations*
NAPBPro Virtual Conference
- November 2011 *I Finally Listened: Birth of the Clemency
Project*
Midwest Clinicians' Conference

MAJOR PROJECTS

- June 2013 to Present:

Free Reentry Clinic: Monthly clinic to assist attendees with court sealings, and the Certificate of Qualification for Employment (CQE)
- 2016-18:

Juvenile Reentry Assistance Program
- 2015:

Statewide CQE Training Project (Project funded by grant from Ohio State Bar Foundation)

Housing Summit: Rethinking Reentry (Summit of Ohio Public Housing Authorities)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Akron Bar Association

Former Member, Board of Trustees

Committee Memberships: Diversity, Common Pleas, Municipal and Appellate
Courts and Access to Justice

Akron Bar Foundation Board of Governors

Ohio State Bar Association

Former member and chair, Ohio Supreme Court Rule 20 Commission on the Appointment
of Counsel for Indigent Defendants in Capital Cases

SCHOOL OF LAW ACTIVITIES

Academic and Disciplinary Committee

Community Services Committee

Self-Study Committee

Appointments Committee

UNIVERSITY ACTIVITIES

Internal Review Board

AWARDS

2018 Law and Leadership Institute Award

2018 Thomas G. Byers Memorial Award, Outstanding Faculty Practical Publication

2015 Akron Bar Association Liberty Bell Award

2014 University of Akron Law Alumni Association Faculty Practical Publication Award

MEDIA COVERAGE

January 2018: <https://soundcloud.com/wakr-newstalksports/renters-rights-ua-school-of-laws-joann-sahl>

October 2017: <http://www.akronlegalnews.com/editorial/18879>

- January 2017: <http://www.ohio.com/news/local/new-effort-aimed-at-helping-summit-county-residents-drive-legally-clinics-to-be-offered-in-upcoming-months-1.737805>
- Appeared on WAKR Community Profiles: Discussing Reentry Clinic
- December 2015: <http://www.wksu.org/news/story/45250>
- November 2015: Appeared on TCT Public Reports Television Program: Reentry Issues
- January 2015: <http://www.wksu.org/news/story/41756>
- April 2014: <http://www.wksu.org/news/story/38799>
- January 2014: <http://www.ohio.com/news/local/ex-offenders-improving-job-prospects-1.461850>