

Yale Law School

The background of the cover is a photograph of a stone archway. The arch is made of light-colored stone with intricate carvings. To the right, a fountain with water spraying upwards is visible through the arch. The overall tone is warm and academic.

SAMPLE APPLICATION
MATERIALS

2025-2026

Sample Application Materials



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Applicants should include a header on their written materials (including activities section) that includes their name, the title of the document (e.g. "250-Word Essay"), and their LSAC #. For all essays, applicants should use a professional, 12-point font. Personal Statements should be approximately 2 pages and Optional Essays should be approximately 1 page in length.

“Agricultural rewilding” sounds paradoxical. Can farming, a practice associated with domestication and settled life, truly coexist with the wild? This question led me to the hills of *City*, in northern *Country*, two years ago. I traveled on a journalistic assignment to a nature reserve called *Organization*, which is attempting to restore flora and fauna without eliminating traditional uses of the land, such as herding and cropping. It is reducing the intensity of grazing, allowing the return of forest, and “rewiggling” rivers to their original, serpentine flow. My experience at *Organization* reinforced my passion for reconciling the needs of people and nature, a theme that has guided my work in farming and forestry for over a decade.

This vision of balancing human activity and conservation came into focus during my fellowship at *University*, where I wrote a thesis on the sustainability initiatives launched by international organizations in response to the 1970s energy crisis. My research sharpened my awareness of the intricate relationships between agriculture, energy, and biodiversity. Alongside my studies, I visited and engaged with regenerative agriculture operations, UN agencies, environmental nonprofits, and, in one memorable case, a *Country* eco-anarchist commune where I taught the residents how to farm. These encounters strengthened my conviction that interacting with divergent viewpoints will be key to my pursuit of effective environmental solutions.

Eager to apply these ideas in a practical setting, I transitioned from academic study to fieldwork. A year after my trip to *Organization*, I found myself bushwhacking through the pines of *State* as part of a collaboration with *University’s* extension program. Our task was to help small-acreage, underserved landowners form an agricultural cooperative, which would give them access to revenue while encouraging sustainable land management. I learned to navigate the delicate balance between ecological preservation and human livelihood by drafting bylaws, crafting forest management plans, and building community relationships.

Concurrently with my work in *State*, I designed research projects on topics ranging from salt marsh restoration to the co-location of solar panels and field crops. Many of these, such as my partnership with the *Organization* and my development of a conservation plan for the endangered ocelot, allowed me to lead complex environmental initiatives at an early stage in my career.

The positive outcomes of these projects have been immensely gratifying, but my experiences have underscored that law can enable me to achieve greater impacts. My path to law began during my undergraduate years at *University*, where I studied US environmental regulations, and deepened at *University* through research on international biodiversity statutes. The postgraduate studies and environmental NGO work that followed showed me the legal system's unique power to arbitrate between the needs of ecosystems and communities. I collaborated with attorneys on everything from formulating contracts to analyzing federal legislation. Through this exposure, I realized that knowledge of the law would make me a far more effective agent of social and environmental progress.

My background in policy and field research has inspired my decision to pursue law. I aim to address climate change through food systems reform and ecosystem conservation, drawing on my language skills and global experience. A legal education would equip me for a career in land use law and policy, which could involve negotiating international agreements, advising governments and companies on emissions reductions, and facilitating investment in climate mitigation and sustainable farming. Through this work, I will advance the harmony between ecological and human needs that I saw taking shape at *Organization*.

At the break of dawn, alarms from inside the battery-charging units in our compound blared like evil sirens. The fatigue I felt from working a 16-hour shift the day before was quickly replaced by a spike of adrenaline. I rushed toward the battery van and began issuing orders: “*Last Name*, call 911! *Last Name*, call Quality Assurance and Production Control! *Last Name*, help me put on the apron!” My fellow Marines scrambled with the sense of urgency the situation warranted: one of the nickel-cadmium batteries had entered a “thermal runaway” state, the result of overheating, and threatened to explode with a napalm-like force. This would cause chain-reaction explosions of other batteries that would vaporize everything within a one-mile radius and threaten part of the residential neighborhood near our compound. The only way to stop this was to grab the detonating battery and dump it into a tank of distilled water. The problem itself wasn’t unfamiliar to me since my mentor, *Sergeant*, had trained me through hundreds of simulations and prepared me for exactly this situation. Remembering what he’d taught me, I rushed in and felt the violent heat from the battery through my face shield. I grabbed the 50-pound bomb, waddled over to the water tank, and dumped it in with a war cry.

A year and a half before, the most dangerous thing I had been entrusted with was a shopping cart at *Grocery Store*. When the Marine recruiter called, I was helping an elderly customer take groceries to their car. I had never considered this career path, but I thought of my parents, who were *Country* refugees who had left everything behind for the sake of freedom and a better life. Their expectations for me were practical but restrictive: they wanted me to become a physical therapist’s assistant because they could not afford to send me to a proper college and because my brother, who is a successful entrepreneur, had offered to hire me at one of his clinics. Following their example, however, I did not want to settle for less. I decided to enlist in the Marines as an avionics technician to make my own path.

Becoming a Marine changed my life. Like my parents had done years before, I left my family, friends, home, and my overall comfort behind. I brought nothing but the clothes on my back and a \$20 bill, and I plunged into the chaos of Marine Corps Recruit Training. I had grown up in *City*, far from the discomforts of an unrelenting wilderness, yet now I found myself crawling through muddy, frigid water and digging my own foxholes to sleep in with no cover. Once I arrived at the fleet, I followed my curiosity wherever it led. I attempted to learn every maintenance procedure, and I always volunteered

to work on any equipment that was unfamiliar or complex, like the Tempest Relay Panel or the Generator Control Unit. But it was *Sergeant* who noticed my passion and supported me. He would beckon me when something interesting entered our workload and showed me the ropes. His commitment to the Marine Corps – and to the Marine to his left and right – provided me with an example I could model myself after. Eventually, my own hard work earned me the nickname “*Nickname*,” which was both a shortened version of my last name and a testament to my role in the shop.

I loved my job, and I even considered it as a career, but in the end, it was a legal situation involving *Sergeant* that helped me understand the impact a lawyer could have and inspired me to pursue a law degree of my own. In 2017, he was wrongfully accused of a crime he did not commit. After a brief investigation, the commanding officer and sergeant major hastily proposed a “non-judicial punishment” – he was shunned by our unit and stripped of all his responsibilities and dignity. I could not help but wonder whether they could have taken a different, less drastic approach given his outstanding reputation. In any event, he appealed his case to court-martial, where he was given a proper trial under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. For the first time, I saw the difference a good lawyer can make: the military lawyer assigned to him battled relentlessly and eventually established his innocence.

When I left the service, I did everything I could to learn more about law. Above all else, my internship at the *Law Firm*, a boutique civil litigation firm dedicated to protecting civil rights, has affirmed my desire to follow this path. For example, I was tasked with drafting the first version of a complaint to the District Court of the Southern District of *State* regarding malicious prosecution against our client for standing up to an officer during the George Floyd protests in 2020. This made me feel I was fighting for the rights my parents sought when they came to the U.S. as well as fighting for those who were failed by an institutional authority placed above them, as *Sergeant* had been. As an attorney, I intend to battle relentlessly for the rights of those who have faced similar injustices.

At ten years old, I stared at a poorly lit hospital's angel paintings, hoping they would somehow become sentient and cure my grandfather. Unfortunately, no angels, painted or otherwise, would fulfill my wish. My grandfather became one of the thousands of roofers who died from mesothelioma. A lifetime of grueling physical labor aggravated by increased exposure to pollutants, including unregulated asbestos, contributed to his death. As I sat in the same hospital that I was born in, I didn't grasp that his untimely death wasn't just a misfortune, but instead a denial of protection from environmental hazards.

From my grandfather's lack of workplace protections to my school water fountains with pipes contaminated by lead, I often found myself surrounded by experiences that evoked a profound sense of indignity. The legal system often elicited feelings of injustice, rather than security. When my great grandmother's home was seized through eminent domain due to persistent flooding or my uncle's time as an incarcerated laborer excluded him from most workplace protections, I perceived the legal system as playing only an adversarial role. These foundational experiences acted as a catalyst for me to further my education, as I became the first person on my father's side to graduate high school.

In college, I discovered environmental justice, a concept that explained the many disadvantages that defined my life. My ancestors' high rate of cancer was not a result of bad luck, but instead of disinvestment and a lack of regulation in high-risk jobs and working-class neighborhoods. My perspective shifted from a lens of animosity to one of understanding as I learned that the legal system didn't have to be antagonistic to communities like mine. Through internships at the *Organization* and *Organization*, I conducted research on organizers who challenged environmental injustice in their communities by building coalitions of residents and pursuing legal action. Discovering lawyers who held asbestos companies accountable or closed air pollution loopholes forced me to reconsider my relationship to the legal system as not just a

force to criminalize, but to advocate. I was then motivated to implement intersectional community development practices in *City*.

I now work as a liaison with the *Organization*, a nonprofit that translates residents' needs into improvements to develop healthier neighborhoods in *City*. I chose this role because I wanted to help advance economic development in neighborhoods 10 minutes away from where I grew up and see the faces of my community reflected back at me. However, as I gained practical experience engaging with residents, I felt limited by our capacity to only provide temporary solutions while not addressing their underlying causes. For example, we serve the neighborhood of *Neighborhood*, an environmentally distressed community that holds an open-air coal terminal. Residents were excited by our initiative to beautify a space adjacent to a highway through public art but were disheartened at our inability to mitigate the space's increased truck traffic and pollution following the *Bridge* collapse. While we can coalesce residents around environmental burdens, we can't bridge the gap between their concerns and the litigation required to hold polluters accountable and secure safer workplace conditions.

A law degree will improve my ability to champion holistic solutions that tackle the primary causes behind preventable exposure to environmental hazards like asbestos or coal. I hope to provide legal services to those experiencing poverty and introduce immediate changes to their lives through assistance with securing safe workplace conditions. Simultaneously, I will work with residents to develop long-term legal strategies for community-led policy change challenging environmental inequities. As I pursue this path, I pull strength from my grandfather, whose unjust death spurred my commitment to ensuring the next generation enjoys a cleaner, safer, and more just environment than the one I inherited.

It was around three in the morning when I downed my sixth cup of coffee in the cold, empty office. I read the housing and construction regulations once again. It had been weeks since I had gotten adequate sleep. My bones were groaning and my eyes were scorching, but I had no intention of folding.

My employer, *Company*, had made a 10 million USD investment in public housing for underprivileged families, through a bold new deal structure. Unfortunately, the project ran into a regulatory quagmire, resulting in the housing permits being rejected. The investors' savings and the developer's entire personal wealth were on the line, not to mention the prospects of housing for families in need, but as time went on it seemed that we had reached a dead end. My senior managers were leaning towards giving up and liquidating the assets at a sharp discount.

I was not ready to walk away. If it meant sacrificing a bit of bedtime, so be it. By then, I'd had plenty of opportunities to get used to working long hours under pressure. While maintaining command and control during the *Conflict* as a peacekeeper in *Country*, or while planning programs for tackling gender-based violence and corruption at the *Program*, I gladly endured the austerity of the circumstances. I found my reward in knowing that I was making a difference in the lives of those in need. That was enough to mute a bit of personal discomfort.

This project was no different. I was determined to actualize the project's potential to help provide access to affordable housing. My time at the *Program* had inspired me to take on a mission: harnessing the power of the private sector to benefit issues of public interest. Financing public-housing projects was exactly the kind of contribution I wanted to make here. I needed those permits.

Dawn was about to break when my eyes drifted over an innocuous section of the law that defined housing projects. An absurd idea bubbled up. Maybe we didn't need housing permits at all. I scrambled to the whiteboard to sketch the design—a transaction structure that would partition the plot to multiple land trusts and transform the housing development into a collection of non-housing component projects. My face lit up in anticipation—in just a few hours, I could review the plans with our counsel. Fast forward a few weeks of persuasion, negotiations, and contract signing, I was bear-hugged by a brawny six-foot-five real estate developer as we received the good news.

When I initially jumped into the field of finance, I carried a naive sense of optimism. I

imagined that perseverance and original thinking would be enough for me to create social and environmental impacts through my work. Although my determination to pursue such values did not fade, my experience taught me that brilliant ideas can only be impactful insofar as the capacity to bind those ideas into legally sound contracts and structures.

The public housing project was just one of the many challenges related to the law that I faced while working in investment management. Reviewing contracts to catch latent liabilities, drafting legal memos to contend with the financial regulatory body, and researching local laws in cross-border transactions were tasks that were essential, rather than ancillary, to a successful business.

In successful public-private partnerships, I met lawyers who truly understood the nuances of the underlying business and each partner's position. Far from simply reiterating prearranged texts, they were able to compose elaborate networks of contracts to align heterogeneous interests towards a common goal. In another instance, however, I saw the lack of legal groundwork devastate a portfolio of small business financing. A seemingly minor deficiency in lien perfection was enough to nullify the fund's safeguards against a billion-dollar international fraud case. As my admiration for legal experts and the value they created grew, I began to imagine what it would be like to join their ranks.

In addition to developing an appreciation for the legal expertise in facilitating projects with meaningful impact, I had also come to genuinely enjoy working on legal issues. Looking back, oftentimes the fuel that kept me plowing through 70-plus hours a week wasn't just the pursuit of my mission. While it was rewarding to lead investments in public housing or renewable energy, I relished the process of vivisectioning the web of contracts and regulations and staying up all night trying to solve legal puzzles. The inspiring exhilaration of success—devising innovative transaction structures or de-risking investments by optimizing contract clauses—further compelled me to the legal vocation.

I aspire to be a lawyer who can facilitate potent changes in people's lives. I look to stimulate international investment in opportunities that can generate social or environmental impact, such as sustainable infrastructure in developing regions or local business development. To get businesses and investors on board, innovative legal solutions will be necessary to resolve regulatory issues, align interests, and mitigate risks. There is much work to be done.

The sound of rattling white chips and the smell of freshly brewed Folgers were among the sensations that characterized my childhood. Growing up in the rooms of Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), I witnessed the power of helping others. My parents, both in recovery, credit their continued sobriety to the fulfillment they found in guiding newcomers through the twelve-step process. From a young age, the dynamics of AA instilled a belief that assisting others is not merely an act of altruism but a fundamental component of happiness and success.

With a childhood focused on helping others, one might not be surprised that I embarked on a career in civil service. In actuality, my introduction to the *State* Legislature was rather coincidental. In college, I was a valet at the *Organization*, a private club steps away from *City's* capitol complex. The members, who arrived in tailored fit suits, could not help but inspire an ambitious kid from a blue-collar household. I found myself rehearsing my elevator pitch while sprinting the distance between the parking garage and the valet stand. A chance presented itself when a man arrived wearing a pin with the seal of the *State* Senate. After a brief conversation about my background and legal goals, I was invited to visit his office the next day. The following week, I was an intern at the *State* Senate.

Shortly after receiving an offer to attend law school at my alma mater, the Senator who represented my hometown offered to interview me for a full-time role in his legislative office. When I received the job offer, the choice between immediately following my academic pursuits or returning home to serve my community was a difficult one. I called on friends and family for advice, and I spent many sleepless nights considering the outcomes of each avenue. Despite some criticism from my peers, I have never regretted my decision to take this hiatus. My role has allowed me to exercise my research and writing skills, enhance my network to include distinguished professionals, and create material change back home. For example, during the *Year*

Legislative Session I managed a bill that aimed to increase access to cardiovascular care throughout *State*. Senate Bill *Number*, now law, addressed licensure discrepancies that had previously made it difficult for hospitals to compete with outpatient surgical centers to provide low-risk, minimally invasive cardiac procedures. The reforms of SB # will increase patient options throughout the state, especially among Medicaid recipients who are more likely to receive services from a public or non-profit hospital than a private facility.

Working SB # to the Governor's desk required that I familiarize myself with *State's* regulatory cardiovascular care center standards. In doing so, I built relationships with stakeholders, such as *State's* Agency for Healthcare Administration, local hospitals, and the Senate's in-house health law attorneys. I learned to read and brief legislation to create bill summaries while using stakeholder input to place the proposed policy in a historical context. I synthesized all this information into detailed talking points for the Senator to use when he was presenting the bill before committee. The direct exposure to statutory governance that I received from successfully passing SB # will provide invaluable insight for studying the law through the lens of regulatory policy. My experience in the *State* Senate moves me to pursue government and administrative law. With two years of lawmaking experience, fall of *Year* will be the perfect time to embark on my law school journey. I believe that Yale Law, with its robust public interest and governmental opportunities, is an ideal fit for my public service goals.

From the early lessons of service instilled in AA, to later having a lawmaker take a chance on me while valeting cars, my journey has been a progression toward a career dedicated to public interest. My service in the *State* Legislature has solidified my belief that a rigorous study of the law will allow me to make a tangible positive impact, and I am ready to bring my legislative grit to Yale Law School.

Jason Gomez died on June 3, 2007, at only twenty-eight years old.¹ Seventeen years later and his loved ones continue to mourn his death, posting frequently to an online obituary. This digital archive contains hundreds of messages – accounts of enduring love and grief, alongside photographs documenting the childhoods of Jason’s two now-grown sons. I recently stayed up late into the night reading each of these tributes, learning more about the man whose final act was to shoot my father, a *City* police officer.

My father’s nonfatal – albeit torturous – injury forced me to confront new moral complexities. At ten years old, I refused to simply attribute the event to Jason being a “bad” person and instead focused on rationalizing his actions. After persistent questioning, my mom offered one justification: “He didn’t want to go back to prison.” Due to falling out with a notorious gang, the twenty-eight-year-old feared that a return to incarceration was equivalent to a death sentence. This explanation tells only part of Jason’s story, but it sparked my first explicit interest in prison conditions and criminal justice.

Although my fascination with corrections began in childhood, I did not find an outlet for this passion until I discovered economics research. As a first-generation college student from a blue-collar town, I never considered research a viable career path. Instead, I chose the economics major due to its practical applications in business. Professor *Name*’s Introduction to Macroeconomics shifted my perspective. After excelling in his course, he offered me positions first as a teaching assistant and then as a research assistant. Through this mentorship, I realized the field’s potential beyond textbook economic theories – I learned how theoretical frameworks can form the basis for credible empirical analysis and how technical skills in coding can unlock previously inaccessible data. Empowered by this quantitative methodology, I eventually merged my economics training with my enduring interests in criminal justice.

I am now a fourth-year economics PhD student at *University*. My research portfolio –

encompassing projects on inmate civil rights litigation, solitary confinement, and court congestion – is inspired and shaped by fundamental experiences in my past. Jason's desperation to avoid prison motivated my first interest in institutional accountability in corrections, prompting me to study inmate litigation in federal district courts – the mainspring for prison reform over the past 60 years. Through my father more generally, I witnessed the potential consequences of defending the law. Beyond my dad's physical injury, his life is defined by post-traumatic stress disorder and alcoholism. His hardships not only inform my view of the challenges encountered by correctional officers, but they also drive my research on solitary confinement. In this work, I strive to illuminate the profound mental costs that traditional empirical studies often fail to capture. Similarly, I started a project on judicial bottlenecks after witnessing my uncle's purgatorial year of pretrial uncertainty in a *State* jail cell. His hopelessness, resulting from negligent lawyers and an overwhelmed court system, revealed the personal impact of court inefficiencies.

From causal inference to advanced data analysis, eight years of economics research equipped me with the methodological skills to analyze questions around incarceration. This research must be conducted meticulously and with a human-centered approach – never losing sight of the real people whose stories motivated it. A legal education, through coursework in criminal procedure and internships at a prison law office, will enrich my contextual understanding of these topics in ways unattainable from the researcher's ivory tower. In less than three months, I will be the same age as Jason was at the time of his death. It is with this perspective that I aim to pair economic techniques with legal acumen to advance our understanding of the systematic failures inherent in the criminal justice system.

Notes: ¹ Jason's name and precise date of death have been altered to protect privacy.

Growing up, I was taught that Islam's beauty is couched in its purity: the religion is perfect because it has never been tainted or influenced. When my *Islamic Art* professor, *Professor*, introduced us to the Gbain masking tradition, I was initially unsettled. The West African practice used in ritual dances evolved from the literal and cultural intermarriage between Muslim merchants, Berber armies, and local tribes within the 8th and 14th centuries. To my professor, the syncretism of indigenous tradition and Islam was the most fascinating aspect of Islam in West Africa. She showed us Islam-inspired half-moon inscriptions on a half-cow half-human Gbain mask and extolled the malleability of the religion in adapting to local customs. To me, however, "malleability" felt more like blasphemy. A core tenet of Islam is aniconism; masquerade and figurative dances both violated that principle.

For my term paper, I studied West African masquerade further—and encountered a new perspective. Muslim colonizers allowed tribes to continue their dances as a tool of assuagement when incorporating them into their political structures. As someone who seeks to decolonize my analysis of art and history in good faith, I had fallen victim to my internal predispositions and obviated the indigenous position. Islam was not the forcefully corrupted creed; it was the very vessel of colonial takeover. It was difficult to acknowledge that my convictions had clouded a fair judgment of the indigenous art. Sometimes decolonizing requires deconstructing our own beliefs—for that is what masquerade was to the Gbain.

In *The Cultural Politics of Emotion*, theorist Sara Ahmed asks the reader to conceptualize of compulsory heterosexuality in terms of comfort. If society were an armchair, she posits, heteronormative bodies would sink in comfortably, unknowingly deepening the dents and depressions left by other straight beings. Queer bodies, however, would fit awkwardly, acutely aware of both their own discomfort and the novelty of their distress.

I have spent the majority of my life in Missouri and Oklahoma, two states where the indents of heteronormativity remain entrenched. I find truth in Ahmed's metaphor, if only because I know what it means to try, and fail, to contort my queer body into compliance. In reading this passage, however, I was struck by a question: if the chair is so uncomfortable, why not stand up? Over the last 23 years, I have found that the power of queerness, defined not as sexual preference, but as social orientation, is in its ability to examine convention from the outside. Queer folks do not draw breath to feel discomfort in relation to straight bodies, but rather to enact our own modes of being without considering normative expectations. But for queerness, I would be married and a father in my small Missouri town and the idea of attending law school, let alone becoming a law professor, would seem quixotic. Yet, my existence queers what is possible, redefining what a gay Midwesterner can do, can feel, and can become.

Before working in local news in *State*, I didn't fully appreciate what we're losing as small newspapers die in droves across the country. I knew these publications were crucial for government accountability, but I didn't understand the importance of having a newspaper around to turn the life of a community into an ongoing story for readers to follow. The loss of these shared narratives has wide repercussions, undermining social cohesion and fueling political polarization.

In rural *State* legislative races, for instance, it's common for candidates to have nuanced platforms on locally pertinent topics, such as broadband infrastructure or economic diversification. Yet it's equally common for these races to devolve into rhetoric about national political figures and issues largely irrelevant to the work of state legislators. The death of local news is partly to blame, because voters have been left to understand politics through the incendiary storylines touted on cable TV and social media.

Conversations about fixing the media often focus on reining in purveyors of bias and misinformation. With enough fact-checking or content moderation, the thinking goes, we can return to a time when journalists were trusted arbiters of truth. Setting aside the question of its historical accuracy, this vision calls for a hopeless battle against technological development and could have dangerous implications for free speech. If we want to improve the national discourse, we might instead start by finding ways to rebuild local journalism to serve as a bulwark against bad information and the cartoonish politics it promotes.

Public transportation is a challenge for the Navajo Nation – a territory five times the size of Connecticut but holding a fraction of the population. It took thirty years of episodic funding and growing ridership to establish a robust Navajo Transit System (NTS). NTS's 18 bus routes delivered an affordable connection to essential services across multiple U.S. states and tribal nations. The COVID-19 outbreak derailed decades of this progress, forcing tribal authorities to suspend NTS to curb the rapid infection rate. Today, this lifeline remains severed for thousands. Dozens of buses sit idle on a dirt lot, and many people must trek miles along unforgiving desert highways to commute to work, receive healthcare, and even access running water.

The Navajo Nation's transit problem represents only one piece of a nationwide puzzle that mobility managers and my self-advocacy coalition are trying to solve. As urban commuters trickled back to their post-pandemic lives, downtown metros largely rebounded from the crisis. Meanwhile, a depressed user base and steep operational costs have forced rural transit providers to make a choice: adapt their fixed-route systems or fall off the fiscal cliff. There is a sustainable solution – demand-response transit – but it requires significant state funding. This model promises to cut overhead and boost revenue, utilizing a fleet of smaller vehicles that dispatch to customers as needed. I believe the flexibility might be what the Navajo Nation needs to pull its transit network and deprived citizens back from the brink and into a viable future.

In 2011, Egyptian protesters chanting “bread, freedom, social justice” ousted Hosni Mubarak, surprising U.S. policymakers across the spectrum. An ostensibly resilient regime was toppled, in part, by bread.

But, if shortages of affordable bread were a critical catalyst, shouldn’t Washington have been able to recognize Mubarak’s precarity earlier? Studying Arabic, international relations, and food systems in college allowed me to explore whether calls for bread could help explain the revolution’s unanticipated timing, and whether that timing was foreseeable. Interestingly, Washington was caught similarly flat-footed almost forty years earlier, in 1977, when massive protests erupted across Egypt after Anwar Sadat agreed to bread subsidy cuts.

In both 1977 and 2011, U.S. policymakers underestimated the destabilizing effects of economic grievances rooted in bread prices, perhaps because U.S.-supported policies contributed to them. As part of Cold War efforts to liberalize Egypt’s economy, the International Monetary Fund, with U.S. backing, had conditioned loans to Egypt on Sadat’s adoption of bread subsidy cuts. Washington’s decades-long attempts to globalize Mubarak’s economy left it vulnerable to the Global Financial Crisis, eroding Egyptians’ purchasing power and rendering subsidized bread increasingly unaffordable, even without nominal price changes.

Working in DC now, I see policymakers continue to underestimate authoritarians’ vulnerabilities – an assumption that often results from blind spots regarding our policies. To better anticipate unrest and promote sustainable governance, a more nuanced understanding of the macroeconomic effects of U.S. policy and their human impact is essential. Bread is a thread that ties these abstract concepts to their practical applications.

Mandatory arbitration agreements, concealed in the fine print of millions of employment contracts, force workers to sign away their right to sue their employer. Most mandatory arbitration agreements also ban class actions, which exacerbates socioeconomic inequalities as workers are unable to join together and collectively confront powerful companies who violate their rights. And although the phrase “arbitration agreement” implies that both parties have “agreed” to it, these agreements are unilaterally imposed on workers who have no choice – if they refuse to sign their employment contract, they cannot get the job.

For my senior honors thesis, I conducted a survey experiment examining how workers understand the implications of signing a mandatory arbitration agreement. When asked to read an arbitration agreement from a real-life employment contract, a sizeable number of survey respondents did not even comprehend that they would give up the right to sue their employer by agreeing to it. Meanwhile, those who did understand the language of the agreement expressed that if they had to choose between giving up the right to sue their employer or giving up the opportunity to have a job at all, they would feel compelled to give up the right to sue. My findings shed light on how mandatory arbitration reflects and reinforces the power imbalances between people and corporations. After investigating this problem from an academic perspective, I want to spend my career challenging the enforceability of mandatory arbitration agreements and ensuring that workers can hold their employers accountable through the legal system.

In 1932, economist Lionel Robbins delivered an incisive rebuke: by offering policy recommendations, the economics profession abandoned its status as a pure “science.” Most policies create winners and losers, Robbins argued, yet evaluating trade-offs requires illegitimately comparing the losses of some against the gains of others. These juxtapositions – which are analogous to assessing whether my enjoyment from eating an apple exceeds yours – are inherently immeasurable. The critique presented a catch-22 – either economists accept diminished practical relevance or forgo their pursuit of disciplinary elevation.

Dissatisfied with either choice, Nicholas Kaldor and John Hicks devised a workaround. Economists could limit themselves to scientific objectivity by focusing on efficiency – i.e., maximizing the size of the pie – while leaving distributional considerations to the political process. This solution justifies economic prescriptions advanced today, including those based on consumer surplus (as in antitrust evaluations) and benefit-cost analysis (as in government regulatory proposals).

The Kaldor-Hicks criterion is flawed. Instead of comparing satisfaction in consuming goods (as criticized by Robbins), economists compare the extent to which individuals are willing to pay for goods. Consider a life-saving prescription drug: even if I am on the verge of death, Jeff Bezos may be willing to pay more for the drug simply due to his wealth. According to size-of-the-pie logic, delivering the medicine to Bezos is the optimal allocation over saving my life. Policy recommendations based on money-metric valuations use a veil of science to mask deeply inequitable choices. Economists must stop mistaking wealth for welfare in the pursuit of rigor.

I determined that I wanted to be a lawyer who advocated for racial justice and civil rights after experiencing the pain of watching several of my loved ones encounter a criminal legal system rife with unjust outcomes and witnessing the police and vigilante killings of Black people throughout my adolescent years. However, I had never confronted the true implications of my commitment to advocacy until I was standing outside of the United States Supreme Court chanting, "Free Rodney Reed."

Mr. Reed was on death row in Texas, and his story had garnered national attention because there was compelling evidence suggesting his innocence. I joined activists mobilizing throughout the country to fight this injustice—I signed petitions, contacted elected officials, and shared his story. Six days before the scheduled execution, I attended and spoke at an overnight vigil in front of the U.S. Supreme Court with Mr. Reed's family, friends, and supporters, calling for his life to be spared and for his freedom. The next day, Mr. Reed's execution was stayed, and I felt more inspired than ever.

A few days later, I applied to the *Organization*, a legal non-profit dedicated to challenging the death penalty, excessive punishment, and mass incarceration. My time at *Organization* reaffirmed my values as we committed to representing those who had been illegally convicted, unfairly sentenced, or abused in jails and prisons. Throughout these experiences, I realized that adopting these values was easier because they were not limited to my professional life. Since I was a small child, I have watched my family members being reduced to their criminal records in the media and courtrooms, despite knowing that their offenses did not define them as a person and were such a small piece of their story. I am committed to challenging this aspect of our legal system, which often labels people as irredeemable and has devastating effects on marginalized communities.

This commitment has been largely influenced by the anti-death penalty community, which has been instrumental in my journey of defining the type of advocate I want to be. I became grounded in the belief that innocence is not and should never be a prerequisite to justice when this community forced me to ask myself the fundamental question: "Who deserves justice?" This principle has inspired my advocacy for marginalized people as I have worked to ensure that our legal system upholds the ideals of equity, justice, and humanity for all people, regardless of their crimes.

Over the past year, I have served alongside my wife as a welfare specialist for the local church. We coordinate food deliveries and rental assistance for about 30 families across the *Neighborhood of City*. I am not nearly as religious as I once was, but through this role I have been able to connect with people that I wouldn't have met otherwise. Though only a few blocks away, their neighborhoods in *Neighborhood* and *Neighborhood* look very different from mine in *Neighborhood* (and very different from my hometown in rural Southern *State*). Years of disinvestment and violence have woven precarity as the common thread in the lives of those who live there. It is in this community, though, that I have made my closest friends in *City*.

My role as a welfare specialist has been eye-opening. For my neighbors on the *Neighborhood*, nothing can be taken for granted; such necessities as housing, food, and healthcare are always just one stroke of bad luck away from disappearing completely. Security is privilege. For many of the families we serve, it's an uphill battle just to keep the lights on. Despite these circumstances, however, these families are remarkably compassionate. Even in the midst of their own economic hardship, they are concerned for the welfare of others. I see them regularly reaching out to one another, making sure that no one goes it alone in the formidable work of just getting by. My wife and I, too, find ourselves regular recipients of this compassion. I have received more dinner invitations from these families than from anyone else! I am constantly in awe of this community of people who give so much when they possess so little.

I hope I have been able to repay some of that generosity. I can look back and recall a string of instances in which I'm sure I did some good. I can recall, for example, the subtle, grateful tears of a recently disabled man who, when I approached with a grocery delivery, confided to me that he hadn't had a visitor in days; I remember being one of the first people on the phone with a heartbroken man on the day his sister died; I remember three young boys' faces, eyes wide and mouths agape, as they explored the new apartment we had moved their family into, safer and more promising than their last. Memories like this assure me that I have added some value to this community, though I doubt it's commensurate with what I have received. Originally brought to them by the duties of a job I signed up for, I now find myself bound to it by genuine concern. These are my friends, and this work matters greatly to me.

“I want to know everything about this guy,” my supervisor explained. “I want to know who his friends are. I want to know where his kids work. Anything that can help us hold people accountable.” The man in question was the billionaire behind *Company* — a *Foreign* multinational company that owns *Country*’s two gold mines. In 2018, *Company* released three million gallons of toxic chemicals into local water; when the community protested, police ultimately detained 22 climate defenders. *Lawyer*, a *Country* environmental lawyer, brought the arrests to the *Organization*’s attention. This past summer, my supervisor asked me to investigate corporate accountability mechanisms the *Organization* could use to assist the defenders. The first step, she said, was discerning who funded the mines.

It was a more difficult task than I expected. As a foreign, privately-owned company, *Company* is not legally required to disclose its investors. For days, I pored over dozens of databases and hundreds of websites, hoping to identify any stakeholders we could hold responsible. I found nothing. Just as I was about to write a memo concluding that the search was fruitless, a thought crossed my mind: what if we needed to be looking not at who financed the gold mines, but where that gold went once it left *Country*?

It quickly became clear we had indeed been asking the wrong question. Through some digging, I discovered that all *Country* gold is processed at one *Foreign* refinery, which belongs to a key international trade association with robust human rights standards. From there, I found the conflict mineral reports of major U.S. corporations, which revealed that companies like *Tech Company* and *Auto Manufacturer* source minerals from that same *Foreign* refinery – and they all list *Country* as a source of gold. We had our chain of accountability.

My final memo diagrammed the international gold flow from *Country* and outlined how it could help the *Organization* liberate the defenders. The plan is still in progress, but all signs indicate *Country* will soon free the detainees. After five years, all of the activists – many of whom *Lawyer* has worked with directly – will return home. I was astonished that the information I found was part of the reason why.

In human rights work, witnessing the direct effects of your advocacy is rare. My job often involves fighting for reproductive freedom in corners of the world I have never known — a process that is necessarily gradual and indeterminate. For that reason, the tangibility of the *Country* case was striking. I could say, without hesitation, that my work had done good. This accomplishment was one I could hold.

The accomplishment I am most proud of is my work related to the ongoing court reporter shortage in *State's* trial courts. I spent the past year immersed in this growing problem as a Judicial Fellow through the *State Program*. While placed at the *State* Office of Governmental Affairs, my colleagues and I frequently spoke with legislative staff about the crippling deficit of court reporters as we attempted to push policy change through the *State* State Legislature. Court reporters ensure the availability of a verbatim record to litigants. Yet in *Year*, almost one million hearings were held in *State's* courts without a court reporter, stripping vulnerable litigants of the ability to appeal.

My role was to craft a narrative about the harmful effects of this court reporter shortage and communicate this message to state lawmakers with power to influence this issue. From March to July of *Year*, I met with legislative staff to explain the growing shortage and its devastating effects. I shared data about the number of court reporters being licensed each year and those eligible for retirement. I also told the story of a real situation in which a self-represented litigant in family court lost custody of their children and was unable to appeal their case. Without a court reporter, there is no record and no appeal, even in consequential cases such as this one. Legislative staff members could envision this individual as one of their constituents and I saw attitudes in the Legislature concerning court reporters begin to shift.

Advocating for all court users in my home state was an incredibly fulfilling experience that taught me how to effectively communicate on behalf of a large population. Several journalists cited the data and talking points I constructed in their articles, thereby conveying the urgency of this issue to audiences beyond *City* politicians. As a result of these efforts, related bills were amended to incorporate comprehensive solutions to the ongoing shortage of court reporters and preserve access to appellate review for *State* litigants.

I began my journey in the Army unaware that I would serve at the spearhead of gender integration. Early in my cadet career, my stated desire to commission in a combat arms branch drew laughs from upperclassmen. Instructors felt comfortable openly debating whether women deserved to serve alongside them, with multiple stating that the presence of women would only endanger their men. After arriving at my first unit, my battalion commander immediately assigned me to the most prestigious Infantry company in our brigade. I went on to serve as the first female platoon leader and executive officer in the oldest active Infantry regiment in the Army. I understood that I served as the example many of these men would consider when forming opinions of women in combat arms. Though my male peers would be evaluated as individuals, I would always be seen as a representative for my entire sex.

It was not a specific viewpoint that I had to combat in these positions, but my very existence within the organization. I was fortunate in my first position to be surrounded by professionals who, when they did hold misgivings about my presence, at least respected my competence. As I progressed in my career, I encountered more openly hostile environments. On both sides of this spectrum of treatment, my instinctual response was to be combative. I recognized that in doing this, I would potentially lose any standing that I held, or any progress I had made in reshaping opinions. I remained open to honest discourse on their opinions. I pushed for accountability against those who engaged in sexual harassment, and continued to do so when facing reprisal from those who held that jurisdictional authority above me.

It was difficult to live in an environment where each mistake I made would count against my perceived abilities. If my male peers made these same mistakes, it would be seen as a developmental experience, while mine added ammunition to the argument against progress. Even as I transition out of the Army, I am cognizant of my actions and their future impacts. By nature of their sex, my colleagues are afforded the ability to focus their attention on their future rather than their performance. Even until my final day in the Army, any slip in my performance could be used to close the doors of progress to future generations of women. My disposition to challenge conventions and unjust actions, evidenced through my time in the Army, will be invaluable in academic ecosystems consisting of individuals with opposing convictions.

I shouldn't be here. I struggled with that thought for years, regardless of whether I was in a job interview, speaking in a class, or interviewing a source as a student journalist. My imposter syndrome wasn't because of anything I did, but because of what I shouldn't have been able to do.

At two years old, I was diagnosed with autism after experiencing profound developmental delays. Doctors predicted I would be nonverbal for life, my ultimate destination a group home. Unwilling to accept this prognosis, my parents immersed me in 40 hours per week of speech, occupational, and social skills therapies. Over years, therapists coaxed words, then phrases, and eventually, reciprocal language from me. I learned how to be attentive, stand straight, use silverware, make eye contact, and other skills neurotypical children learn instinctively. By my teenage years, I had caught up in my language and motor development. However, I still presented as extremely awkward, often finding myself excluded by peers. This rejection made me believe I was somehow lesser than others, and I retreated into my shell.

Gaining self-confidence has involved a yearslong effort on my part, where I have merged “social” activities with a passion for public policy. In high school, participating in speech and debate not only allowed me to become comfortable with public speaking, but also gave me a peer group for the first time in my life. As a college journalist, I learned how to navigate controversial topics in a respectful manner and eventually served in leadership roles. I also challenged myself to explore social opportunities, whether it was by enrolling in discussion-based classes or joining a fraternity. Finally, working at the *Organization* has shown me how qualities often associated with autism, such as candor, hyperfocus, and succinctness, are assets in the legal profession. This professional affirmation has helped me a great deal in combating lingering self-doubt.

More than any other experience in my life, living with autism has made me a better person. It has taught me to be patient with my own personal growth and value relationships with others. I know I have had many advantages, including a supportive family, quality intervention, and the opportunity to pursue my passions. My own experiences have motivated me to “pay it forward” and help other individuals with disabilities, whether through volunteering as a basketball coach or eventually pursuing pro bono legal work. Finally, my journey has given me confidence that I truly belong in the legal field.

While my thoughts have shifted on numerous topics, my altered perspective on immigration constitutes my greatest change of mind. Coming from a family of immigrants, I have always supported immigration and believe that our country's success stems directly from its great history of immigration. Growing up, however, I did maintain a more critical stance on immigration conducted outside official channels. I often questioned why some people supported immigration without official documentation, especially when established procedures exist to apply for and receive the requisite approvals. Furthermore, I must admit that I gave undue credence to isolated, sensationalized stories of violence and harm, which negatively and inaccurately shaped my perspective on undocumented immigration.

Formal education and informal discussions with peers and instructors served as the initial impetus for my development of a deeper understanding and more reasoned perspective on immigration. I came to realize that the official paths toward immigration disproportionately favor, and in certain respects only allow, wealthier individuals and families. I discovered the ineffectiveness and inequities inherent in the United States' preferential quota system, and I learned about historical harms committed by the United States that fueled current immigration crises. Furthermore, I developed a more critical view of the media surrounding immigration and noticed that the overwhelming attention paid to the so-called "criminality" of immigration marks a fallacious, and at times xenophobic, point of view.

My direct experiences built upon these realizations and taught me the humanity of immigration and the need for systemic policy changes. I have listened to harrowing stories of families who have risked everything for a chance of a better life in the United States. I have talked with young adults and realized that, despite our shared age, they have experienced hardship and a lack of opportunity that I cannot begin to fathom. In the end, I learned to recognize the existence of a shared global humanity and the universal desire for a better life. I now share my experiences with others and work to ensure that the dignity in everyone I encounter is respected, with the hope that one day my experiences, and those of others, can help to shape more humane attitudes and policies.

On a hot summer afternoon in *City*, I was interning at a Self-Help Center when a woman came in to file a restraining order (RO). Tears were streaming down her face and a patch of blood had replaced a chunk of hair missing from her scalp, and it was clear that she had come from an abusive episode with her partner. After helping her with the forms for a petition, I told her that her case was strong and that the judge would be a fool not to grant the RO.

Later that day, my supervisor pulled me into her office to remind me of my obligation to remain neutral. In exasperation, I gestured to where the client had been sitting and demanded to know whether she had witnessed the state of panic the client had been in. “You know that we have to serve everyone who comes in,” she said, “including her partner.” She then added that while she shared my passion, our role was to provide *information*, not advocacy.

As I mulled over what she had said, I realized that she was right: my role was to ensure that all people, even those I believed had caused harm, had access to free, neutral legal aid. The justice system I envision mandates equal opportunity for legal resolution, and by showing bias toward a client, even one I believed to be a victim, I had played a role in perpetuating the very systemic inequities I hoped to help eradicate. Despite my initial discomfort with the impartiality required of my role, I came to appreciate this institutional restraint, which forced me to turn off the part of my brain that had always itched to pick a side. By prioritizing the experiences of each client and suspending my preconceived notions of who deserved aid, I was able to engage more deeply with each person and become a more empathetic and effective intermediary of justice.

I have carried this mindset to my role at the *Organization*, where I continue to expand my understanding of which groups of people are not only “worthy” of study, but also necessary to learn from to build stronger communities. I will approach legal issues with the same open mind to elevate the unique stories of those I serve to support them in their path to justice.

College Summer Activities**Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia**, Washington, DC Summer 2019 (12 weeks)*Intern Investigator (40 hours per week, paid)*

- Investigated felonies for trial attorneys by community canvassing, taking witness interviews, and conducting records research.
- Maintained client relationships through regular jail visits.
- Responsible for the service of subpoenas relevant to an upcoming trial.

Civic Collaboration, Greensboro, NC Summer 2017 (8 weeks)*Undergraduate Researcher (35 hours per week, stipend)*

- Researched Greensboro's talent retention challenges in an independent research team of undergraduates.
- Conducted local interviews and researched talent retention best practices under the mentorship of Action Greensboro, a local non-profit.
- Presented findings and recommendations to approximately 60 key stakeholders in the city, including the chamber of commerce and city council.

Three Ships, Raleigh, NC Summer 2018 (8 weeks)*Research Analyst Intern (40 hours per week, unpaid)*

- Assisted startup site (Mattress Advisor) in establishing domain authority and optimizing user experience.
- Conducted competitor research into topics such as industry best practices, Google AdWords, and search engine optimization for targeted keywords.
- Presented competitive audit findings to supervisors and CEO to help establish new quarterly goals.

Northwest Outward Bound School, Portland, Oregon Summer 2016 (3 weeks)

- Participated in North Cascades mountaineering course.
- Completed training in backcountry camping, as well as three-day solo expedition.

School-Year Activities**APPLES Service-Learning**, University of North Carolina Spring 2018 - Spring 2020*Alternative Spring Break Leader (5 hours per week, unpaid)*

- Led a group of undergraduates on a week-long spring break service-learning trip to Greensboro, NC with an emphasis on local history and civil rights.
- Initiated partnerships with community organizations and coordinated direct service opportunities for the students. Designed trip itinerary and coordinated trip logistics.
- Served as a teaching assistant in the semester's corresponding service-learning course.

Undergraduate Honor Court, University of North Carolina Spring 2017 - Spring 2020*Honor Court Member (20 hours per semester, unpaid)*

- Participated in student disciplinary panels to determine culpability and appropriate sanctions.

Campus Y, Catalyst Conference, University of North Carolina Fall 2016 - Spring 2020*Committee Leader (2 hours per week, unpaid)*

- Assisted with curriculum development for an annual conference on social justice for local students.
- Acted as a counselor to a small group of high school students throughout the conference.

Post-College Activities**Latham & Watkins LLP, New York, NY**

August 2020 - Present

*Attorney Support Assistant (40 hours per week, paid)**July 2021 -Present*

- Provide team administrative support to over 700 junior firm associates, managing multiple assignments and competing deadlines.
- Responsible for proofreading attorney work product, managing document sets for closings, tracking and notifying associates regarding weekly timesheet requirements, and coordinating interdepartmental assistance requests.
- Act as a team leader for the Business Services Trainee Program peer mentoring group by matching mentor pairs and organizing professional development events.

Business Services Trainee (40 hours per week, paid) August 2020 - July 2021

- Participated in a rotational program designed for recent college graduates to experience multiple departments before placing in a full-time position.
- Worked as an assistant in the attorney recruiting department, primarily responsible for communicating with lateral candidates and organizing recruiting events.
- Gained experience as an attorney support assistant before being hired in the permanent role.

LSAT Demon, Fully remote

April 2021 - Present

Teacher and Tutor (8 hours per week, paid)

- Teach LSAT Zoom classes to over 75 students per week. Classes include a weekly "deep dive" on one test concept, an all-levels class, and a class on advanced techniques in logical reasoning.
- Design and conduct private tutoring sessions to provide targeted feedback and coaching.
- Develop a new curriculum for teaching the foundations of the reading comprehension section.

ReadAhead, PS 111, New York, NY

Fall 2020 - Present

Mentor (1 hour per week, unpaid)

- Provide support to one child in first grade through a weekly one-on-one reading hour.

COLLEGE ACTIVITIES – UNDERGRADUATE SUMMERS

Community Health Outreach Programs Intern | June 2018 – August 2018 | Unpaid, 40 hours/weekUnited General *District #, City, WA*

- Performed nutrition education outreach at events in low-income, Spanish-speaking communities
- Analyzed data from community surveys on cannabis use to identify relevant trends for a community needs assessment
- Implemented a multi-week program for rural, low-income youth, providing health education on nutrition, physical activity, and health literacy
- Completed an evaluation of a multi-week program plan for approximately 100 participants in conjunction with school district leadership and local coalitions

Aquatics Director | Summer 2015, 2016, 2017 | Paid, 80+ hours/week

YMCA Camp Seymour, Key Peninsula, WA

- Trained 60+ staff members on aquatic safety and basic swimming instruction for youth ages 5-16 and adults
- Supervised a staff of 10-12 lifeguards, performing mandated safety drills and providing regular evaluations
- Developed and maintained a safe pool and locker room environment for approximately 100 youth each day
- Maintained the physical safety of the aquatic area by developing and implementing daily operations to prevent accidental drowning and injury

COLLEGE ACTIVITIES – UNDERGRADUATE TERMS

Peer Advisor, Lead Peer Advisor | September 2015 – June 2018 | Paid, 15 hours/week

Tutoring Center, Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA

- Supervised and scheduled approximately 15 peer advisors, providing regular training, and working with senior staff to evaluate employee performance
- Provided one-on-one study skills and academic success tutoring for non-traditional students and students at risk of losing financial aid due to academic challenges
- Planned and led presentations for groups of up to 75 students enrolled in entry-level courses, English language learners, and residence halls on achieving academic success in college
- Managed daily front desk operations, coordinating student access to tutors, tracking employee attendance, and checking out student resources

Peer Health Educator | September 2016 – June 2018 | Unpaid, 5-10 hours/week

Alcohol and Other Drug Consultation and Assessment Services, Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA

- Planned and led weekly harm reduction classes for students referred by residence halls, medical centers, and campus police for dangerous or unlawful alcohol use
- Coordinated quarterly campus events on safer alcohol and cannabis use for incoming students and sports clubs
- Designed and distributed health communications materials on identifying the signs of alcohol misuse and alternatives to drunk driving

Member & President | September 2014 – June 2018 | Unpaid, 5-10 hours/week

Student Honors Board, Honors Program, Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA

- Led weekly meetings of 10-20 student board members, tracking board activities, events, and elections
- Met with student, faculty, and administrative groups to identify opportunities for increased student engagement and improved course offerings
- Planned and implemented twice-monthly campus events for students, including regular discussion groups, reading clubs, and movie nights

Student Member | September 2016 – June 2017 | Unpaid, 10 hours/term

Faculty Honors Board, Honors Program, Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA

- Represented prospective and current student interests in an annual evaluation of Honors Program application and admissions processes
- Reviewed faculty proposals for new Honors Program seminars as part of an annual curriculum review, gathering input from other student groups

Member & Vice President | September 2014 – June 2017 | Unpaid, 5-10 hours/week

Women's Club Water Polo, Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA

- Recruited and trained club members, developing practice schedules and activities to fit all skill levels
- Collaborated with the club president to manage the club budget, including tracking expenditures, monthly reporting, and fundraising
- Organized travel for approximately 15 club members to multiple tournaments each year

COLLEGE ACTIVITIES – ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

Honors Capstone | 2018

Honors Program, Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA

- Researched and completed "Failure to Launch: A short history of failed health insurance reform in the United States" on notable themes, successes, and barriers to universal healthcare in previous and current administrations
- Presented research and findings to a panel of public health and Honors Program faculty

Outstanding Poster Award Recipient | 2018

Scholars Week, Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA

- Conducted original research on student experiences with firearms and perceptions of firearm violence on college campuses
- Presented research and an accompanying poster at multiple Scholars Week poster events for current students and alumni, receiving the Outstanding Poster Award

POST-COLLEGE ACTIVITIES

Presidential Management Fellow | July 2021 – present | Paid, 40 hours/week**Health Insurance Specialist**, Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight, Washington, DC

- Perform weekly evaluations of enrollment and claims data for more than 570 issuers for compliance with regulatory quantity and quality requirements
- Serve as a member of the 1332 waiver work group, reviewing 1332 waiver applications for completeness and potential impacts on reinsurance calculations and data submissions
- Coordinate with contractors, issuers, and state departments of insurance to ensure issuer compliance with data submission requirements outlined in regulatory guidance

Public Health Advisor (detail), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, GA

- Manage and maintain core program activities, including recruitment and marketing, selection and tracking, evaluation, and informatics
- Engage with internal and external stakeholders to innovate program activities and strategically advance program portfolios with an emphasis on improving diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility
- Collaborate with subject matter experts to complete initial program planning for a K-12 curriculum on chronic disease prevention and health equity

Graduate Teaching Assistant | August 2020 – May 2021 | Paid, 10-15 hours/week

Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University, Atlanta, GA

- Prepared class materials, presentation slides, grading rubrics, Canvas quizzes, and course announcements for Introduction to Healthcare Management and Economic Evaluation of Healthcare Programs
- Facilitated online course and office hour components, including creating video links, recording lectures, and screen sharing

Operations Intern | May 2020 – August 2020 | Paid, 40 hours/week

Gwinnett Clinic, Lawrenceville, GA

- Implemented a new primary care practice diabetic retinopathy screening program, including coordinating with vendors, preparing facility spaces, and training staff
- Expanded COVID-19 testing to two clinic locations by developing standard operating procedures for implementing testing in alignment with state and county requirements
- Developed and piloted a training manual to standardize front office procedures among 19 clinic locations

Graduate Assistant Development Coordinator | September 2019 – May 2020 | Paid, 15 hours/week

Emory Eye Center, Atlanta, GA

- Analyzed patient and donor data to create deliverables for donation requests resulting in more than \$100,000 in donations for sight-saving surgeries
- Analyzed donor reports from a university-wide database to identify trends in donor engagement and inform future development activities

AmeriCorps Member | August 2018 – August 2019 | Paid, 40 hours/week

Redwood Community Action Agency, Eureka, CA

- Managed a caseload of more than 40 families identified by Child Welfare Services as at risk for child abuse or neglect, providing access to federal, state, and local resources
- Assisted families in applying for and accessing federal and state health insurance services such as Medicare, Medicaid, and the State Child Health Insurance Program

Activities During Summer Terms

Restaurant , Mentor, OH	Summer 2022, 2023, 2024
<i>Server (35-40+ hours/week, paid)</i>	
As a server at <i>Restaurant</i> , I provided friendly and attentive service to 7+ tables simultaneously. When we were understaffed, I assisted the hosts and food runners with greeting customers, setting tables, and plating and delivering food orders when they needed additional support.	

Activities During School Terms

Research Group , Tulane University	Fall 2022 – Present
<i>Undergraduate Researcher (10-15 hours/week, unpaid)</i>	
I conduct independent research on enzyme catalysis under <i>Professor Name</i> , which involves designing experiments, executing procedures, and analyzing results in the context of previous research. I have presented my findings at three sessions for undergraduate research with the Chemistry department, and I am currently working on an honors thesis.	

General Chemistry Lab , Tulane University	Fall 2022 – Present
<i>Teaching Assistant (6-12 hours/week, paid)</i>	
As a lab TA, I teach and supervise my section(s) of students during a 3-hour weekly lab meeting. I teach two sections this semester, and I have taught one section in past semesters. I also grade my students' weekly lab reports, pre-lab assignments, and in-lab participation, and I hold office hours by appointment to provide additional guidance if needed.	

Frederick A. Douglass High School , New Orleans, LA	Fall 2024 – Present
<i>Service-Learning Volunteer (3 hours/week, unpaid)</i>	
As part of my philosophy service-learning course this semester, I attend weekly meetings of the Frederick Douglass High School's Ethics Bowl club and assist with organizing tournaments for four local high schools. During meetings, I coach students to help foster critical thinking and ethical reasoning skills. Next semester, I will be a site lead and play a more active role in planning meetings and tournaments.	

Tulane Pre-Law Chapter of Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity	Fall 2022 – Present
<i>Congress Member, Membership Committee (variable hours, unpaid)</i>	
I volunteer at community service events held by our chapter, including Green Light New Orleans trips, food drives, clothing drives, and fundraising events. In Spring 2023, I was chosen for the Membership Committee, which engages with recruits to foster interest and build relationships among new and current brothers through various events and initiatives.	

Research Group , Tulane University	Spring 2023 – Spring 2024
<i>Team Member (2 hours/week, unpaid)</i>	
Among a team of 17 students working under <i>Professor Name</i> , I wrote and edited mathematical proofs of the entries in the <i>Table of Integrals</i> for a 2023 publication. In Spring 2024, three co-authors and I presented our paper at the Math Association of America's MS/LA section meeting.	

The Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Society , Tulane University	Fall 2024 – Present
<i>Research Assistant (5 hours/week, paid)</i>	
I am working to create a comprehensive bibliography for the Ethical Limits of Academic Inquiry working group, searching the Internet and various databases for pertinent material. After analyzing sources, I identify and summarize the arguments that are relevant to the group's goals.	

New Student Orientation	August – September 2022
<i>Wave Leader (40 hours/week during orientation, 1 hour/week after orientation, unpaid)</i>	
I led activities for my group of 12 new students during Tulane's New Student Orientation week to support and	

guide their transition to college life. During the first several weeks of fall semester, I was available for support and advice for my group.

Lycée Français de la Nouvelle-Orléans, New Orleans, LA

Spring 2022

Service-Learning Volunteer (1.5 hours/week, unpaid)

I worked with 2nd graders at a French immersion school, assisting their teacher by leading small group activities and providing individual support with French language skills during class. During recess, I supervised the students and engaged with them in French.

Dorm Community Government

Fall 2021 – Spring 2022

Vice President of Administration and Finance (2 hours/week, unpaid)

As VP of Administration and Finance for two residence halls, I managed a \$1,200+ budget and maintained a feedback form for residents. I also worked with the other community government board members to plan community-building events and assisted with greater Residence Hall Association planning and facilitation for campus-wide initiatives.

Introduction to Biochemistry Lab, Tulane University

Fall 2023

Materials Preparation Assistant (3-6 hours/week, paid)

I worked with the graduate TA to plan and determine the necessary materials and reagents for the weekly experiment to ensure successful execution. Each week, I prepared the materials needed and was available to refill and replace substances if necessary.

Additional College Activities**Honors Thesis in Political Economy** (in progress)*Wage and Inequality Effects of AI in the Labor Market*, supervised by Professor Name**Honors Thesis in Chemistry** (in progress)*Binding Site Exploration of β -glucosidase from *Thermotoga maritima* and Sweet Almonds*, supervised by Professor Name

A. Activities During Undergraduate Summers (May - Aug. 2020, 2021, 2022)

No.	Title & Location	Description	Hrs. Pay, Dates	Semester
1	Legislative Intern <i>Connecticut General Assembly, Hartford, CT</i>	Conducted policy research, attended legislative meetings, and responded to constituent needs for committee co chair <i>Senator</i> and the Labor and Public Employees Committee.	(16 hrs/wk) Unpaid Jan. 2020 - Aug. 2020	Summer & Semester
2	Legal Researcher <i>The Law Offices of ATTORNEY, Trumbull, CT</i>	Utilized various legal research platforms to find, analyze, organize, and report relevant case law, and created original legal analyses to aid with creation and handling of client cases.	(20 hrs/wk) Paid May 2021 - Aug. 2021	Summer Only
3	Legal Researcher <i>LAW FIRM 1, Trumbull, CT</i>	Utilized various legal research platforms to find, analyze, organize, and report relevant case law, and created original legal analyses to aid with creation and handling of client cases.	(10 hrs/wk) Paid Jun. 2021 - Aug. 2021	Summer Only
4	Student Researcher & Grant Recipient <i>UConn IDEA Grant Program, Storrs, CT</i> Title: <i>The Effect of Casting Expectations on Racial Attitudes and Diversity in Superhero Film</i>	Awarded selective \$4000 grant. Designed and conducted experiment of 400 adult respondents, analyzing the psychological effects of African American representation in film casting. Presented at the <i>Frontiers in Undergraduate Research Symposium</i> , Storrs, CT, Oct. 2021.	6 hrs/wk) Paid May 2019 - Aug. 2020	Summer & Semester
5	Summer Law Intern <i>LAW FIRM 2, Trumbull, CT</i>	Conducted research on emerging issues in insurance law for conference talks and cases, edited 50-state survey, constructed case binders, and reviewed draft documents.	(40 hrs/wk) Paid May 2019 - Aug. 2019	Summer Only
6	Customer Service Representative <i>The Home Depot, Trumbull, CT</i>	Responded to high-volume phone and inperson inquiries to improve shopping experience of customers.	(18 hrs/wk) Paid Apr. 2021 - Jun. 2021	Summer & Semester

B. Activities While Taking Undergraduate Classes (Aug. - May 2020, 2021, 2022)

No.	Title & Location	Description	Hrs. Pay, Dates	Semester
1	Community Group Leader, Freshman Outreach Coordinator <i>Cru at UConn, Storrs, CT</i>	Facilitated weekly Bible studies for 15 peers and engaged in individual conversations and media strategies to recruit new members and enhance member belongingness. Emceed weekly meetings and planned intergroup events with other leaders.	(10 hrs/wk) Unpaid Aug. 2018 - May 2022	Semester Only
2	Conversation Partner <i>UCAELI, Storrs, CT</i>	Engaged in individual and group discussions to improve students' English language fluency.	(1 hr/wk) Unpaid Sept. 2019 - Dec. 2021	Semester Only
3	Teaching Assistant <i>English as a Second Language Family Literacy Program, Storrs, CT</i>	Facilitated class discussions and activities to develop English reading, writing and verbal skills.	(2 hrs/wk) Unpaid Feb. 2019 - May 2020	Semester Only

4	Birmingham Volunteer <i>Community Outreach Alternative Breaks, Storrs, CT</i> Detroit Volunteer <i>Community Outreach Alternative Breaks, Storrs, CT</i>	Participated in weekly pre-trip discussions on topics including urban development and civil rights and worked at various nonprofits during trip like Habitat for Humanity, the American Red Cross and <i>Other Charitable Organization</i> .	(2 hrs/wk) Unpaid Sept. 2019 - Jan. 2020 (2 hrs/wk) Unpaid Nov. 2018 - Apr. 2019	Semester Only
5	Peer Counseling Specialist <i>Honors Guides for Peer Success, Storrs, CT</i>	Presented workshops, evaluated student reflection assignments, and provided one-on-one advising support for Honors students in their undergraduate plans and individualized leadership projects.	(10 hrs/week) Unpaid Aug. 2021 - May 2022	Semester Only
6	VP of Internal Relations, Alumni Relations Team Leader <i>CLAS Student Leadership Board, Storrs, CT</i>	Planned and facilitated internal events like alumni panels. Created organization's first alumni mentorship program to pair 16 students and alumni for professional and personal development. Strategized, launched, and directed Board's first community survey, collecting over 300 responses to tailor advocacy and events to College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) student needs.	(5 hrs/wk) Unpaid Aug. 2019 - May 2022	Semester Only
7	Legislative Intern <i>Connecticut General Assembly, Hartford, CT</i>	**See Above	(16 hrs/wk) Unpaid Jan. 2020 - Aug. 2020	Summer & Semester
8	Student Researcher & Grant Recipient <i>UConn IDEA Grant Program, Storrs, CT</i>	**See Above	(6 hrs/wk) Paid May 2019 - Aug. 2020	Summer & Semester
9	Honors Student Facilitator & Mentor <i>Honors First Year Experience, Storrs, CT</i>	Prepared lesson plans, facilitated weekly class, and organized community building activities to assist first-year students with transition to campus.	(10 hrs/wk) Unpaid Jan. 2019 - Dec. 2020	Semester Only
10	Program Coordinator, Volunteer <i>Honors Initiative for Prospective Students, Storrs, CT</i>	Recruited and trained student volunteers and facilitated individual and group conversations about the University of Connecticut Honors program at Open Houses and Honors Reception events. Answered prospective student emails and facilitated individual student visits.	(2 hrs/wk) Unpaid Feb. 2019 - Sept. 2021	Semesters Only
11	Research Assistant <i>Psychology Intergroup Relations Lab, Storrs, CT</i>	Analyzed, organized, and wrote briefs about social psychology research on intergroup bias.	(9 -12 hrs/wk) Unpaid Sept. 2018 - Aug. 2020	Semester Only

C. Other Activities During Undergraduate Education

1	Senior Honors Thesis <i>UConn Dept. of Political Sciences, Storrs, CT</i>	<i>Forgotten Immigrant Voices: West Indian Immigrant Experiences and Attitudes towards Contemporary Immigration.</i> Advisor: Professor Name.	(10 hrs/wk) Unpaid Aug. 2021 - May 2022	Summer & Semester
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Following my undergraduate graduation in May 2022, I spent three months reconnecting with family members, studying for the LSAT, and volunteering. In August of 2022, I began my current internship at Community Partners in Action, a non-profit serving people released from prison or with criminal legal system involvement, for 20 hours a week each week. I began the final year of my Master of Public Policy program in early September. In October, I prepared for, and presented at the 2022 Caribbean Philosophical Association Conference. While completing my Master's degree and interning at Community Partners in Action, I began attending a Bible study at a church nearer to my home. I also began interning in the legal department of Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services (IRIS) in New Haven in January 2023. More details are included below for context:

Education

University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

Master of Public Policy: Focus Area - Public Policy, Diversity, and Inclusion

May 2023

Employment & Service Activities

Campaign Volunteer

(Variable hours) | Unpaid | Jun. 2022- Nov. 2022

CANDIDATE for CT 123rd District Representative, Trumbull, CT

- Discussed policy and community issues with over 75 residents through door-to-door conversations and phone banking to promote election of candidate *Name*

Advocacy Intern

(20 hrs/wk) | Paid | Aug. 2022 - Present

Community Partners in Action (CPA), Hartford, CT

- Collaborate with 4 multi-organizational coalitions to achieve passage of 4 bills, including bills on homelessness in the reentry population and juvenile justice during the 2023 legislative session.
- Co-write agency legislative agenda for website and outreach to legislators, write and coordinate testimony and provide written analysis to inform social media posts on how bills impact clients.
- Assist with coordination and hosting of the Connecticut Reentry Collaborative, a collective meeting of state-wide reentry roundtables and advocacy organizations.
- Create, code, and populate database and develop recommendations about national foundations and organizations with priorities related to CPA, including reentry and criminal justice, for increased funding.

Legal Intern

(9 hrs/wk) | Unpaid | Jan. 2023 - Present

Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services (IRIS), New Haven, CT

- Assist Afghan humanitarian parolee clients to apply for asylum by researching country conditions and helping them draft declarations, complete I-589 forms, and gather evidence.
- Help coordinate workflow for pilot program to adapt American Bar Association pro se workshops for instruction of 3 IRIS clients in preparing their asylum forms.

Name
Address · Phone · Email

EDUCATION

- Graduate School of Public Policy and Administration, Sacramento State University** 2017-2018
Graduate Certificate in Applied Policy and Government
Capstone Project: Title
- University of California, Berkeley** 2013-2017
Bachelor of Arts: Sociology, Legal Studies; Highest Distinction (GPA ___)

HONORS AND AWARDS

Phi Beta Kappa, 2017
Human Rights and Technology Fellowship, Human Rights Center Berkeley Law, 2016
Chancellor's Public Fellowship, American Cultures Program, UC Berkeley, 2016
Center for Civility and Democratic Engagement Fellowship, Goldman School of Public Policy, 2015
Hispanic Community Affairs Council Scholarship, 2014, 2015

WORK EXPERIENCE AND INTERNSHIPS

- Habeas Corpus Resource Center**, San Francisco, CA September 2018 – Present
Capital Defense Investigator
Planned and conducted social history investigations to support the legal defense of indigent persons on death row. Requested and reviewed records. Located and interviewed family members, peers, jurors, and trial counsel. Drafted witness statements. Conferred with attorneys and experts on factual support for *Atkins* and other constitutional and statutory claims.
- Superior Court of California, County of Merced**, Merced, CA September 2017 – June 2018
Judicial Fellow
Conducted the first data-analysis report on the court's Self-Help Center. Assisted self-represented litigants in filing temporary restraining orders, small claims, and custody orders. Prepared reports on cases filed, pending case load, and court time standards. Managed grant funding. Analyzed the efficiency of remote videoconference hearings and prepared quarterly reports for the Judicial Council of California.
- Human Rights Investigations Lab**, Human Rights Center, Berkeley Law September 2016 – June 2017
Digital Investigations Intern
In partnership with Amnesty International, verified videos depicting alleged war crimes from the Syrian Civil War by using geolocation tools and publicly-available social media content. Drafted reports of findings for human rights organizations and attorneys.
- American Cultures Engaged Scholarship (ACES) Program**, UC Berkeley January 2016 – May 2017
ACES Chancellor's Public Fellow
Assisted in the creation of a new undergraduate course, Legal Studies 152AC, titled "Human Rights and Technology." Conducted research on gender and race disparities in the technology sector and the implications on technological design. Assisted in producing the syllabus for the course. Established partnerships with local nonprofits and managed logistics of student-community projects.
- Office of the Solicitor General, U.S. Department of Justice**, Washington, D.C. Fall 2015
Intern
Conducted legal research in preparation for new cases. Reviewed OSG website for ADA compliance. Prepared materials for staff meetings. Collected historical materials for display in the USDOJ library.

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

Technical: Microsoft Office, Outlook, G Suite, LexisNexis CaseMap
Languages: Native fluency in Spanish, intermediate ability in French

NAME
Email | Phone | Address

EDUCATION**Harvard College**, Cambridge, MA

May 2021

B.A. *cum laude*, Joint Social Studies & African American Studies with *high honors*

GPA: _____

Thesis: _____
Title

Activities: Institute of Politics Civics Program, Elementary School Instructor
Harvard Urban Debate League, Instructor
County Democrats for Biden, Fellow

EXPERIENCE**Barclays Investment Bank**, *Public Finance Analyst*, New York, NY Summer 2020, July 2021-Present

Create and update debt profiles for municipal clients, evaluate their different debt financing alternatives and execute live transactions.

Research and analyze market data to provide clients with current information on the municipal bond market.

Candidate for Congress, *Education Policy Analyst*, Saint Petersburg, FL June 2021- Present

Research and evaluate policy related to childhood education, including topics such as affordable childcare, universal pre-K, charter schools, etc. Provide policy analysis to be included in candidate's issue platform.

Juma Ventures, *Business Development Intern*, San Francisco, CA June 2021 – August 2021

Established partnership contracts with businesses and government agencies in Juma's six sites, in order to provide additional employment opportunities to Juma youth. Analyzed invoices for FY 2019 and 2020 and provided CFO with recommendations on renegotiating previously established contracts. Applied to corporate responsibility programs to increase grant revenue. Discussed mentorship opportunities with young people interested in joining Juma's cohort.

Independent African & African American Studies Camp, *Founder & Instructor* June 2020-August 2020

Organized a virtual summer camp for elementary school students to attend three times a week. Created and taught curriculum focused on topics ranging from historical African kingdoms to the Trans-Atlantic slave trade. The parents of the enrolled students are using this course as a model to push for the development of a similar term-time course at the Hackley School.

KIPP NYC Public Schools, *Intern*, New York, NY June 2019 - August 2019

Planned and executed two weeks of professional development training for nearly 800 teachers in the school network. Created and updated website that delivered resources to teachers. Updated elementary school curriculum for upcoming school year.

Harvard Pre-College Program, *Proctor & Educational Assistant*, Cambridge, MA June 2018- August 2018

Planned and executed educational and social programming opportunities. Led office hours to assist students in summer coursework.

RESEARCH & ACTIVITIES**Harvard College Debating Union**, *Officer*

August 2017 - May 2021

Competed in intercollegiate debate tournaments every weekend as part of world renowned team. Ranked as one of the top debaters in the country during 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 seasons; only gender minority to be included in top-five national ranking.

Vice President of Finance: Managed team's ~\$150,000 budget, oversaw operations of three revenue generating tournaments (~7000 participants), negotiated contracts and sponsorships and set up meetings with notable alumni and donors.*Vice President of Membership*: Recruited and trained new members, led weekly training sessions and practice rounds, edited team cases and created new team curriculum for novice debaters.**Malcolm Wiener Center for Social Policy**, *Research Assistant*, Cambridge, MA March 2020 - November 2020

Assisted Professor Eric Taylor on papers related to the intersection of labor and education. Conducted a literature review evaluating

the impact of teacher evaluations on student performance. Wrote memoranda related to teacher tenure policies at the state level.

Professor Name & Professor Name, *Research Assistant*

July 2020 - December 2020

Assisted Professors on a paper examining the politics of K-12 school district reopenings during Covid-19. This paper was published in several academic journals and widely covered by media outlets (i.e., Washington Post).

AWARDS:

2021 American Parliamentary Debate National Championship Top Speaker & 5th Place Team

Named Prize Recipient (*awarded to top Harvard students who excel in extemporaneous debate*)

House Commencement Banquet Class Speaker

SKILLS**Language:** Albanian (native), French (beginner) | **Software:** R, Stata, HTML | **Licenses:** FINRA Series 7, 52 & 63

Name

Address | Email | Phone

EDUCATION

- University of California, Berkeley** **Aug 2013 – May 2015**
B.A. in Sociology (GPA __) *Berkeley, CA*
Honors: Graduated with High Distinction, Dean's List (2013-2014), Honors (2013-2015)
Activities: Hermanas Unidas, Latino Pre-Law Society, All of Us or None
- Community College** **Aug 2011 – May 2013**
A.A. in Social & Behavioral Sciences (GPA: __) *City, CA*
Honors: Graduated with Honors, Dean's List (2011-2013)

EXPERIENCE

- Law Firm** **Dec 2019 – Present**
Executive Administrative Services Coordinator (Office of General Counsel) *New York, NY*
- Received “Going the Distance” employee award for significant contributions to the firm.
 - Project manage and conduct research for compliance projects, including overhaul of 150+ firm policies, cyber breach response, tracking and creation of 1600+ Covid updates for 30+ jurisdictions, 50-state guide on Unauthorized Practice of Law & Admissions (shared with top firm client), 50-state guide on attorney advertising rules, and evaluation of ethical obligations to 190+ clients following Moscow office closure.
 - Prepare reports for firm insurance carriers, coordinate meetings/travel, draft correspondence, and perform other administrative tasks, freeing up time for six attorney team to focus on firm risk management issues.
- Nonprofit Advocacy Organization** **Apr 2019 – Feb 2023**
Volunteer Advocate (2019-2020) | Correspondent (2019-2023) *New York, NY*
- Developed successful application for individual serving life sentence who secured parole after 38 years.
 - Composed and translated materials addressing various re-entry issues; created guide with 100+ resources.
 - Corresponded with 400+ individuals impacted by incarceration to offer them referrals and information that supported their needs (e.g., parole process, re-entry services, prison issues, legislative updates).
- Holistic Public Defense Firm** **Aug 2015 – Dec 2019**
Department of Justice Accredited Representative | Immigrant Justice Corp Fellow *New York, NY*
- Represented 500+ individuals in immigration and other civil applications for clients with criminal justice history, including successful clemency petition (<2% granted by NY Governor).
 - Supported four attorneys with trial preparation, legal research, and document production.
 - Launched outreach initiatives, organizational partnerships, and delivered community presentations.
- High School** **Nov 2014 – May 2015**
Teaching Assistant *Oakland, CA*
- Assist teacher in 30-student English class at a high school primarily serving newly arrived immigrants.
- Law Firm** **Aug 2014 – Aug 2015**
Legal Intern *Berkeley, CA*
- Prepared 200+ immigration applications and coordinated legal clinics throughout Bay Area.
 - Developed case management system and training guides. Assisted with intern training and supervision.

University of California, Berkeley*Senior Housing Clerk***Nov 2013 – Aug 2015**

- Supervised 12 clerks in facilities management, mailroom procedures, and conference operations.

*Law School, La Raza Law Journal Undergraduate Fellow***Sept 2014 – April 2015**

- Edited article addressing how U.S. immigration policies violate Convention on the Status of Refugees.

Superior Court of California, County of Santa Barbara**May 2012 – May 2013***Legal Intern for Judge**Santa Maria, CA*

- Provided administrative support to *Judge* and created materials for drug treatment court programs.
- Liaised between court, defendants, attorneys, and partner agencies. Maintained notes for court proceedings.

Law Firm**Feb 2012 – Sept 2012***Law Clerk Santa Maria, CA*

- On behalf of agricultural worker class action, drafted 20+ EEOC complaints and served as translator.

Law Firm**Jan 2012 – June 2013***Legal Intern (2012) | Legal Secretary (2012-2013)**Santa Maria, CA*

- Received “California Rural Legal Assistance Service Award” for contributions to clients.
- Managed immigration project and trained volunteers. Prepared 25+ successful U-Visa applications (visas for victims of crimes who have helped government officials investigate criminal activity).
- Performed intakes on labor, housing, and education matters, and provided office administrative support.

Staples**Aug 2011 – Sept 2012***Copy & Print Associate**Santa Maria, CA*

- Executed high volume projects utilizing graphic software programs and specialized print center equipment.

Housekeeping Company**July 2006 – Present***House Cleaner (2006-2015) | Assistant (2023-Present)**Hayward, CA*

- Performed professional cleaning services in homes across the California Bay Area and supported with managing client relations and hiring from July 2006 to August 2015.
- Returned to the business in January 2023 to manage accounting, support marketing and client relations management remotely from New York.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

Immigrant Legal Fellowship**Jan 2024 – Present***Advisory Committee Member**New York, NY*

- Collaborate with the Fellowship Director to provide strategic feedback, shaping organizational strategies and initiatives that enhance support for current fellows and strengthen alumni engagement.

Nonprofit**Feb 2025 – May 2025***Professional Mentor*

- Selected to mentor a college student during an upcoming 12-week term, providing weekly coaching on career development, job readiness, and internship or job search strategies.

SKILLS & INTERESTS

*Language Skills: Fluent in Spanish**Interests: Practicing Muay Thai (Thai boxing), watching Golden Girls, woodworking, and staying informed on business and technology trends through The Financial Times, The Wall Street Journal, and WIRED.*

Name
Email | Phone | Website

EDUCATION

University | Phoenix, AZ Expected: December 2024

Bachelor of Arts in Government, Legal Studies GPA: ()

Awards: *University Honors Award* ('23)

Activities: Pre-Law Society (Vice President, '21-'24); Physical & Mental Disability Alliance (Co-Founder, '22)

Community College | Avondale, AZ Expected: May 2025

Associate of Applied Science in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning GPA: ()

Other Awards & Recognitions: *Pipeline* Program (one of # scholars selected for prelaw program, '23-'24); *Province* Lieutenant Governor's Community Volunteer Award (in recognition of 'exemplary volunteer activity,' '21)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Office of General Counsel, University | Phoenix, AZ December 2022-Present

Legal Assistant

- Maintain and review approximately 3,700 agreements in contract database, bankruptcy matters, and insurance policies.
- Manage privacy inbox, handling over 100 inquiries on data usage, record deletion, and termination of advertising.
- Serve as lead research support on AI and data privacy matters, conducting 8+ months of research to reshape agreements and develop university-wide policies, directly impacting 25,000+ students and employees by mitigating data breach risks.
- Contribute to legal upkeep of diverse intellectual property portfolio, including over 30 trademarks.

North America & LATAM Data Centers, Amazon Web Services | El Segundo, CA May 2024–August 2024

Data Center Security Specialist Intern

- Led an upskilling initiative, training 30 colleagues globally (Ohio to Brazil) on building secure AI-powered applications, sharing Generative AI and prompt engineering skills to equip them for better, more stable jobs in the face of automation.
- Developed an AI-powered app with conversational functions, enabling contracted guards to efficiently search and retrieve SOPs, facilitating stronger security and contractual compliance, now deployed across data centers in the American West.
- Led a data analysis of access logs from 47 global data centers, providing insights for improving operational efficiency.

TECHNICAL SKILLS & RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University Artificial Intelligence Research | Phoenix, AZ January 2024–May 2024

University AI & Machine Learning Lab

- Led data collection for a university project, building a Python-based web-scraping program to process 120,000+ lines of Arizona statutes, contrasting them with judicial verdicts to train a machine learning model uncovering potential biases.

Alpha Chi Nolle Research Scholarship | Awarded First-Ranked Alternate February 2024

Alpha Chi National College Honor Society

- Authored a policy paper on the CHIPS Act, selected for publication in the Spring 2025 issue of *Kato*, Alpha Chi's academic magazine, highlighting the impact of \$13 billion in STEM workforce funding, including AI training at community colleges.
- Advocated for enhanced legal frameworks to protect consumer data and manage AI-related risks, identifying gaps in existing policies related to AI ethics and privacy in AI models trained on over one trillion data points.

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Arizona Department of Education | Phoenix, AZ April 2022–December 2022

Advisor, African American Advisory Council

- Served as one of two students on a 25-member advisory council comprised of school board members, superintendents, educators, and public officials to advise the State Superintendent of Public Instruction on enhancing public education.

Arizona Alliance of Black School Educators (AzABSE) | Phoenix, AZ December 2022–December 2023

Member, Governance in Education & Legislative Commission

- Launched an initiative to establish student representation on Arizona's 240+ school boards, where currently less than five formally have student board members compared to 14% nationally.

NAME

Email
Address • Phone Number

EDUCATION**UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY, Annapolis, Maryland** **May 2019**

Bachelor of Science in Political Science Honors (with Distinction)

GPA: _____, Class Rank _____, Varsity Letter (Intercollegiate Sailing)

EXPERIENCE**UNITES STATES NAVY - USS MICHAEL MURPHY (DDG 112)** **2019 - Present**

Surface Warfare Officer, (2019-Present), Pearl Harbor, HI

- Ranked _____ of competitive Junior Officers in a 300-sailor organization
- Led a cross-functional team of 36 personnel through the completion of 193 high-priority work items, meeting project milestones for a complex, multi-month overhaul of the ship and providing de-confliction and integration with external organizations
- Ran an 11-person watch team onboard a \$1.8B Arleigh Burke-class Guided Missile Destroyer, directing safe navigation, operations within the law of the sea construct, and the execution of multinational exercises with foreign navies

Fire Control Officer, (2022 - Present), Pearl Harbor, HI

- Hand-selected from 18 peers for advancement to a senior division officer role to enhance peer training and mission proficiency
- Managed 19 sailors and 1 officer in the maintenance of the AEGIS Combat System, as well as a \$5-million project to refurbish the ship's air and missile defense radar system, maintaining the ship's combat capability at peak operational capacity
- Entrusted to revise the Commanding Officer's Battle Orders to ensure compliance with legal conventions, Navy instructions, and directives. The orders were subsequently certified for use in combat operations

Strike Officer, (2019-2022), Pearl Harbor, HI

- Led a 15-person team through challenging warfare scenarios with an average 95% score during an eight-month deployment to the Arabian Gulf and Red Sea, maintaining the ship at peak readiness in the region's primary warfare area
- Directed the maintenance of the ship's Vertical Launch System and oversaw the safety of a high-risk project involving 20 individuals for the onload of \$214M-worth of missiles, preparing the ship for sustained combat operations

U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY - DEPARTMENT OF LEADERSHIP, ETHICS, AND LAW **Summer 2019**

Special Projects Officer, Annapolis, Maryland

- Revised coursework for the "Law for the Junior Officer" course and standardized lessons on the U.S. Constitution and Military Justice and Law of Armed Conflict, which were taught to 1,100 students
- Shadowed Navy Judge Advocates and facilitated military justice research to maximize legal readiness of the legal studies branch
- Served as an editor for the "Commander's Handbook on the Law of Naval Operations," ensuring the U.S. Navy, Coast Guard, and Marine Corps non-lawyer audience could leverage a concise, understandable reference during real-time operations

CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT BRANCH **Summer 2017**

Foreign Area Officer Intern, Washington, DC

- Assisted Foreign Area Officers in the Pentagon with communications engagements with foreign navies, compiling guiding documents and organizing briefs to prepare senior leaders for meetings to foster international relations

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2021 Latina Style Distinguished Military Service Award - 1 of _____ recipients in the Department of Defense
- Navy Commendation Medal - sole Junior Officer to receive award at command for exceptional leadership during deployment
- Navy Athletics Hall of Fame - 1 of _____ Class of 2019 varsity athletes across all sports to receive this honor
- All-American Crew – recognized by Intercollegiate Sailing Association in 2017, 2018, and 2019

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- **Licenses/Certifications:** Top Secret Clearance Sensitive Compartmentalized Information (TS-SCI), Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Victim Advocate
- **Languages:** Fluent Spanish, Intermediate French
- **Interests:** Sailing, Journaling, Yoga, Poetry, Surfing, Hiking, International Travel

Name
City, State Zip Code • Phone • Email • LSAC#

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

June 2021

Economics Major, History Minor

- CAS GPA: _____ Undergraduate GPA: _____
Honors (UCLA): Summa Cum Laude, eight-time Dean's Honors List Recipient

EXPERIENCE

UCLA Department of Economics, Los Angeles, CA

Oct 2021–Present

Research Assistant—Economics, 35 hours/week

- Assist *Name* (Ph.D. Candidate, UCLA) on various projects, such as understanding effect of local admission guarantee programs for CSU campuses
- Draft and edit portions of manuscripts for future papers

Research Assistant—Economics, 10 hours/week

Aug 2020–Oct 2021

- Began co-authoring a paper with *Name* (Ph.D. Candidate, UCLA) and *Name* (Professor of Law, Stanford University) that will contribute to the current debate regarding access to and quality of care, planned for submission in early 2022
- Researched statutory changes relating to nurse practitioners' scope of practice in different states
- Analyzed impact of STEM reclassification of Economics' programs on international students' major choice
- Reviewed U.S. work visa policies to understand the obstacles faced by international students

Insight Global, Los Angeles, CA

Aug 2021–Oct 2021

Recruiter, 45 hours/week

- Identified candidates to fit Fortune 1000 companies' staffing needs in various industries
- Vetted individuals based on qualifications and prepared them for formal interviews
- Focused on building genuine relationships with candidates to help them achieve their career goals

Law Office of Attorney and Associates, Bakersfield, CA

Sep 2018–Aug 2021

Law Clerk (Remote), 3 hours/week

- Drafted motions to reduce felonies to misdemeanors, terminate probations, and expunge records
- Spoke directly with clients to collect relevant records and case materials
- Gathered information to draft declarations utilized in compassionate release motions

Criminal Defense Law Clerk, 25 hours/week

July 2018–Sep 2018

- Drafted motions for dismissal of charges and reduction in bail
- Analyzed cases, compiled detailed notes of facts, and reviewed relevant Penal Code and Jury Instructions
- Assisted in trial preparation by creating mock cross and direct examination questions for witness preparation

LSAT Tutor, Los Angeles, CA

Jan 2021–June 2021

Self-Employed (Remote), 2 hours/week

- Tutored for the Law School Admission Test
- Helped increase one student's score by 20+ points
- Created a comprehensive study plan for four students based upon their time commitments and needs

ACTIVITIES

Collegiate Mock Trial, Los Angeles, CA

Sep 2019–Jan 2020

Team Captain, 2 hours/week

- Organized practices, assigned roles, and created deadlines for the team
- Taught new members both performance and technical skills
- Led the team to 2nd place at UCI's Mock Trial invitational

Defense Attorney, 10 hours/week

Oct 2018–Oct 2020

- Lead Defense Counsel for a civil litigation negligence lawsuit and a criminal suit against charges of aggravated murder
- Conducted direct examination of defendant and cross-examinations; delivered opening and closing statements
- Won 2nd place at ASU's Regional Mock Trial competition, honorable mention at Fresno State's Regional competition

Theta Xi Fraternity, Los Angeles, CA

Dec 2018–Dec 2019

Assistant Scholarship Chair, 2 hours/week

- Monitored the academic progress of over 80 members of the Alpha Zeta Chapter
- Coordinated with campus personnel to provide resources for members' future success
- Worked directly with the UCLA career center to host a resume and cover letter workshop for members

PERSONAL

Hobbies: Music Production (FL Studios), Practicing Violin (nine years), Reading (Favorite Book: *7 Habits of Highly Effective People*)

Sports: Weightlifting, Bodybuilding

Languages: Intermediate Spanish

Fun Facts: Three-time Corgi Beach Day Attendee, First in Family to Attend Law School



Yale Law School
Admissions Office
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New Haven, CT 06520-8215
law.yale.edu

last updated 10.2025