

MARY HOLPER

Roger Williams University School of Law
150 Washington Street
Providence, RI 02903
(401) 276-4880
mholper@rwu.edu

EDUCATION

BOSTON COLLEGE LAW SCHOOL

Newton, MA

Juris Doctor, magna cum laude, May 2003 GPA: 3.62/4.0 (Top 10%)

Honors:

- Susan Grant Desmarais Award for Public Service Achievement and Leadership, 2003
- Drinan Family Fund Award for 3L Public Interest Law Student, 2003
- Boston College Law School Public Service Scholarship, 2002
- Boston College Law School Alumni Association Grant, 2002
- Equal Justice America Legal Intern Fellowship, 2002
- Massachusetts Bar Foundation Legal Intern Fellowship, 2001

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

Urbana, IL

Bachelor of Arts in French and Political Science, May 1998 GPA: 3.87/4.0

Honors: *magna cum laude*; Highest Departmental Distinction in Political Science; Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society; Senior 100 Honorary; Golden Key National Honor Society; Dean's List; Pi Delta Phi French Honor Society

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

Bristol, RI

Associate Professor and Director of Immigration Clinic, July 2009-present

- Create and direct Immigration Clinic in which students represent noncitizens in removal proceedings and noncitizens seeking immigration benefits
- Supervise ten students each semester in Immigration Clinic
- Teach client counseling, litigation skills and ethics issues relating to the practice of immigration law in weekly seminar for Immigration Clinic

BOSTON COLLEGE LAW SCHOOL

Newton, MA

Visiting Assistant Professor, July 2008-July 2009

- Supervised ten students in Immigration Clinic and eight students in Advanced Immigration Clinic in representation of noncitizens in removal proceedings and noncitizens seeking immigration benefits
- Supervised full-time fellow in Boston College Immigration and Asylum Project
- Coordinated placements for twenty students in Immigration Clinic
- Co-taught client counseling and litigation skills in weekly seminar for Immigration Clinic and Advanced Immigration Clinic
- Co-taught Advanced Immigration Law Seminar and Advanced Immigration Clinic
- Participated in federal court litigation on immigration detention issues
- Trained attorneys and immigrant service providers about immigration law and crimes and removal and provided consultation to attorneys on specific cases
- Coached Boston College Immigration Moot Court Team

Adjunct Professor, August 2005-July 2008

- Supervised six students in Immigration Clinic and three students in Advanced Immigration Clinic in representation of noncitizens in removal proceedings and noncitizens seeking immigration benefits
- Coordinated placements for twenty students in Immigration Clinic
- Co-taught client counseling and litigation skills in weekly seminar for Immigration Clinic and Advanced Immigration Clinic
- Co-taught Advanced Immigration Law Seminar
- Coached Boston College Immigration Moot Court Team
- Supervised students in multidisciplinary social science research study of the effects of deportation on families in New England

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

BOSTON COLLEGE CENTER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE Newton, MA
Human Rights Fellow/Supervising Attorney, Boston College Immigration and Asylum Project,
September 2007-July 2008

- Represented indigent detained noncitizens in removal proceedings and provided self-help materials to detainees and their families about their rights in removal proceedings
- Conducted “Know Your Rights” presentations to detained noncitizens in New England jails
- Initiated federal court litigation challenging overuse of indefinite immigration detention
- Trained attorneys and immigrant service providers about immigration law and crimes and removal and provided consultation to attorneys on specific cases
- Mentored *pro bono* attorneys in representation of detained noncitizens

CATHOLIC LEGAL IMMIGRATION NETWORK, INC. (CLINIC) Newton, MA
Detention Fellow, Boston College Immigration and Asylum Project, August 2005-September 2007

- Represented indigent detained noncitizens in removal proceedings and provided self-help materials to detainees and their families about their rights in removal proceedings
- Conducted “Know Your Rights” presentations to detained noncitizens in New England jails
- Co-wrote brief for federal court litigation challenging misinterpretation of mandatory detention immigration laws
- Trained attorneys and immigrant service providers about immigration law and crimes and removal and provided consultation to attorneys on specific cases
- Mentored *pro bono* attorneys in representation of detained noncitizens

Immigration Clinic Student, Boston College Immigration and Asylum Project, January-May 2002

- Researched and drafted memoranda on detained noncitizens’ defenses to removal
- Conducted “Know Your Rights” presentations to detained noncitizens and answered detainee mail

CAPITAL AREA IMMIGRANTS’ RIGHTS (CAIR) COALITION Washington, DC
Equal Justice Works Fellow, September 2003-August 2005

- Represented indigent detained noncitizens in removal proceedings and evaluated cases of detained noncitizens for representation and *pro bono* legal assistance
- Conducted “Know Your Rights” presentations to detained noncitizens in Virginia jails
- Co-wrote briefs in federal court litigation on immigration detention issues and “aggravated felony” classification
- Mentored *pro bono* attorneys in representation of detained noncitizens
- Trained public defenders and immigrant service providers about the immigration consequences of criminal convictions and provided consultation to attorneys on specific cases
- Drafted legal analysis of Virginia criminal offenses and corresponding immigration consequences

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION (ACLU), IMMIGRANTS’ RIGHTS PROJECT New York, NY
Independent Study Student, August 2002-May 2003

- Researched and wrote memoranda on legal issues in litigation challenging closed removal hearings
- Conducted factual research on history of openness in deportation hearings for potential Supreme Court litigation

AYUDA, INC. Washington, DC
Summer Intern, May-August 2002

- Prepared affirmative asylum application and successfully defended client in defensive asylum hearing
- Researched legal issues affecting clients’ applications for immigration benefits and prepared applications

BOSTON COLLEGE LAW SCHOOL Professor Dan Kanstroom, Immigration Law Newton, MA
Research Assistant, February 2002-December 2002

- Researched family and criminal law issues for immigration cases

POLITICAL ASYLUM/IMMIGRATION REPRESENTATION (PAIR) PROJECT Boston, MA
Legal Intern, June-August 2001; Immigration Clinic Student, September-December 2001

- Conducted asylum intake interviews and prepared successful asylum application for client
- Conducted “Know Your Rights” presentations to detained noncitizens and answered detainee mail

MIDWEST IMMIGRANT AND HUMAN RIGHTS CENTER (MIHRC) Chicago, IL
(renamed NATIONAL IMMIGRANT JUSTICE CENTER (NIJC))
Volunteer Intern, March-August 2000

- Researched country conditions for asylum applications
- Assisted with translations of documents in support of asylum applications

LEGAL EXPERIENCE (cont'd)

SIDLEY & AUSTIN

Chicago, IL

Project Assistant, January-August 2000

- Coordinated document productions for discovery requests in antitrust litigation and prepared motions for filing
- Researched and drafted brief in support of successful asylum application in *pro bono* practice

WORLDTEACH

Costa Rica

Volunteer English Teacher, January-December 1999

- Taught English in Costa Rican public grade school

INTERNSHIPS IN FRANCOPHONE EUROPE

Paris, France

Intern for parliamentary group in French National Assembly, January-June 1997

- Answered campaign mail for parliamentary elections
- Completed thesis on French public housing system

PUBLICATIONS/WORKS IN PROGRESS

- *Specific Intent and the Purposeful Narrowing of Victim Protection Under the Convention Against Torture*, 88:3 OREGON LAW REVIEW ____ (forthcoming)
- Co-author, *Developing Strategies for Clients in Removal Proceedings*, American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA), IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY LAW HANDBOOK, 2009-10 Ed.
- Co-author, *Advanced Issues in Relief from Removal*, AILA, IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY LAW HANDBOOK, 2008-09 Ed.
- Co-author, *The Importance of Finding the “Right” Circuit for Your Immigration Case*, Thomson Reuters, IMMIGRATION BRIEFINGS, April 2009.
- Author, *Reference Guide to the Basic Immigration Consequences of Select Virginia Offenses*, October 2007 (available at www.nationalimmigrationproject.org)
- Editor, Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC), IMMIGRATION CONSEQUENCES OF CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS, 2008 Ed.
- Editor, CLINIC, OVERVIEW OF RELIEF FROM REMOVAL: A PRACTITIONER’S GUIDE, 2008 Ed.
- *Habeas Corpus Reform in El Salvador*, BOSTON COLLEGE LAW SCHOOL, LAW AND JUSTICE IN THE AMERICAS WORKING PAPER SERIES, PAPER 1 (December 31, 2003) (available at <http://sr.nellco.org/bc/ljawps/papers/1>)

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- *Rollin’ the Dice: Grounds of Removal and Inadmissibility, Relief from Removal, and Trial Strategies in Defense of Removal*, Training for Immigration Attorneys, Annual Conference, American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) (June 2009)
- *Removal and Relief Before the Immigration Court*, CLE for Immigration Attorneys, AILA Boston Spring Fundamentals Conference (April 2009)
- *Should I Stay or Should I Go: Choosing Your Circuit and Applying for Relief from Removal*, CLE for Immigration Attorneys, AILA South Florida Chapter (February 2009)
- *Advanced Issues in Relief from Removal*, Training for Immigration Attorneys, AILA Annual Conference (June 2008)
- *Criminal Waivers in Immigration Law*, Teleconference for Immigration Attorneys, AILA (October 2007)
- *Immigration Trial Advocacy Training*, Four-day Training for Immigration Attorneys and Advocates, Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC) (October 2008)
- *Immigration Law and Crimes and Relief from Removal*, Two-day Training for Immigration Attorneys and Advocates, CLINIC (June 2009) (February 2009) (June 2008) (July 2007) (October 2006)

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS (cont'd)

- *Asylum/Withholding of Removal/Relief under the Torture Convention and Issues in Refugee Waivers*, Training for Immigration Attorneys and Advocates, CLINIC Annual Convening (May 2007)
- *Immigration Raids*, Webinar for Immigration Attorneys and Advocates, CLINIC (August 2007) (June 2007)
- *The Practice of Representing the Detained: Day-to-Day Challenges & Strategies for Success*, Presentation for Advocates, Detention Watch Network Annual Conference (April 2007)
- *Challenging the Immigration Consequences of Crimes*, CLE for Immigration Attorneys, National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild (December 2006)
- *Immigration Consequences of Criminal Convictions*, Training for Public Defenders (Fairfax VA Defenders April 2008) (District of Columbia Defenders July 2006) (Boston College Defenders November 2005) (Essex County MA Defenders October 2005) (Arlington VA Defenders June 2005) (Maryland State Defenders June 2005) (Eastern District of Virginia Federal Defenders January 2005) (Eastern District of Virginia Federal Defenders September 2004) (Fairfax VA Defenders September 2004) (Virginia State Defenders August 2004) (Fairfax VA Defenders May 2004)
- *Detention and Deportation 101*, Training for Members of the Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy (MIRA) Coalition (May 2008) (November 2007) (May 2007) (September 2006) (July 2006)

PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

- Alternative Chance/Chans Alternativ Human Rights Award, 2008
- Political Asylum/Immigration Representation (PAIR) Project Detention Attorney Award, 2007
- National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild Daniel Levy Award (awarded as member of New Bedford Raid Response Team), 2007
- Boston College Law School Public Interest Law Foundation Alumnus of the Year Award, 2008
- PAIR Project Volunteer Interpreter Award, 2003

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Immigration law
- Human rights law
- Intersection between immigration law and criminal law
- Administrative law principles in immigration law

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Bar membership: Virginia, admitted October 2003; U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit; U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Virginia; authorized to practice in Immigration Court
- American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA); appointed by New England AILA Chapter as Liaison to the American Immigration Law Foundation/American Immigration Council 2008-2010
- National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild
- Alumni Advisory Board to Boston College Law School Public Interest Law Foundation
- Pro Bono Committee, Boston College Law School Alumni Association Council

LANGUAGES AND INTERESTS

Languages: Fluent in French and Spanish, Proficient in Portuguese
Interests: Rock climbing, Hiking, Running