

Dr. Taino J. Palermo, Esq.

linkedin.com/in/tainopalermo
tainop@gmail.com
315.383.5019

EDUCATION

Roger Williams University School of Law
Juris Doctor

Bristol, RI
May 2022

American Indian Law Student Association (AILS), *Founding President/3L Representative*
RWU School of Law Diversity & Inclusion Strategic Committee, *Recruitment & Retention Subcommittee Chair*
RWU Law Review Symposium 2021, *Student Presenter*

Jones International University
Doctorate of Education: Educational Leadership
Dissertation: Law Graduation Rates as an Indicator of Social Wellness

Centennial, CO
2015

Master of Arts in Business Communications

2011

The College of Mount Saint Vincent
Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies

Riverdale, NY
2007

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Roger Williams University School of Law
Clinical Professor of Law/Director of Business Law Clinic

Providence/Bristol, RI
2026-Present

Director of the Business Law Clinic and Professor of Law, supervising student attorneys providing free transactional legal services to small businesses and nonprofit organizations.

Center for Indigenous Rights
Co-Founder/Legal Director

Providence, RI
2022-Present

Director of legal services and lead staff attorney assisting indigenous communities with law and policy-related issues in state, federal, and international tribunals in the only low-cost and pro bono legal services center for indigenous peoples on the eastern seaboard.

Barton Gilman LLP
Attorney

Providence, RI
2023-2026

Associate attorney in the Education Law practice specializing in education law, as well as nonprofit law, and general business and administration law. Serving as general counsel for clients in Rhode Island and Massachusetts.

PRYSM Community Defense Fund
Legal Associate

Providence, RI
Summer 2020

Drafted court filings, conducted discovery and client interviews, and organized and delivered "Know Your Rights" webinar to promote protesting safely and legally.

Law & Society at the Rhode Island Training School
Program Designer/Student Teacher

Cranston, RI
Spring 2020/Spring 2021

Designed a six (6) session curriculum for high school-age juvenile residents of the Rhode Island Training School teaching the fundamental principles of civil procedure, tort law, contract law, criminal law, concluding in a mock trial.

United States District Court, District of Rhode Island
Judicial Extern

Providence, RI
Fall 2021-Spring 2022

Completed 14-credit semester-in-practice judicial externship with the Honorable William E. Smith (Fall 2021) working full-time in chambers conducting clerk duties such as cite-checking, researching legal issues, drafting memos and orders/opinions, and assisting in mediations. My work with Judge Smith led to us co-authoring a journal article on the important role the courts play in preserving democracy (Spring 2022).

Dr. Taino J. Palermo, Esq.

linkedin.com/in/tainopalermo

tainop@gmail.com

315.383.5019

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Roger Williams University

Program Director

Providence, RI

2015-2019

Designed the academic curriculum for the Community Development undergraduate program and graduate degree program and the Community Health undergraduate program. Served as PI for graduate research studies and built community partnerships across Rhode Island on behalf of the University, including in the Adult Correctional Facilities and the Rhode Island Training School. Taught Community Development undergraduate and graduate courses.

College Unbound

Instructional Faculty

Providence, RI

2015 – Present

Founding faculty member teaching core coursework in Organizational Leadership and Management, Racism and the Law, Introduction to Legal Studies, Capstone, and introduced accredited program into minimum, medium, and women's facilities at the Rhode Island Adult Correctional Institutions.

Syracuse University

Community Organizer

Syracuse, NY

2012 -2014

Connected Syracuse University student engagement & campus-community outreach initiatives with community organizations, programs, and services resulting in over \$100M of economic development and investment in Syracuse's Near West Side community.

RESEARCH & GRANT EXPERIENCE

RIDE Advanced Coursework Network/Roger Williams University - \$750,000

Wrote the grant and currently manage operations of the grant which provides funding for full-tuition and books to over 300 RI middle and high school students to take accredited coursework at the University during out-of-school hours.

Say Yes to Education/Syracuse City School District - \$1.5 Million

Wrote the RFP's for two Say Yes to Education After School programs at two Syracuse City School District schools (Frazer K-8 & HW Smith K-8). Each program's yearly budget was approx. \$175,000.00 for three years.

New York State Department of Health - \$875,000

Wrote the grant application for a NYS DOH program called STYA (Successfully Transitioning Youth to Adolescence) in which the YWCA of Syracuse received \$175,000/year to conduct research and programming for adolescent youth ages 9 to 12 of both sexes.

AWARDS/ACCOLADES

- National Action Network's Bea Gonzalez Award for Commitment to the Latino Community (2013)
- Hispanic Coalition of New York's "40 Under 40 Rising Latino Stars" (2013)
- YWCA of Syracuse & Onondaga County Employee of the Year (2012)
- Central New York Political Leadership Institute graduate (2013)
- Syracuse's Citizen's Academy graduate (2014)
- [Providence Journal's "11 Innovators to Watch in 2017"](#) (2017)
- [Providence Monthly's "Ten to Watch in 2017"](#) (2017)
- TEDx Providence: [How Anchor Institutions Can Drive Community Development](#) (2018)
- Providence Business News ["Legal aid on the way for local Indigenous tribes"](#) (2021)
- Providence Journal: [Six years ago, Brown said it would give land back to the Pokanoket Tribe. Where does it stand?](#) (2023)
- Boston Globe: [Brown University transfers 255 acres in Bristol, R.I., to the Pokanoket Indian tribe](#) (2024)
- [Common Cause Champion of Diversity Award](#) (2024)

Dr. Taino J. Palermo, Esq.

linkedin.com/in/tainopalermo

tainop@gmail.com

315.383.5019

CURRENT AFFILIATIONS

- Rhode Island Bar Association Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee, *Member*
- Rhode Island Bar Association Environmental & Energy Law Committee, *Member*
- American Indian Law Student Association, *Faculty Chair*
- Tribal In-House Counsel Association (TICA), *Member*
- Cranston Public Library Board of Trustees, *Trustee*
- Rhode Island Bar Association, *Member*
- American Bar Association, *Member*

PAST AFFILIATIONS

- Rhode Island Commission for Health Access and Equity (CHAE), *Appointed Chair (2015-2019)*
- Academy for Career Exploration Charter High School, *Board Chair (2016-2019)*
- West Elmwood Housing Development Corporation, *Board Member (2015-2019)*
- Governor's Drug Overdose Task Force, *Appointed Member (2016-2019)*
- Common Cause Rhode Island, *Board Member (2017-2020)*
- Greater Providence YMCA, *Board Member (2017-2019)*
- Providence Student Union, *Board Chair (2016-2019)*
- Americorps/ServeRI, *Commissioner (2017-2019)*
- The Public's Radio, *Board Member (2017-2019)*
- GrowSmart RI, *Board Member (2017-2019)*

PUBLICATIONS

- Taino J. Palermo, *Returning Home and Restoring Trust: A Legal Framework for Federally Non-Recognized Tribal Nations To Acquire Ancestral Lands In Fee Simple*, Roger Williams University Law Review: Vol. 27 (Forthcoming Fall 2022)
- Taino J. Palermo, *The Erosion of Trust: Arizona v. Navajo, Climate Change, and the Potential Abrogation of Tribal Water Rights*, Roger Williams University Law Review: Vol. 30:1 (Spring 2023)
- Taino J. Palermo, *Chapter I: Colonization, Foundations of Race and American Law Casebook*, Aspen Publishing, 1st ed. (2025).
- Taino J. Palermo, *From Tribal Sovereignty to Incomplete Allegiance: Trump v. Barbara and the Fragility of Birthright Citizenship*, __ Roger Williams U. L. Rev. __ (forthcoming 2027).

PROFESSIONAL LICENSURES

- Rhode Island/United States District Court for Rhode Island: 10675
- Massachusetts Board of Bar Overseers: 716626
- Notary Public