

Alba Raquel Morales

Assistant Professor of Legal Writing • Brooklyn Law School
250 Joralemon Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

BROOKLYN LAW SCHOOL, Brooklyn, NY July 2024-present
Assistant Professor of Legal Writing

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, New York, NY June 2022-May 2024
Acting Assistant Professor of Lawyering

INNOCENCE PROJECT CLINIC, April 2007-July 2012
CARDOZO SCHOOL OF LAW, New York, NY
Clinic Supervisor & Co-Instructor

LEGAL PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

Office of the Appellate Defender, New York, NY August 2019-May 2022
Supervising Attorney

- Supervised staff attorneys in drafting direct criminal appeals and post-conviction motions.
- Managed the Office of the Appellate Defender's Domestic Violence Justice Survivors' Act practice.

Capital Habeas Unit, July 2017-July 2019
Federal Defender Office, Philadelphia, PA September 2015-July 2017
Assistant Federal Defender
Research and Writing Attorney

- Researched and drafted motions, memoranda, and briefs in post-conviction capital cases
- Investigated and developed mitigation claims on behalf of death row inmates.

Human Rights Watch, New York, NY July 2012-August 2015
Criminal Justice Researcher, US Program

- Designed, researched, and authored reports on human rights violations within the US criminal legal system.
- Developed policy recommendations on system-involved youth, policing, and other criminal system issues and advocated in state legislatures for implementation of those recommendations.

The Innocence Project, New York, NY April 2007-July 2012
Staff Attorney

- Developed curriculum for and co-taught the Innocence Project clinic at Cardozo School of Law.
- Led teams of students, investigators, social workers, and pro bono counsel representing clients making innocence claims before state trial and appellate courts in post-conviction proceedings.

Emery Celli Brinckerhoff & Abady, New York, NY
Associate

February 2006-March 2007

- Represented plaintiffs in civil rights cases and plaintiffs and defendants in commercial contract disputes in state and federal court.

The Legal Aid Society, Criminal Defense Division,
Brooklyn, NY
Staff Attorney

September 2003-January 2006

- Represented indigent people accused of felonies and misdemeanors at all stages of proceedings, from arraignment to trial.

EDUCATION

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, New York, NY
J.D., May 2001

Review of Law and Social Change, Senior Articles Editor
Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowship for New Americans

BROWN UNIVERSITY, Providence, RI
B.A. in History with a focus on Latin America, May 1996

JUDICIAL CLERKSHIP

The Honorable Rosemary Barkett,
United States Court of Appeals, 11th Circuit, Miami, FL

January 2002-January 2003

PUBLICATIONS & OPINION PIECES

[“Branded for Life: Florida’s Prosecution of Children as Adults under its ‘Direct File’ Statute,”](#) Human Rights Watch, April 14, 2014.

[Why are US police departments still race-biased?](#) Open Democracy, March 16, 2015

[Kids Shouldn’t be at Rikers, Period.](#) Huffington Post, October 10, 2014

[Guantanamo: System Failure,](#) NBC News, September 25, 2013

[Too Little Justice: Misdemeanor Defendants in the U.S.,](#) Jurist, March 22, 2013

PRESENTATIONS

Judicial Discretion in Criminal Voir Dire (work-in-progress)

- Clinical Writers’ Workshop, June 2023
- NYU Lawyering Scholarship Colloquium, June 2023

Reduced Sentences for Survivors of Domestic Violence: Understanding the Newly Enacted Domestic Violence Survivors Justice Act, Second Department Assigned Counsel Plan, Brooklyn, NY, January 29, 2020 (co-presenter)

Reconsidering the Criminalization of Delinquency: Legislative Strategies to Bring Youth Back to Juvenile Court, Annie E. Casey Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative Inter-site Conference, Philadelphia, PA, June 3, 2014 (panelist)

Juvenile Justice: Briefing in Observance of the Anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, United Nations, New York, NY, November 14, 2013 (Panelist)

Wrongful Conviction: The Fernando Bermudez Story, Roger Williams University School of Law, Bristol, RI, March 29, 2011 (Panelist)

Introduction to Post-Conviction DNA Testing, Innocence Network Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, April 17, 2008 (panelist)

SELECTED NEWS MEDIA

US cited for police violence, racism in scathing UN review on human rights, Al Jazeera, May 11, 2015 (interviewed & quoted)

Juvenile justice bill would limit prosecutors' power to charge children as adults, Florida Times-Union, March 17, 2015 (interviewed & quoted)

Is Florida arbitrarily prosecuting children as adults?, CBS News, April 10, 2014 (interviewed & quoted)

Florida charges children as adults more than any other state, Miami New Times, April 10, 2014 (quoted)

It's Official: Barnes exonerated on all charges, Utica Observer-Dispatch, January 8, 2009 (quoted)

DNA clears convicted rapist; sketch artist led to tip, conviction, years in prison, Chicago Tribune, May 28, 2008 (interviewed & quoted)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES & SERVICE

New York State Bar Association, Committee on Mandated Representation
Member, 2019-2022

BAR ADMISSIONS

New York
Pennsylvania (Inactive)
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit
Supreme Court of the United States

LANGUAGES

Fluent Spanish (native speaker). Conversational French.