

BAR ADMISSIONS AND HONORS

- District of Columbia Bar, *Admitted July 2017*
 - Maryland Bar, *Admitted August 2022*
 - The National Black Lawyers Top 40 Under 40, *Selected September 2022*
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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Community Economic and Equity Development Law Clinic, American University, Washington College of Law, Washington, DC

Practitioner-in-Residence, July 2022- Present

- Co-teach seminar on lawyering skills and transactional-related law and policy
- Supervise student attorneys on a variety of transactional law cases
- Created Know Your Rights event for the D.C. Community, in pursuit of creating equity in small business and non-profit spaces
- Created Community Economic and Equity Development (CEED) news blog for student attorneys in Spring 2023
- Teaching Family Law in Fall 2023
- Faculty Advisor for Washington College of Law National Lawyers Guild Chapter

Charles Ross Law, PLLC, Washington, D.C.

Owner, March 2022 – Present

- Operate and manage a community law firm, serving clients in Washington, D.C.
- Successfully represent clients in Unlawful Detainer cases in D.C. Superior Court
- Counsel small businesses on business planning, LLC formation, and forming operating agreements
- Represent small businesses in litigation by sending cease and desist letters and assisting with trademarks and copyrights
- Represent clients in custody and divorce cases, including facilitating mediation
- Prepare estate plans, including wills, trusts, and power of attorney
- Organize and advise tenants in tenants unions
- Create “Know Your Rights” content for diverse audiences using social media

Public Counsel, Los Angeles, CA

Staff Attorney- Homelessness Prevention Law Project, January 2021 – March 2022

- Successfully represented clients in Unlawful Detainer cases in Stanley Mosk, Compton, Inglewood, and Spring Street Courthouses
- Answered Complaints; drafted and filed dispositive motions; propounded and responded to discovery; took and defended depositions
- Managed two paralegals
- Provided tenants with counsel and advice relating to public housing issues
- Represented Los Angeles and Compton Tenants Unions in litigation
- Presented “Know Your Rights” workshops to tenants in collaboration with community-based organizations
- Reported case data to Los Angeles County to manage the “Stay Housed LA” grant
- Organized rental assistance clinics focused on preventing homelessness and fighting eviction
- Collaborated with a team of attorneys with the Opportunity Under Law Project on federal impact litigation

Superior Court of the District of Columbia, Washington, D.C.

Law Clerk to the Honorable Magistrate Judge Jorge Vila, August 2019 – September 2020

- Wrote Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law for Neglect, Adoption, and Custody cases following trial
- Researched legal issues pertaining to abuse and neglect, custody, domestic relations, divorce, and jurisdiction cases
- Wrote detailed memoranda to aid the Judge in making decisions on motions and trial rulings
- Consulted with Judge on how to move abuse and neglect cases to permanency in an efficient and fair manner
- Managed a filing system that ensured adherence to procedural requirements and facilitated efficient case management
- Coordinated and led small team meeting consisting of the Judge and Judicial Administrative Assistant, and supervised summer 2020 legal intern

Children's Law Center, Washington, D.C.

Staff Attorney, Guardian ad Litem Project, October 2016- July 2019

- Successfully represented the best interests of children in guardianship, adoption, termination of parental rights, and neglect trials resulting in granted adoptions, granted guardianships, and numerous children reunified with their parents
- Represented best interests of children in abuse and neglect court proceedings and custody matters, from case initiation through permanency, including investigations, client counseling, drafting, and filing motions and reports to the court, informal advocacy with government agencies
- Managed a multi-disciplinary team consisting of an investigator, social worker, and special education attorney
- Provided brief services and referral information on the organization's helpline, and contributed to the completion of program deliverables, such as publicly available practice kits for other attorneys to research legal issues and Child and Family Service Agency policies
- Facilitated "case rounds," allowing attorneys to troubleshoot cases in a group setting
- Supervised the 2018 summer law clerk program
- Supervised the mentoring program, connecting senior attorneys with less experienced attorneys

Criminal Law Clinic, American University, Washington College of Law, Washington, DC

Student Attorney, September 2015- December 2015

- Conducted misdemeanor criminal and traffic trials in Maryland District Court
- Prepared for trial by discussing trial strategies with supervising attorney
- Negotiated pleas with Public Defenders
- Prepared criminal and civil dockets for court by researching criminal histories, police reports, and lab reports
- Interviewed victims and witnesses before trial

Superior Court of the District of Columbia, Washington, D.C.

Judicial Intern to The Honorable Judge Rhonda Reid-Winston, May 2015- August 2015

- Conducted legal research on criminal law topics including search and seizures, custodial interrogations, and right to counsel
- Researched and drafted memoranda regarding the admissibility of evidence under the confrontation clause and analyzed how the D.C. Court of Appeals has construed Crawford v. Washington
- Worked on a Felony I calendar
- Communicated with attorneys from Public Defender Services and U.S. Attorney's Office regarding filing motions and orders

United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, Alexandria, VA

Judicial Intern, The Honorable Judge Gerald Bruce Lee, January 2015 – May 2015

- Conducted legal research, prepared bench memoranda, drafted judicial opinions in civil and criminal cases
- Drafted a memorandum opinion on a Motion to Transfer for a juvenile defendant
- Prepared information for Judge's National Security conference by researching 4th Circuit national security cases
- Observed and assisted the judge in courtroom proceedings and pretrial conferences
- Consulted with the Judge in weighing sentencing factors

U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia, Homicide Section, Washington, DC

Legal Extern, Homicide Section, June 2014 - December 2014

- Supported Assistant U.S. Attorneys in all phases of criminal investigation and litigation by preparing exhibits and witnesses, interviewing police officers, crime victims, and other fact witnesses under attorney supervision
- Drafted office memoranda and Motions in *Limine*
- Drafted closing arguments in misdemeanor trials

EDUCATION

American University, Washington College of Law, Washington, DC

Juris Doctor, May 2016

- Leadership: Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project - Dean's Fellow, Juvenile Justice Society – Co-Founder, Co-Director
- Activities: Black Law Students Association; Criminal Law Society, Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project - Teaching Fellow

University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland

Bachelor of Arts, Government and Politics, May 2013

- College Park Scholars- International Studies Program
 - Dean's List; Black Honors Caucus; Students Against Mass Incarceration
 - Internship: Children's Defense Fund – Freedom School
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PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- The Brown Bag Project (Co-founder) - a D.C. nonprofit organization that provides food, hygiene products, and clothing to people experiencing homelessness in the District of Columbia
 - Law for Black Lives – D.C. (Member)
 - Eastside LEADs (Member) – an East Los Angeles organization focusing on supporting and organizing tenants, families, and small businesses
 - Clinical Legal Education Association
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PANELS AND PRESENTATIONS

- 2019 Judicial and Bar Conference – The Psychological Toll of Racism on Youth in the Age of Social Media (April 2019)
- Practising Law Institute – California Eviction Defense: Protecting Low-Income Tenants (March 2022)
- National Lawyers Guild Student Disorientation – Panelist (October 2022)
- Journal of Gender, Social Policy & the Law Symposium on Clinical Education – Panelist (November 2022)
- Human Rights Brief Symposium, Movement Lawyering Panel – Panelist (February 2023)
- National Lawyers Guild: Myth of the Progressive Prosecutor – Moderator (March 2023)
- Sylvania Woods Black Alumni Homecoming: Public Service and Access to Justice – Panelist (April 2023)
- Association of American Law Schools Clinical Conference – Concurrent Session “Building a Stronger Foundation: Goal Setting and Design Strategies for Clinical Fellowship Programs” – (April 2023)
- Legal Academy at Americans United for Separation of Church and State: Movement Lawyering: Community Building – Panelist (June 2023)