

JESSICA SUTTON

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CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Death Penalty Litigation Clinic, Kansas City, MO

Staff Attorney, August 2010—Present

Conduct mitigation investigation in federal capital habeas proceedings and provide direct representation in federal habeas corpus pursuant to 28 USC 2254. Co-organize a study on racial bias in charging determinations in the state of Missouri. Assist in coordinating, training, and supervising clinical students and volunteers in the office.

CAPITAL TRAININGS ATTENDED

Fifteenth Annual National Federal Habeas Corpus Seminar

Cleveland, OH August 26-29, 2010

2010 Federal Death Penalty Strategy Session

Austin, TX November 11-13, 2010

Fourth National Seminar on Mental Health and the Criminal Law

New Orleans, LA January 13-16, 2011

Eighth National Seminar on the Development and Integration of Mitigation Evidence: Mitigation Narratives

Chicago, IL March 31, 2011-April 3, 2011

2011 Supreme Court Advocacy Institute

New York, NY June 10-12, 2011

NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund, Inc.'s 32nd Annual Capital Punishment Training Conference (“Airlie”)

Warrenton, VA July 7-10, 2011

EDUCATION

Boston University School of Law, J.D., May 2009

Honors: *Scholarship Recipient*, The Warren S. Gilford Law and Humanity Prize, *Recipient*, Clinical Legal Education Association Outstanding Student Award, *Grant Recipient*, Boston University Public Interest Project; *Selected Project*, Clinton Global Initiative University; *Panelist*, Supreme Judicial Court Standing Committee on Pro Bono

Activities: *Public Interest Law Journal*; *Board Member*, Equal Justice Works; *Standing Committee Member*, New Orleans Legal Assistance Project; *Committee on Transgender Inclusion*, Massachusetts Lesbian and Gay Bar Association; *Outreach Committee Chair*, Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition; *Stone Moot Court*

Tufts University, BA in Economics and International Relations, *cum laude*, February 2006

Honors: *2005 Fellow*, Tisch College of Citizenship and Public Service; *Student Fellow*, Tufts Institute for Leadership and International Perspective

OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Chittenden Superior Court, Burlington, VT

Law Clerk, September 2009—August 2010

Conducted research on a variety of civil legal issues and constitutional issues underlying petitions for post-conviction relief. Researched trial issues, including the admissibility of evidence and jury instructions. Drafted legal memoranda.

Boston University Criminal Clinic, Boston, MA

Student Advocate, September 2008- May 2009

Provided representation to over ten adult and juvenile clients. Conducted investigations to formulate trial strategy and filed pre-trial motions. Made bail and sentencing arguments, including arguing a bail appeal in Superior Court.

New York Civil Liberties Union, New York, NY

Legal Intern, May 27- August 15, 2008

Drafted a memorandum on whether the government had a right to an *Open America* stay of document production. Drafted a Freedom of Information Law request to the Department of Corrections. Researched minimum education standards for the Coalition to Raise the Minimum Standards at New York City Jails and drafted recommendations for the Board of Corrections.

FEMA Appeals Project, Boston, MA

Student Member, February 2008- May 2009

Completed intakes with individuals appealing FEMA decisions. Concluded a case concerning public housing issues in Houston and New Orleans.

Center for Death Penalty Litigation, Durham, NC

Volunteer, March 8-15, 2009

Conducted research in various counties concerning selective prosecution on the basis of race and researched potential statistical bases for a variation on the *McCleskey* claim.

Orleans Public Defender, New Orleans, LA

Volunteer, March 10-14, 2008

Conducted daily interviews of arrestees and assisted with their first appearance hearings. Researched various felony charges. Drafted a motion for summary judgment.

Black Studies Course at Suffolk County House of Correction, Boston, Massachusetts

Student Participant, March- May, 2008

Assisted in preparing curriculum for the class on Constructions of Whiteness/Power of Illusion. Conducted outreach to recruit co-teachers for the course.

Massachusetts Transgender Legal Advocates, Boston, MA

Co-Founder, October- November 2007

Co-founded a legal clinic to address the legal needs of the indigent transgender community. Co-organized sponsorship from the Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition, TransCEND of Cambridge Cares About AIDS, and the AIDS Action Committee of Massachusetts.

Student Legal Advocate, November 2007- May 2009

Conducted monthly clinics with clients and provided legal advice and representation in housing law, disability law, health law, welfare law, and LGBT-specific legal issues. Focused on prisoners' rights advocacy and represented clients in obtaining medication and appropriate housing in jail. Collaborated with the South Bay House of Correction administration to reform policies pertaining to transgender prisoners.

Student Hurricane Network, MatchMakers For Justice, National

Co-Chair, May 2007- January 2008

Organized third year of the program by partnering law students, universities, and practicing attorneys throughout the country with legal services organizations in the Gulf Coast to conduct remote legal assistance for Gulf Coast residents.

Student Participant, January 2007- May 2009

Assisted New Orleans residents with succession casework. Collaborated with Boston University to create a Gulf Coast legal assistance project and organized school-sponsored service trips.

Neighborhood Legal Services, Lynn, Massachusetts

Legal Intern, May 2007- December 2007

Mediated cases in the Northeast Housing Court through the Lawyer for a Day Program.

Represented clients at administrative hearings. Completed casework addressing issues such as public and subsidized housing, eviction, and homelessness. Conducted a weekly legal clinic to assist clients in filing an answer and discovery.

Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights, Boston, Massachusetts

Volunteer, November 2006

Conducted legal research on 1960s civil rights cases for Mr. Charles Walker, former Executive Director of the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights.