

ANGELA DOWNES
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ANGELA DOWNES BIO and CURRICCULM VITAE

Angela Downes is a professor at UNT Dallas College of Law in Dallas, Texas where she is Assistant Director of Experiential Education. Prof. Downes teaches clinical courses, the 40-hour mediation course and domestic violence and the law. Her scholarship focuses on issues of interpersonal violence including domestic violence, human trafficking and child abuse.

Prof. Angela Downes is an attorney whose work focuses on public service, policy, and legislative efforts to protect the public trust. She provides training, policy expertise, and technical assistance (TA) on interpersonal violence issues of child abuse, child protection, domestic violence, human trafficking, and elder abuse; she also serves as a subject matter expert on interpersonal violence issues. She co-presented several OVC TTAC webinars on compassion fatigue and vicarious trauma and presented the OVC Vicarious Trauma Toolkit for the National Crime Victim Bar Association. She delivered trainings on vicarious trauma for the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Division, and the National Institute for Trial Advocacy. She presents Vicarious Trauma and Law Students: Doing Your Best and Staying Healthy, a recurring presentation delivered each semester to the University of North Texas Dallas Law School students. She also presented a trauma-informed interviewing and counseling course. She served as chief prosecutor of the two dedicated domestic violence courts in Dallas County, where she trained new prosecutors on trauma-informed interviewing and counseling victims/survivors. As a senior program attorney with the Vera Institute of Justice, Ms. Downes worked with prosecutors and district attorneys' offices to improve the criminal justice system through TA, policies, resolutions of conflicts, programs, and advocacy. At the National District Attorneys Association (NDAA), National Center for Prosecution of Child Abuse, National Center on Elder Abuse, and Center for Violence Against Women, she provided technical assistance, training, research, and wrote publications on domestic violence, child abuse, elder abuse, human trafficking, and other interpersonal violence issues. NDAA represents, trains, and teaches prosecutors, law enforcement, and other allied professionals.

Previously, Prof. Downes was the attorney for Court Programs at the national organization of Mothers Against Drunk Driving. Ms. Downes also served as a felony prosecutor for the Dallas County District Attorney's Office in Texas. The governor appointed Ms. Downes to serve on the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists and the Texas Medical Board. She is a subject matter expert on interpersonal violence issues. Professor Downes also serves as an Associate Municipal Judge for the Cities of Irving and Glenn Heights, Texas.

Courses taught

- 40 Hour Mediation
- Community Lawyering Center
- Joyce Ann Brown Innocence Center
- Domestic Violence and the Law
- Human Trafficking and the Law
- Externship Seminar
- Community Engagement Program
 - Community initiatives

- Power of Attorney
- Expunction Expo
- Pass Her the Gavel
- West Dallas Appraisal District Initiative
- ABA Youth Gun Violence Talk Backs
- Wills, Trust and Estate Planning

Law School Committee Assignments

- Admissions
- By-Laws
- Curriculum and Instruction
- Faculty Development
- Scholarship, chair- initiated GRIT scholarship

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

UNT DALLAS COLLEGE OF LAW, Dallas, Texas 2015-Present Professor of Practice and Assistant Director of Experiential Education

Law professor in Experiential Education program. Courses taught Domestic Violence, Practice Foundation II, Externship and Clinical Education courses.

Assist with the management of clinical education program for law students that included innocence clinic and two Community Lawyering Centers.

Develops community education programing for students. Including focused clinics for the community and information sessions.

Develops and maintains partnership with community partners.

Designed and manages 40 Mediation Certification program for the law school.

CITY OF GLENN HEIGHTS, Glenn Heights, Texas 2015-Present

CITY OF IRVING, Irving, Texas 2021-Present

Associate Municipal Judge

Associate Municipal Judge focused on overseeing class c, show cause and trial dockets.

Managed Zoom court docket.

Responsible for issuance of warrants, emergency orders and all other court areas of court management.

Created Amnesty program that allowed those with outstanding warrants to resolve cases.

ANGELA DOWNES, LLP, Irving, Texas

Attorney and Mediator

Provided strategic planning, training, policy expertise and technical assistance to non-profit agencies on criminal justice issues and interpersonal violence issues of child abuse, child protection, domestic violence, human trafficking, and elder abuse.

Critical thinker focused on empowering non-profit organizations and local community projects.

Served as subject matter expert for interpersonal violence issues.

Assists with trial preparation for criminal and civil cases.

National trainer and presenter.

VERA Institute of Justice, New York, New York

Senior Program Associate

Works with state district attorney offices and prosecutors to implement program.

Provides training and technical assistance to prosecutors and district attorneys' offices.

Coordinates with research team to ensure that data and results accurately reflect outcomes.
Generates reports which described program outcomes.
Devises dissemination strategy for information, reports, and the project.
Conducts extensive site outreach to new jurisdictions.
Presents program and research outcomes at national conferences and meetings.

National District Attorneys Association, Alexandria Virginia
National Center Prosecution of Child Abuse
Senior Attorney

Provided technical assistance and training for state and local prosecutors on complex trial preparation and litigation issues.
Coordinate national child maltreatment conferences.
Course and curricula development for human rights, child abuse, domestic violence and human trafficking.
Extensive training experience on a range of child abuse and maltreatment issues at international, national and state/local conferences.
Development of Best Practices in Mandatory Reporting/SORNA for Youth Service Organization
Conduct research, provide technical assistance and write on topics involving child abuse and maltreatment and the interrelation of child abuse and violence against women and elder abuse.
Lead Elder Abuse program which includes providing technical assistance on financial fraud and abuse.
Coordinated distribution of 5,000 “Walking in Our Shoes” DVD and discussion guides.

Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), Irving, Texas

Attorney, Court Programs

Implemented and managed National Court Monitoring Program for 600 regional and state-wide chapters.
Developed and managed 30 states and 200 courts. Managed over \$500,000 budget. Negotiated with Federal Agencies, saving the organization over \$100,000.
Strategic grant writing for MADD chapters, resulting in over \$1.5 million in funding.
Trained and supervised personnel and volunteers. Developed strategies for national implementation of the Court Monitoring Program, including: development of Strategic Implementation Manual that was adapted by National Organization.

Wrote technical legal manuals and training materials, including Volunteers Best Practices Manual and Policies and Procedure Manual. Wrote Online Court Monitoring Course, adopted by MADD.
Drafted company policies for various legal issues resulting in standardization for company.
Collaborated with Johns Hopkins School of Public Health on impaired driving research project.
Extensive collaboration with judges, attorneys and law enforcement in the areas of courts, impaired driving and other areas of criminal prosecution.

Dallas County District Attorney’s Office, Dallas, Texas

Prosecutor

Prosecuted Felony cases. Trial Attorney Assigned to Felony District Court. Responsible for litigation of cases, trial preparation and witness preparation.
Lead Counsel in over 40 jury trials including: Murder, Aggravated Assault, and Aggravated Robbery.
Responsible for a felony docket of over 200 cases.
Prosecuted Felony Family Violence cases.
Supervised all aspects of misdemeanor prosecutors in the Family Violence Section.
Managed two Family Violence courts. Provided leadership and training to new prosecutors resulting in the processed 5,000 cases.

Collin County District Attorney's Office, McKinney, Texas

Law Clerk

Prosecuted misdemeanor cases.

Assigned to misdemeanor criminal court. Responsible for assistance with daily court docket.

Obtained Student Trial Card from the State Bar of Texas Conducted extensive research for

Prosecutors resulting in effective prosecution of criminal cases.

Assisted with appeals to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Dallas County District Attorney's Office, Dallas, Texas

Law Clerk

Worked exclusively with Prosecution team in all aspects of trial preparation of misdemeanor cases.

Conducted witness contacts, processing, and investigating new cases.

Texas Wesleyan Mediation Clinic

Pro Bono Mediator

Mediated over 25 Judge mandated cases at the Justice of the Peace Court.

Successfully negotiated, wrote and executed legally binding mediation contracts saving taxpayer funds.

Mediated areas of Family Law, Contracts, Forcible Entry and Detainer.

ADDITIONAL RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Institute of Police Technology and Management, Jacksonville, Florida

Adjunct Professor

Impaired driving strategies.

EDUCATION

JD, *Texas A&M University School of Law, formerly Texas Wesleyan University School of Law*,
Ft. Worth, TX

BA, *Mercer University*, Macon, GA

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Admitted to the Bar of the United States Supreme Court

State Bar of Texas

Member American Bar Association: Standing Committee on Gun Violence-Chair; Criminal Justice
Section, Victims' Committee, Former co-chair; Youth at Risk Commission

BOARDS AND TASK FORCES

Distinguished Alumni Texas Wesleyan School of Law

Nominated by Texas Governor to Texas Medical Disciplinary Board, 2020- present

Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists, 2008- 2018

Texas Violent Gang Task Force-Executive Board, 2001-2004 Collaborated with law enforcement,
prosecutors and other criminal justice agencies to develop policies and strategies to address gang issues.

Texas Bar Association Fellow

ABA Fellow

City of Dallas Farmer's Market TIF Board, Appointed by Mayor Eric Johnson

Greenhill School Board of Trustees, Former Alumni Association-Vice President. Conducted and
Coordinates Annual Giving Fundraising Campaign

Study Abroad Program, Seville, Spain

Publications

Print

Letter to a Young Paralegal , State Bar of Texas Paralegal Journal, pending publication 2026

Look Away: The Impact of The Lost Cause on Civil Rights, Social Justice and Critical Race Theory, How Storytelling and Mythology Shaped American History, Angela Downes, LSU Law Journal for Social Justice and Policy, Louisiana State University Law Center, pending publication 2023

Ketanji Brown Jackson: The History of the Supreme Court nomination and why the confirmation process must change, Angela Downes, On the Cusp, UNT Dallas College of Law, pending publication 2023

Damn It! A Conversation on Being Black, Female, And Marginalized During the Covid-19 Pandemic: Is the World Listening? A Conversation Between Black Female Law Professors, Patricia A. Broussard, Cheryl T. Page and Angela Downes, Alabama Civil Rights & Civil Liberties Law review, The University of Alabama School of Law, Volume 12.1, 2020

Mediation and It's Benefits

UNT Dallas College of Law Accessible Law, 2018

<https://accessiblelaw.untdallas.edu/mediation-and-its-benefits>

Pass Her the Gavel - <https://www.dallasnews.com/news/2022/03/31/black-law-students-faculty-at-unt-dallas-to-host-event-in-support-of-judge-keanji-brown-jackson/>

NBC - <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/texas-school-shooting-republicans-social-emotional-learning-rcna35540>

Power of Attorney Workshop

Dallas Morning News

<https://www.dallasnews.com/news/2017/10/06/immigrants-fearing-deportation-scramble-to-set-up-power-of-attorney-protection-for-families-property/>

Name Change and Gender Marker

Dallas Voice

<https://dallasvoice.com/legal-clinic-will-focus-on-trans-issues/>

Television

Channel 4 Legislative Special Session commentary-

<https://youtu.be/7kSXNyGERJI?si=fBM6IHSNb9UvNfIJ>

Contigo en la Comunidad, Univision, 2024

Chanel 8 Atatiana Jefferson trial commentary-

<https://www.wfaa.com/article/news/local/can-aaron-dean-get-a-fair-trial-in-tarrant-county/287-d9125e6a-4dbb-4b22-a1ac-4e877a3456c4>

Dallas Morning News- Katanji Brown Jackson -

<https://www.dallasnews.com/news/courts/2022/04/07/keanji-brown-jacksons-supreme-court-confirmation-a-sign-of-hope-in-dallas/>

CPR Speaks-regular commentator on panel providing analysis of arbitration and mediation cases heard by

the Supreme Court

<https://www.cpradr.org/news/hot-topics-a-scotus-23-24-arbitration-roundup-and-more---->

<https://www.cpradr.org/news/coinbase-and-arbitration-at-the-supreme-court-staying-litigation-while-appealing-a-denial-of-adr>

<https://youtu.be/-3pGv1gzPR0>

Channel 5: Community Conversation, November 2020

The 2020 Election recap

Expunction Expo

MEDIA

NITA Podcast: Vicarious Trauma and Compassion Fatigue, April 2025

I Feel for You: The Lawyer's Occupational Hazard of Vicarious Trauma

<https://www.buzzsprout.com/441178/episodes/17399986>

Pedagogo Podcast, August 2020

Topic: Cultural Responsiveness in Higher Learning

<https://examsoft.com/resources/pedagogo-season-2-episode-1-pedagogo-resources/>

Podcast: UNT Denton Five Minute Wisdom Program, January 2021

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/5-minute-wisdom/id1519331562>

Robert Ashley- Radio Show

2020 guest on community radio show

AWARDS

2025 Top 50 Black Professionals Excellence Award

2022 UNT Dallas Faculty Award for Service

**2018 North Texas Business and Professional Women's League, Inc.
Women's History Awardees**

TRAININGS AND PRESENTATIONS

Barbri / Stafford Webinar: Vicarious Trauma, October 2025

Annual Judicial Education Conference, September 2025

Austin, Texas

Lecture: Vicarious Trauma and the Judiciary

NITA Public Service Program, July 2025

Atlanta Georgia

Lecture: Vicarious Trauma

Second Chance Fair, July 2025

Dallas, Texas

NITA Trial Advocacy Program, - Faculty June 2025

Dallas, Texas

Property Tax Information Session, March 2025

Trinity Park Conservancy, Dalals, Texas

Hot Topics: SWBLSA Regional Conference, January 2025

Association of Attorney Mediators Conference, November 2024

Texas Association of Domestic Relations, October 2024

UNT Dallas National Night Out, October 2024

NITA Women in the Law, October 2024

Denver, Colorado

Youth Democracy Day, September / October 2024

Dallas, Texas

Vicarious Trauma and Compassion Fatigue / North Carolina Courts, August 2024

Charlotte, North Carolina

Second Chance Fair, July 2024

Collaborative Law, June 2024

State Bar of Texas Annul Meeting

Pierces' Pledge: Protecting Children From Gun Violence, June 2024

Moderator, American Bar Association, National webinar

Dallas Bar Association Minority Clerkship, June 2024

Moderator, The Summer Clerkship

Vicarious Trauma and Compassion Fatigue, June 2024

St. Louis, EEOC, two lectures

NITA Trial Advocacy, June 2024

Faculty, SMU School of Law

CPR Speaks: Supreme Court Commentary, May 2024

Vicarious Trauma, May 2024

Washington, DC EEOC, two lectures

Next Gen Mediators and ADR Professionals, May 2024

TMCA Lunch and Learn Series

Wrongful Convictions and Exonerations, April 2024

UNT Dallas College of Law

Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, April 2024

UNT Dallas College of Law and Arts District Mansion

Nurturing Resilience in Teams, March 2024

National webinar, Office of Victims of Crime

Civility for Texas Lawyers, February 2024

Williamson County Bar Association

Wills and Estate Planning Information Session, February 2024

Mt. Carmel Church, Dallas, Tx

NITA Deposition Course, January 2024

Faculty, Los Angeles County Bar Association

Beyond Sandy Hook with District Attorney Alvin Bragg, January 2024

Manhattan District Attorney's Office, New York City

Vicarious Trauma and Compassion Fatigue, December 2023

State Bar of Texas, Criminal Justice Section

Estate Planning Information, November 2023

St. Phillips School Faculty Development

Civility in your ADR Practice, October 2023

TMCA Annual Symposium

TMCEC, Beyond Deferred Disposition, October 2023 – June 2024

Tyler, Austin, Houston, Dallas, Midland / Odessa

NITA Women in Trial, September 2023

Faculty, Denver, Colorado

ABA Trauma Informed Workplaces Roundtable, August 2023

CPR Speaks: Supreme Court Review, July 2023

NITA: Domestic Violence Course, June 2023

UNT Dallas College of Law

Civility for Texas Lawyers, June 2023

Tarrant County Bar Association, Ft. Worth, Texas

Civility for Texas Lawyers, June 2023

State Bar of Texas Annual Meeting, Austin, Texas

Indicators and Healthy Coping Strategies, June 2023

Department of Justice, Civil Rights, Washington D.C.

Series of three trainings

Human Trafficking 101, June 2023

TMCEC Judges Training , Pflugerville, Texas

Applied Legal Storytelling Conference, June 2023

Civility and the Legal Profession, London, England

TMCA Lunch and Learn Series, May 2023

Moderator

State Bar of Texas, May 2023

Women in the Law

Impact of School Gun Violence, April 2023

SEL4TX Lunch and Learn Series

Integrating ADR Techniques Plano Independent School District, April 2023

Vicarious Trauma for Attorneys, April 2023

Florida Legal Services-series of three lectures

Texas Court of Appeals Oral Arguments, April 2023

UNT Dallas College of Law

Gun Violence in New Orleans: a Public Health Crisis, February 2024

ABA Midyear Meeting, New Orleans, LA

Vicarious Trauma and Compassion Fatigue for Lawyers, January 2023

Neighborhood Legal Services of Pittsburg, PA

NITA Deposition, January 2023

Online course

Dallas Bar Association, October 2022

Equality Committee
Implicit Bias, Privilege Walk

NITA Faculty Training, San Francisco, CA, October 2022

Texas Mediator Credentialing Association Symposium, October 2022

Society of American Law Teachers Conference (SALT), Chicago, IL, October 2022

Teaching in the Context of External Pressures and Interference

CLR Writer's Workshop / New York University, October 2022

Supreme Court Arbitration Review, August 2022

Mediate.com

Tarrant County Bar Association, June 2022

Civil Discourse and Mediation

Texas Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, May 2022

Civil Discourse Strategies for the 21st Century Lawyer

University of Alabama Law review Symposium, February 2021

The Impact of Covid-19 and Black Women Essential Workers

WAVE Honors Program – League City Intermediate School, February 2021

Empowering Kids: Constitutional Law and Kids

University of Oklahoma School of Law, February 2021

Creating an Inclusive Classroom: Microaggressions and the Legal Classroom

Texas A& M School of Law Mediation Training, January 2021

Podcast: UNT Denton Five Minute Wisdom Program, January 2021

The Culturally Competent Law Professor

Television: Channel 5: Community Conversation, November 2020

The 2020 Election

St. Thomas School of Law Symposium October 2020

Social Justice and the 21st Century Lawyer

Dallas Bar Association October 2020

The Rise of Domestic Violence During Covid-19

Baylor Law School October 2020

Negotiation Course

The 21st Century Negotiator

SALT Teaching Conference: Loyola School of Law –Chicago

Covid-19 and Black Women Essential Workers

Mercer University September 2020

Covid-19 and Black Women Essential Workers

NITA- National Institute Trial Advocacy, September / October 2020

Topic: Building Trial Skills

Faculty

NITA- National Institute Trial Advocacy, September 2020

Topic: Remote Deposition Skills

Faculty

Texas A&M University College of Law, August 2020

Topic: Excellence in Negotiations during the Zoom Age

Ft. Worth, Texas

Committee for Children, August 2020

Topic: Disrupt the Status Quo / Juvenile Justice Issues and SEL

Seattle, Washington

Pedagogo Podcast, August 2020

Topic: Cultural Responsiveness and Integration of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Higher Learning

Queen's Bench Bar Association, July 2020

Topic: Integrating Zoom into your Mediation Practice

San Francisco, California

Association of American Law Schools-Clinical Virtual Conference, July 2020

Topic: Recognizing Blind Spots

Scott and Reid, July 2020

Topic: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Training

Dallas, Texas

Café Momentum, July 2020

Topic: Know your rights

Dallas, Texas

Frisco Independent School District Behavior Symposium, July 2020

Topic: Juvenile Justice Keynote

Frisco, Texas

CALIcon Virtual Conference, June 2020

Topic: Providing Clinical Education in the Covid-19 Era

Texas Association of School Psychologists, June 2020

Annual Conference-Virtual

American Bar Association, May 2020

Webinar Series

Topic: Unsheltered at Home, Impact of Domestic Violence and Covid-19

Crimes Against Women Conference, May 2020

Dallas, Texas

Texas A&M Mediation Conference, March 2020

Topic: Mediator Empathy

Ft. Worth, Texas

NTSS Consortium, January 2020

Topic: SEL and Juvenile Justice

Dallas, Texas

Texas A &M School of Law, January 2020

Topic: Emotional Intelligence and Client Counseling

Ft. Worth, Texas

American Bar Association, November 2019

National Gun Violence Convening

Small Group Facilitator

Washington, D.C.

Restorative Practice Conference, November 2019

Topic: SEL and Juvenile Justice

Dallas, Texas

Texas Association of Mediators, October 2019

Topic: Intergenerational influence of mediation

Houston, Texas

SEL4Texas Convening, October 2019

Topic: Intersection of Social Emotional Learning and Juvenile Justice

Dallas, Texas

American Bar Association, Webinar Series, August 2019

Topic: Intersection of Domestic Violence and Gun Violence

National Institute Trial Advocacy, July 2019

Trial Advocacy Faculty

Presenter on Implicit Bias

Boulder, Colorado

Dallas County Dispute Mediation, July 2019

Topic: Implicit Bias and the 21st Century Mediator

Dallas, Texas

Oklahoma Bar Association, June 2019

Topic: Implicit Bias and Cultural Competency for Lawyers

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

National Institute Trial Advocacy, Webinar Series, May 2019

Topic: Using Storytelling to Combat Implicit Bias

Boulder, Colorado

Texas Association of Mediators Annual Conference, March 2019

Topic: Implicit Bias, Emotional Intelligence, and the Empathetic Mediator
Dallas, Texas

UNT Denton Equity and Diversity Conference, March 2019

Topic: Using Storytelling to Combat Implicit Bias
Denton, Texas

Texas Municipal Education Center 2018-2019 Faculty

Topic: Human Trafficking and the Municipal Judge
Training incorporated in to curriculum for all Texas Municipal judges
Austin, Dallas, Tyler, San Antonio, Houston, Galveston, Lubbock, Padre Island, El Paso

Association of Attorney Mediators, September 2018 Topic: Ethics and the Culturally Competent Mediator
Houston, Texas

UNT Dallas Human Resources Graduate Program, September 2018 Topic: Diversity and Human Resource Issues
Dallas, Texas

UNT Dallas College of Law Fundamentals Program, August 2018 Topic: Diversity and Inclusion
Dallas, Texas

Texas Council Administrators Special Education Annual Conference, July 2018 Topic: The Judiciary, Juvenile Justice and Social Emotional Learning
Austin, Texas

UNT Dallas Faculty Counsel, March 2018

Topic: Conflict Resolution, Board Training and Ethical Considerations
Dallas, Texas

Baylor Law School, March 2018

Family Mediation Training
Topic: The Culturally Competent Mediator
Waco, Texas

Dallas Bar Association, January 2018 ADR Section

Topic: The Culturally Competent Mediator
Dallas, Texas

Domestic Violence Forum, October 2017 Cedar Crest Church

Dallas, Texas

Texas A&M School of Law, August 2017

Mediation Training
Ft. Worth, Texas

Habitat for Humanity, April 2017

Legal Services and the Criminal Justice System Dallas, Texas

UNT Dallas College of Law, January 2017

MLK Jr. Community Conversation: In Honor of the King Holiday

Topic: Where do we go from here? The Aftermath of the 2017 Dallas Police Shooting
Dallas, Texas

Dallas Independent School District, November 2016 Topic: Special Education Topics
Dallas, Texas

Southwestern College, November 2016

Criminal Justice Symposium

Terrell, Texas

Mediation and Conflict Resolution, November 2016 University of Texas at Arlington
Arlington, Texas

Domestic Violence Forum, October 2016 Cedar Crest Church
Dallas, Texas

Estate Planning Workshops 2014-2016 Cedar Crest Church
Dallas, Texas

Texas A& M School of Law, August 2016 Mediation Training
Ft. Worth, Texas

Ethics for School Psychologists

Dallas, Texas August, 2014

Austin, Texas October 2015

Lubbock, Texas December 2015

El Paso, Texas December 2016

San Antonio, Texas March 2017

Richardson, Texas March 2017

State Bar of Texas Annual Meeting, June 2016 Topic: Ignite- Human Trafficking
Fort Worth, Texas

University of Houston Clear Lake, April 2016

Mental Health Symposium

Topic: Cultural Competence and Implicit Bias Houston, Texas

