

## **Gabriela Holguin Sotelo**

Professor of Practice, University of North Texas Dallas College of Law  
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### **LEGAL EDUCATION EXPERIENCE**

#### **UNT Dallas College of Law Community Lawyering Center**

##### **Professor and Faculty Supervisor** December 2019- Present

Supervise students in the representation of clients in the College of Law Community Lawyering Center in cases involving family, evictions, juvenile, estate planning, and other civil matters. Provide faculty oversight in the direction of the clinic, supervision of faculty assistants, and support the Director of Experiential Education Department in the development of programming, scheduling, learning outcomes, clinic manuals, lectures, student assignments, grading, and rubrics. Organize and direct workshops aimed at assisting members of underserved Dallas communities. Develop programming and volunteer opportunities for students with nonprofit organizations including Catholic Charities of Dallas, Dallas County Child Protection and Permanency Court, Dallas County Public Defender's Office, Dallas Volunteer Attorney Program, Trinity Park Conservancy, Frazier Revitalization, and others. Lecture clinic students on topics related to ethical considerations, becoming an effective practitioner, and other aspects of the practice of law and professional identity. Teach Family Law Child Support Course and Independent Study Course focused on UBE topics with established learning outcomes and multiple assessments. Teach Spanish for Lawyers course focused on strengthening student language skills in the practice of law, discuss topics related to cultural competency, human rights, and international law.

#### **Dallas County Public Defender's Office**

##### **Intern Supervisor** July 2012 - 2019.

Supervised law students as they completed Internships for credit at the Dallas County Public Defender's Office. Provided ample opportunities and guidance for students in preparation of motions and briefs; conducting legal research; reviewing legal documents; interviewing clients and developing plans for representation; assisting with legal proceedings; and reflecting on professional development and career goals.

### **TEACHING COURSES**

Community Lawyering Center and Case Rounds, Independent Study, Spanish for Lawyers, and Family Law Topics-Child Support.

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

#### **Dallas County Public Defender's Office**

##### **Assistant Public Defender** July 2012 – December 2019.

Represented indigent defendants in civil court actions which could result in their incarceration or in termination of their parental rights. Extensive trial and litigation experience through daily court appearances and a high-volume caseload. Underwent legal research and devised strategies to address complex legal issues, including appeals. Drafted pleadings, briefs, legal correspondence, pre-trial and post-trial motions, appellate briefs, orders and responses to discovery. Extensive familiarity with the rules of evidence, civil procedure, appellate procedure, and governing state statutes. Represented all Spanish clients for the Dallas County Public Defender's Civil Division.

## **Office of the Attorney General**

**Assistant Attorney General** February 2010 - July 2016.

Represented the State of Texas in judicial and administrative matters. Performed complex legal work which involved trial advocacy, rendering legal opinions, researching, drafting special pleadings, and handling a high-volume case load. Interviewed self-represented litigants and guided them through the process of establishing and enforcing orders in civil court. Facilitated negotiations to obtain agreements, identify disputed issues, and try them at hearing. Managed cases to ensure the orderly processing of dockets and prompt identification of complex legal issues. Assisted a high percentage of Spanish speaking customers in court. Ensured legal compliance for pleadings and orders.

## **EDUCATION**

### **Texas Southern University**

#### **Thurgood Marshall School of Law**

Juris Doctor Cum Laude, 2019

Vice President Hispanic Law Students Association

Research Assistant, Earl Carl Institute

### **University of Texas at Austin**

#### **School of Journalism**

Bachelors of Journalism, 2005

Major Broadcast Journalism

Minor in Latino Media Studies

Secretary, Mexican Student Association

## **SELECTED PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES & WORKSHOPS**

Faculty Supervisor, *Foster Child Assistance Community Engagement Program* (Fall 2020- Present).

Faculty Supervisor, *Immigration Advocates Community Engagement Program* (Fall 2020- Present).

Faculty Supervisor, *Dallas Volunteer Attorney Program Community Engagement* (Fall 2020- Present).

Supervising Attorney, *Dallas County Expunction Expo Community Engagement Program* (Fall 2020- Present).

Faculty Advisor, *Annual Adelfa Callejo Legacy Panel*, Fall 2021- Present.

Contributor, *UNT Dallas College of Law Experiential Education ABA Accreditation Faculty Responses* (Fall 2021- Spring 2022).

Faculty, *UNT Dallas College of Law Full ABA Accreditation* (Achieved February 2022).

Participant, *DBA WE LEAD: Women Empowered to Lead in the Legal Profession*, Virtual Leadership Program (2021-2022).

Director, *UNT Dallas College of Law Community Lawyering Center South Dallas Child Support Workshop*, Virtual Workshop (January 2021).

Director, *UNT Dallas College of Law Community Lawyering Center South Dallas Virtual Clinic*, Virtual Workshop (January 2021).

Faculty Supervisor, *Quarterly Dallas Volunteer Attorney Program Legal Intake Clinic*, Virtual Workshop (April 2021-Present).

Director, *UNT Dallas College of Law Legacy Court Appointed Liaisons Community Engagement Program*, Volunteer Program (Fall 2020 and Spring 2021).

Faculty Advisor, *West Dallas Homeowner Assistance Clinic* (August 2024)

### **ACADEMIC AWARDS & GRANTS**

Award for UNT Dallas College of Law Community Engagement Program Enhancing College Education and Success, in benefit of Foster Youth (\$50,000), UNT Dallas Center for Socioeconomic Mobility through Education (2021-2023).

Award for UNT Dallas College of Law Community Engagement Program Enhancing College Education and Success, in benefit of Foster Youth (\$25,000), UNT Dallas Center for Socioeconomic Mobility through Education (2024).

### **ACADEMIC SERVICE COMMITMENTS**

*UNT Dallas College of Law Hispanic Law Students Association Faculty Advisor*, Fall 2021- Present.

*UNT Dallas Faculty Senate Faculty Work-Life Committee*, Fall 2021- Spring 2023

*UNT Dallas College of Law Order of the Barristers Faculty Advisory Board*, Fall 2021- Present.

*UNT Dallas College of Law Awards Committee*, 2022- 2023 Academic year.

*UNT Dallas College of Law Adjunct Hiring Committee*, 2020- 2022, 2024-2025 Academic years.

*UNT Dallas College of Law Honor Council Councilmember*, 2020- 2021 Academic year.

*UNT Dallas College of Law Strategic Planning Committee*, Fall 2021- Spring 2022.

*Mentor UNT Dallas College of Law Office of Admissions*, Fall 2021- Summer 2023.

*Hiring Committee UNT Dallas College of Law Assistant Director for Career and Professional Development*, Fall 2021.

*Hiring Committee UNT Dallas College of Law Assistant Director of Integrated Marketing*, Spring 2024.

### **PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS**

Speaker, *Using Second Grade Lessons to Enhance Cultural Competency*, 2022 AALS Clinical Conference Lawyering with Creativity and For Equity (May 2022).

Speaker, *Pandemic Era Online Court Skills and Etiquette*, UNT Dallas College of Law Technology and the Law, Virtual Presentation (Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2021).

Speaker, *Holistic Lawyering in the Time of COVID-19*, Symposium on the COVID Care Crisis and its Implications for Legal Academia, Virtual Conference (January 2021).

Moderator, *UNT Dallas College of Law Office of Career and Professional Development Public Interest Panel*, Fall 2021 and Spring 2022.

Moderator, *UNT Dallas College of Law Office of Career and Professional Development Family Law Panel*, Fall 2021 and Spring 2022.

Speaker, *Engaging Clients, the Courts and the Community: Clinical Education During Covid-19*, CALIcon2020, Virtual Conference (June 2020).

Moderator, *Understanding Trauma Informed Care*, UNT Dallas College of Law Community Engagement Program Training Session Fall 2022, 2023, and 2024,

### **PUBLICATIONS**

Gabriela Sotelo, *Reunifying Families with Children Lost to The Foster Care System*, ACCESSIBLE LAW, Fall 2021, <https://untdlaw.wixsite.com/accessible-law/issue10>.

Gabriela Sotelo, *When Teens Are Stuck in the Middle: Custody Battles Explained*, ACCESSIBLE LAW, Fall 2022, <https://untdlaw.wixsite.com/accessible-law/issue11>.

### **BAR ADMISSIONS AND PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

License to Practice Law, State Bar of Texas, received November 2009.

State Bar of Texas Family Law Section

State Bar of Texas Child Welfare Section

Dallas Bar Association

Mexican American Bar Association

### **PROFESSIONAL AWARDS**

Assistant Attorney General of the Year Award, Office of the Attorney General, received July 2015.

CALI Awards in Property, Business Associations, and Family Law, Thurgood Marshall School of Law (2007-2009).

### **LANGUAGES**

Fluent in Spanish and English, verbal and written.