

Office of the Federal Public Defender, Central District of California

Deputy Federal Public Defender 2023 - present
Represent as lead counsel indigent clients accused of committing federal crimes, including capital murder at all stages of proceedings. Represent clients in appellate and post-conviction proceedings. Conduct trainings. Formally mentor new attorneys and supervise law student interns.

The Bronx Defenders

Criminal Defense Practice Legal Department, Senior Attorney 2020 - 2023
Co-Recipient: 2021 New York State Defenders Association Jonathan E. Gradess Service of Justice Award
Trained attorneys at The Bronx Defenders, throughout New York, and nationwide on legal and ethical issues in criminal defense practice. Consulted with and supervised attorneys internally and externally on motion practice, trial litigation strategies, and all aspects of criminal defense representation. Completed complex and special litigation matters. Defended clients in all types of criminal cases. Mentored attorneys. Served on hiring committees.
Co-wrote multiple amicus briefs filed before the United States Supreme Court.

Criminal Defense Practice, Attorney 2016 - 2020
Defended indigent clients against felony and misdemeanor criminal charges as a member of a holistic, client-centered practice in the Bronx. Represented clients as lead counsel at all stages of criminal proceedings, from arraignment through the end of the case. Provided bilingual (English/Spanish) representation as needed. Facilitated community empowerment activities, including high school youth mentoring and community Know Your Rights trainings. Mentored attorneys. Served on hiring committees for attorney and non-attorney roles, including legal interns.

New York University School of Law

Student Attorney in Equal Justice and Defender Clinic Fall 2015
Worked with the Equal Justice Initiative to provide direct legal representation to client sentenced to death. Met regularly with client and client's family. Drafted multiple witness statement memoranda and first direct appeal.

Research Assistant for Professor Erin Murphy Summer 2015
Conducted legal research on Model Penal Code reforms.

Student Attorney in Criminal Defense and Reentry Clinic 2014-2015
Supported Bronx Legal Aid attorneys with criminal cases in year-long holistic criminal defense clinic.

Research Assistant for Professor Rachel Barkow Summer-Fall 2014
Conducted legal research on clemency and the consideration of motive, especially the impact of poverty, in federal criminal sentencing.

NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund

Legal Intern Summer 2015
Conducted legal research on capital defense, school desegregation, and voting rights.

Brooklyn Defender Services

Family Defense Practice, Legal Intern Summer 2014
Assisted with defending parents against charges of child neglect and abuse.

Public Advocates

Legal Assistant 2011-2013
Conducted legal research related to education, housing, and transit policy and impact litigation on behalf of low-income people and communities of color.

California State Assembly

Jesse M. Unruh Legislative Fellow 2010-2011
Served as staff member to California State Assemblymember. Drafted legislation. Conducted legislative research on compensating the wrongly convicted.

Office of the Chief Clerk, Desk Clerk 2010
Processed all legislation and prepared documents for publication.

PRESENTATIONS AND PANELS (selection)

University of California Law San Francisco

Panelist, Criminal and Health Law Convening April 2026

Office of the Federal Public Defender, Central District of California

Path of a Federal Case Repeated

Storytelling in Federal Sentencing August 2025

National Association for Public Defense

Rise, Resist, Represent Conference—Race and Gun Criminalization April 2022

New York State Defenders Association

Criminal Procedure Law Article 245.00 Discovery Review and Update on Emerging Practice Issues	November 2021
35th Annual Metropolitan Trainer Conference—Bail 2021: Remand, Release, and Everything in Between	March 2021
Assessing and Challenging Certificates of Compliance	January 2021

Cardozo School of Law

Guest Speaker, Immigration Justice Clinic	August 2020
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Duke University School of Law

<i>Keynote Discussion: Criminal Justice and Prosecutorial Discretion in the Wake of Bruen</i> , Duke Center for Firearms Law September 2022 Symposium with the NYU Law Review	September 2022
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New York University School of Law

Unrig the Courts	October 2021
Women in Public Interest	February 2020

Yale Law School

<i>Public Health and Racial Justice Approaches to Gun Violence</i>	October 2022
<i>Beyond Bruen: Perspectives on Criminal Defense and the 2nd Amendment in the Leadup to Rahimi</i> , Def Con 2024 Public Defense Conference	February 2024

The Bronx Defenders

Police Impeachment Materials and Discovery	June 2021
Motions and Affirmations Under C.P.L. § 245.20	December 2020
Ethical Issues in Omnibus Motions	Repeated
Legal Research and Writing	Repeated
Speedy Trial Law and Motions	Repeated

OTHER SPEAKING

Public Defenders: “Incarceration Doesn’t Make Us Safe,” 5-4 Podcast November 2022

Picking at the DA’s Lock on the Grand Jury, Down by Law: The Podcast April 2022

PUBLICATIONS

Counsel of record and principal co-author in amicus brief filed in the Supreme Court of the United States in *United States v. Rahimi*, 602 U.S. 680 (2024)

Principal co-author of amicus brief filed in the Supreme Court of the United States in *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association, Inc., et al., v. Bruen*, 597 U.S. 1 (2022)

Principal co-author of amicus brief filed in the Supreme Court of the United States in *Hemphill v. New York*, 595 U.S. 140 (2022)

The Supreme Court’s gun ruling was a victory over racist policing, Washington Post, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2022/06/28/supreme-court-new-york-guns-racist-policing/>

We are public defenders. New York’s gun laws eviscerate our clients’ Second Amendment rights., SCOTUSblog, <https://www.scotusblog.com/2021/10/we-are-public-defenders-new-yorks-gun-laws-eviscerate-our-clients-second-amendment-rights/>

BAR ADMISSIONS

Supreme Court of the United States. California. New York

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Black Public Defender Association, Member

National Legal Aid and Defender Association, Member

National Bar Association, Member

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Faculty, The Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law Intensive Trial Advocacy Program 2025-2026

Coach, Susan Miller Dorsey High School Mock Trial Team 2024-2025

Volunteer, Bay Area Youth Pan-African Dance Conference 2024-present

