

**TARA I. ALLEN**  
Roger Williams University School of Law  
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## **EDUCATION**

**Northeastern University School of Law, Boston, MA**  
Juris Doctor, May 1998

**Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT**  
Bachelor of Arts in English, June 1991

## **BAR MEMBERSHIPS**

U.S. Supreme Court, 1st Circuit Court of Appeals, 3rd Circuit Court of Appeals, 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, Federal District RI, Eastern District CA, Western District PA, CA, MA (NY 2001-2015 voluntarily resigned).

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

<b>Roger Williams University School of Law</b>	Bristol, RI	2018 - Present
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*Associate Professor of Law, July 2018 - Present*

Provide instruction in doctrinal courses including Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, and Evidence as well as experiential learning courses on motions and trial practice. Supervise students' directed research projects and law review articles, hold regular office hours, draft and correct formative assessments and examinations. Conduct scholarly research and draft articles for publication in journals and periodicals. Participate in School of Law Committees, participate in community service organizations, and assist students with extra-curricular activities.

<b>Roger Williams University School of Law</b>	Bristol, RI	2015 - 2018
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*Adjunct Professor, Criminal Procedure: Investigation*

Instructed second and third-year law students on Fourth and Fifth Amendment principles governing police investigation of suspected criminality and apprehension of suspects. Lectured and facilitated discussions about court decisions and doctrines related to searches and seizures, interrogations, lineups, and individual rights versus public safety. Drafted and graded closed-book final examinations.

<b>Roger Williams University School of Law</b>	Bristol, RI	2013 - 2018
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*Adjunct Professor Trial Advocacy*

Introduce students to the mechanics of trial including how to: develop a theory of the case, incorporate storytelling, present opening statements, examine and cross examine witnesses, establish evidentiary foundations, introduce exhibits, control witnesses, and deliver closing arguments. Course is taught using a combination of classroom demonstrations and student exercises and culminates in a mock jury trial.

<b>University of California, Hastings College of the Law</b>	San Francisco, CA	2005 - 2010
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*Adjunct Professor Moot Court*

Taught course focused on transitioning first-year law students from objective legal writing to persuasive writing. Reviewed and critiqued written drafts, evaluated and graded legal briefs and oral arguments.

<b>University of California, Hastings College of the Law</b>	San Francisco, CA	2004 - 2010
<i>Adjunct Professor Legal Writing and Research</i>		
Introduced first-year law students to the mechanics of legal research and writing. Supervised teaching assistants, delivered weekly lectures, held student conferences, evaluated and graded students' written work.		
<b>University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law</b>	Sacramento, CA	2006 - 2007
<i>Appellate Advocacy Instructor</i>		
Instructed second-year law students in both written and oral appellate advocacy. Gave weekly lectures, held student conferences, evaluated and critiqued written work and oral arguments.		

## **PRACTICE EXPERIENCE**

<b>Office of the Federal Defender, District of RI</b>	Providence, RI	2012 - 2018
<i>Assistant Federal Public Defender</i>		
Defend clients at all stages of federal criminal proceedings including pre-indictment, pretrial hearings, trial, sentencing, appeal and supervised release. Notable cases include <i>United States v. Sanders</i> , No. 1:16-cr-00059-S-PAS-1 (D.R.I. 2017) (jury verdict acquitting defendant); <i>United States v. Young</i> , 221 F. Supp. 3d 244 (D.R.I. 2016) (granting defendant's motion to vacate sentence); <i>United States v. Taylor</i> , No. 1:15-cr-00035-JJM-LDA (D.R.I. 2016) (dismissing indictment following the filing of defendant's motion to suppress); <i>United States v. Santiago</i> , 950 F. Supp. 2d 361 (D.R.I. 2013) (granting defendant's suppression motion).		

<b>Office of the Federal Defender, Western District of PA</b>	Pittsburgh, PA	2010 - 2012
<i>Assistant Federal Public Defender</i>		
Represented indigent clients during all stages of their federal criminal case(s), managed regular caseload of 30 to 35 clients, and led defense investigations in cases of identity theft, fraud, internet crimes, firearms offenses, drug crimes and illegal presence in the United States. Engaged in intensive plea negotiations with federal prosecutors to favorably resolve clients' cases. Served as member of petitioner's legal team in <i>Reynolds v. United States</i> , 565 U.S. 432, 132 S. Ct. 975 (2012) (granting relief for petitioner).		

<b>United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit</b>	San Francisco, CA	2007 - 2010
<i>Supervising Senior Staff Attorney for Civil Law Unit</i>		
Supervised 12 to 15 attorneys. Reviewed written memorandum, bench memos, proposed dispositions and opinions for submission to three-judge panels. Prepared attorneys to make regular oral presentations to three-judge panels. Reviewed and analyzed district court and agency records, parties' briefs, motions and all other documents in cases on appeal. Wrote bench memoranda, presented cases to panels and conferred regularly with judges. Specialty areas: civil rights and federal jurisdiction.		

<b>Office of the Federal Defender, Eastern District of CA</b>	Sacramento, CA	2005 - 2007
<i>Research and Writing Specialist/Supervisor Misdemeanor Trial Unit</i>		
As research and writing specialist, researched and wrote substantive pretrial motions, sentencing memos and appellate briefs in felony and habeas cases, served as second-chair to felony attorneys, argued before appellate court. As misdemeanor unit supervisor, oversaw clinical training program, supervised 8-10 law clerks, represented clients at trial, pre- and post-trial hearings, wrote Misdemeanor Handbook, and edited monthly newsletter.		

<b>United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit</b>	San Francisco, CA	2000 - 2005
<i>Senior Staff Attorney</i>		
Recommended disposition in criminal and civil appeals including habeas cases, direct criminal appeals. Made regular presentations to three-judge panels, resolved emergency motions, issued deputy clerk orders, wrote bench memoranda, conferred with judges, trained new attorneys. Received several merit-based promotions. Served as <i>Criminal Research Attorney</i> , <i>Motions Attorney</i> , and <i>Civil Research Attorney</i> .		

**United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit**                      New York, NY                      1998 - 1999  
*Pro Se Law Clerk*  
 Wrote bench memoranda resolving constitutional, statutory and jurisdictional issues raised in appeals including claims related to immigration, habeas corpus, prisoners' rights, and discrimination under Title VII and the Americans With Disabilities Act.

**Sugarman, Rogers, Barshak and Cohen, P.C.**                      Boston, MA                      Winter 1997  
*Law Clerk*  
 Assisted attorneys at mid-sized insurance defense firm. Conducted research on issues related to employment discrimination, insurance coverage, professional liability and domestic relations. Assisted editing on final drafts of briefs.

**Lawyers for Children, Inc.**                      New York, NY                      Summer 1997  
*Kellogg Foundation Summer Fellow/Legal Intern*  
 Assisted attorneys with litigation at law guardian agency, conducted extensive statutory research, wrote legal memoranda and motions, observed family court proceedings, interviewed clients, conferred with state foster care agencies.

**Federal District Court for the District of MA**                      Boston, MA                      Winter 1996  
*Judicial Intern*  
 Drafted judicial opinions, wrote bench memoranda, conferred with judge and observed court proceedings presided over by the Honorable Joyce London Alexander.

**Law Offices of Donald E. Green, P.C.**                      Boston, MA                      Summer 1996  
*Law Clerk*  
 Drafted pleadings, responded to discovery requests, interviewed clients, served as second chair at a trial, attended depositions and arbitration hearings as law clerk at plaintiff-side personal injury firm.

## **ADDITONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**John Snow Institute**                      Boston, MA                      1992 - 1996  
*Training Consultant*  
 Lead trainer on team of facilitators that presented multi-day public health workshops for non-profit and youth serving agencies including homeless shelters, community centers, universities, and the city department of social services.

**Cambridge Cares About AIDS**                      Cambridge, MA                      1994 - 1995  
*HIV Prevention Specialist*  
 Conducted prevention and education workshops for organization serving HIV+ clients. Developed curriculum; designed trainings, organized community meetings, supervised staff, led group discussions in schools, youth centers, nonprofit organizations, and homeless shelters. Submitted monthly and bi-annual reports.

**YouthBuild USA**                      Somerville, MA                      1994 - 1995  
*Leadership Development Advisor*  
 Advised staff members at subsidiary program sites on youth empowerment curriculum focused on multiculturalism and diversity. Conducted workshops, organized and attended youth services conferences.

**Free My People, African Youth Movement**                      Dorchester, MA                      1992 - 1994  
*Program Advisor*  
 Attended school board meetings and community forums addressing social issues affecting teens of color, organized speakers bureaus & voter registration drives, led educational reading groups, and wrote grant proposals.

**Boston YWCA, Teen Incentive Program**

Boston, MA

1991 - 1993

*Program Director*

Directed education and employment program for teens of color. Wrote curricula, managed budget, supervised staff, and coordinated volunteers. Awarded *Employee of the Season* and *Outstanding Program Award*.

**TRAININGS, PRESENTATIONS AND PANELS**

- Presenter, *Speaking Truth to Power: Practical Approaches for De-Biasing the Court*, a presentation designed for federal criminal defense lawyers seeking practical advocacy approaches for addressing racial bias directly at various stages of a case including bail, pretrial, trial and sentencing.
  - In-person presentation to federal defense attorneys from various parts of the country, Race in the Federal Criminal Courts: Strategies in Pursuit of Justice, sponsored by Defender Services Office, Training Division, New Orleans, LA, February 8, 2020.
  - Online CLE presentation to the Office of the Federal Defender and Criminal Justice Act (CJA) Attorneys in the Eastern District of TN, October 28, 2020.
  - *Upcoming* Online CLE presentation to the Office of the Federal Defender for the District of Kansas, Topeka, KS, December 4, 2020.
  - *Upcoming* Online CLE presentation to the Hamilton Burnett American Inn of Court, Knoxville, TN, December 15, 2020.
  - *Upcoming* Online CLE presentation to the CJA lawyers of Office of the Federal Defender for the District of Massachusetts, TBD 2021
- Faculty, National Criminal Defense College (NCDC), *Trial Practice Institute*, Bristol, RI (formerly of Macon, Georgia) 2019-Present.
- Faculty, 2019 Federal Criminal Justice Act (CJA), Trial Skills Academy for Trial Lawyers, Indianapolis, IN, July 21-26, 2019.
- Faculty, 2017 Federal Criminal Justice Act (CJA), 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Trial Skills Academy for Trial Lawyers, Indianapolis, IN, July 30-August 4, 2017.
- Presenter, *Zealously Defending at Sentencing Hearings*, Criminal Justice Act (CJA) Training for Trial Lawyers, Springfield, MA, March 2, 2017.
- Panelist, Discussing Bryan Stevenson's *Just Mercy*, 2017 Reading Across Rhode Island Kick-Off Sponsored by Rhode Island Center for the Book at the RI Council for the Humanities Sponsored, Providence, RI, January 29, 2017.
- Presenter, *How Can You Represent Those People*, 1L Honors Roundtable, Roger Williams University School of Law, Bristol, RI, September 29, 2016.
- Presenter, *Relationship Between State and Federal Criminal Cases*, Committee for Public Counsel Services, Fall River, MA, December 11, 2014.
- Panelist, *Multi-Culturalism and the Criminal Justice System*, Salve Regina University, Newport Campus, Newport, RI, December 5, 2013.

- Panelist, *Gideon at 50: What the Right to Counsel Means Today*, Roger Williams University School of Law, Bristol, RI, March 28, 2013.

### **WORK-IN-PROGRESS**

- *There Ought to Be a Rule: Amending Rule 24(a) to Require Attorney-led Voir Dire Into Racial Bias*, (article in progress examines Rule 24(a) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure which governs the procedures for preliminary examination of potential jurors (*i.e.*, *voir dire*) and proposes an amendment that would require judges to grant an attorney's request to question prospective jurors on issues of racial bias in all criminal cases where there has been a showing that race is salient).

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

- Academic Standards Committee
- Curriculum Committee
- Faculty Advisor, Black Law Student Association

### **RECOGNITIONS**

2020 Recipient, Professor of the Year, selected by the law school's graduating class

2020 Nominee, Excellence in Teaching Award, university-wide merit-based award

2017 Recipient, Adjunct Professor of the Year, selected by the law school's graduating class

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

- National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
- National Association of Public Defense