



FALL 2019

STUDENTS BEGIN FALL SEMESTER WITH CLINICAL PROGRAMS ORIENTATION

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Clinical Programs welcomed all students during orientation week! Clinic students were required to attend orientation during the week prior to the first day of Fall classes. The Advanced ADR (Advanced Alternative Dispute Resolution) Clinic began their orientation on Tuesday, August 14th for a full four days with Professor Larry Spain and adjunct Gene Valentini providing valuable instruction to fourteen students.



The Criminal Clinics consisting of the Criminal Defense Clinic, the Caprock Regional Public Defender Clinic, and the Innocence Clinic held their orientation on August 15th and 16th. Students were treated to lunch at Cancun's Restaurant on the 15th and ended with a watermelon festivity. During their orientation, the Criminal Defense Clinic students were also able to visit some of their clients in jail thus beginning their representation.



The Tax Clinic orientation led by Professor Terri Morgeson was also held on August 15th and 16th at which time students were able to also submit their first Power of Attorney forms to the Internal Revenue Service in order to obtain their CAF numbers and be ready to begin representation of clients during their first week of classes.



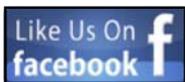
Finally, Family Law/Housing Director, Professor Wendy Ross, began her orientation with a tour of the courthouse with her students and was followed by joining the Civil Practice Clinic students with orientation provided by Legal Assistant/Office Manager, Elma Moreno, during which she provided students with information on Clinical Programs Policies and Procedures, as well as software programs to be used during the academic year.

The information provided to all clinic students gives them a jump start with providing representation to their clients beginning with the first day of classes. All students (with the exception of the Tax Clinic and the Advanced ADR Clinic students) are provided their third year trial card by the State Bar of Texas and makes it official for them to represent their clients under the supervision of their professors and instructors. On the other hand, a Special Appearance Authorization letter from the Internal Revenue Service authorizes Tax Clinic students to practice before the IRS during the semester.



As reported in articles provided in this edition of *Clinic News* by each clinic director, students have done an outstanding job during the Fall semester and we look forward to another

successful Spring Semester!



FROM THE DESK OF LARRY SPAIN - DIRECTOR OF CLINICAL PROGRAMS AND CIVIL PRACTICE CLINIC

During the fall semester, nine students were enrolled in the Civil Practice Clinic: **Eleanor Anderson, Catherine Baldo, Kevin Colpoys, Angela Estrada, Marc Limsiaco, Karla Pizarro, Jodee Rankin, Sheena Teague, and Luke Wallace.** In addition to directing the Low Income Taxpayer Clinic, **Terri Morgeson,** has worked closely with each of the students, been available for questions and individual assistance, supervised them on individual cases, and accompanied them during court appearances. And, of course, **Elma Moreno** and **Guadalupe Gurrola,** have provided valuable administrative support for the students during their work in the Clinic.

Over the course of the semester, a total of 45 new client cases were undertaken, 28 cases were completed and closed and 22 cases remain open and will be carried over to the spring semester.

Each of the students, in addition to being exposed to a variety of legal problems through the evening *Pro Bono* Clinics, participated in the *Night Court Divorce Project*, a program offered in collaboration with the Lubbock County Courts to provide representation to low-income individuals in simple divorces with hearings held before Judge Les Hatch in the evening at the Law School.

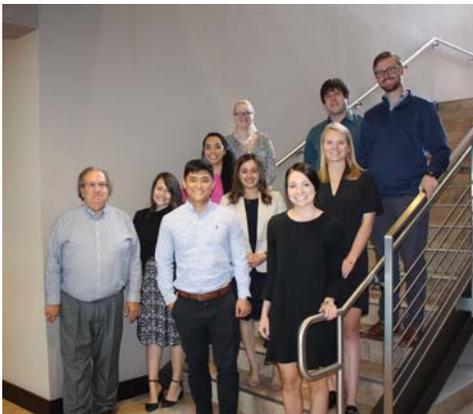
Each of the students has been kept busy carrying an individual caseload of 4-5 clients at most times throughout the semester and assumed primary responsibility for the representation of clients in matters involving family law, disability claims, wills and other estate planning, consumer disputes, and other civil matters. Most of the students will have had an opportunity to represent at least one client from beginning to end in a divorce case over the semester as well as complete estate planning documents for at least one client.



Professor Larry Spain teaches Civil Practice Clinic, Family Law, Professional Responsibility, and Advanced ADR Clinic.

Before joining the faculty at Texas Tech, Professor Spain was the Director of Clinical Programs at the University of North Dakota School of Law for eighteen years, where he established several new clinical programs and expanded the range of clinical opportunities available to students. Prior to entering legal education, he worked for several legal services programs in Nebraska.

In addition to law teaching and legal practice, he has also been active in the field of alternative dispute resolution, serving as Chair of the Governing Board of a university-affiliated community dispute resolution center as well as being a frequent trainer and practitioner in mediation skills. He currently serves on the Advisory Board for the Office of Dispute Resolution for Lubbock County.



Pictured L to R:

Professor Larry Spain, Jodee Rankin, Marc Limsiaco, Angela Estrada, Sheena Teague, Karla Pizarro, Catherine Baldo, Eleanor Anderson, Luke Wallace, and Kevin Colpoys

RECENT CASES OF INTEREST

Sheena Teague and **Luke Wallace** settled a Deceptive Trade Practices Act claim in mediation that involved a consumer that had purchased a motor vehicle from a dealer who failed to properly disclose that it had a salvage rebuilt title and had been previously damaged in a motor vehicle accident resulting in frame damage. The case had been filed last Spring by **Spencer Young ('19)** and was set for trial in February.

Cat Baldo and **Angela Estrada** drafted and submitted a brief to the 7th Court of Appeals on an issue involving the award of spousal maintenance as part of a divorce that was tried in Lubbock County last year by **Meg McIntyre ('19).**

FROM THE DESK OF LARRY SPAIN AND GENE VALENTINI - ADVANCED ADR CLINIC

Fourteen students participated in the Advanced ADR Clinic during the Fall Semester: **Kacy Altum, Travis Boltz, Brandy Booth, Lee Brooks, Kathleen Goegel, Darris Hawks, Michaela Kee, Joshua Logsdon, Ryan Matson, Ty Myers, Lauren Ogle, Phillip Roach, Melissa Waggoner, and August Zimmerman.**

The semester began with four full days of mediation training during the week before classes began for the fall semester. Successful completion of this course qualifies as 40 hours of classroom instruction in dispute resolution training for court appointment as an impartial third party under Chapter 154 of the Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code. During the semester, students had the opportunity to initially observe experienced mediators conducting mediations before serving as a co-mediator or solo mediator in a variety of disputes through the Office of Dispute Resolution for Lubbock County. The cases mediated by students included divorces, suits



affecting the parent-child relationship, civil suits, landlord-tenant disputes, collections, criminal complaints referred by the DA's office, pre-pleas, and miscellaneous disputes self-referred to the Office of Dispute Resolution. Over 220 hours of mediation services were donated by students over the course of the semester.

In addition to the mediation of actual disputes, every student videotaped an introductory statement for a simulated mediation for individual critique, prepared reflection papers on mediations that they participated in, and made an oral presentation in class on a mediation skill or topic related to alternative dispute resolution.

We enjoyed working with a group of enthusiastic students in developing their mediation skills which will prepare them well for their future professional role either serving as mediator or as an attorney representing clients in mediation.



D. Gene Valentini is the Director of the Office of Dispute Resolution of Lubbock County, an administrative entity that manages an innovative ADR System, which began in 1985. He is also responsible for the statewide USDA mediation program. A mediator since 1981 and an active trainer for the past twenty plus years, Gene is the Master of Dispute Resolution for the courts of Lubbock County, Dean of Texas' ADR System directors and also co-teaches the Fall ADR course.

WORDS FROM OUR STUDENTS:

"I thought the ADR clinic was a good experience, because I was able to learn negotiation as well as communication skills. However, I wish I would've gotten to do more of a variety of mediations and I thought the Office of Dispute Resolution was little late in sending out reminders and there were many last-minute cancellations. Overall, Gene Valentini and Professor Spain were very effective teachers and it was an educational experience."

Lauren Ogle
Advanced ADR Clinic



Pictured L to R:

Standing: Professor Larry Spain, Kacey Altum, Brandy Booth, Darris Hawks, Joshua Logsdon, Travis Boltz, Ty Myers, Lee Brooks, August Zimmerman, and Gene Valentini

Sitting: Phillip Roach, Melissa Waggoner, Kathleen Goegel, Lauren Ogle, Michaela Kee, and Ryan Matson

**FROM THE DESK OF WENDY TOLSON ROSS -
DIRECTOR, FAMILY LAW AND HOUSING CLINIC**

This semester we had six (6) students enroll in the Family Law and Housing Clinic. These students were: **Juan Calvo, Sydni Emery, Clinton Jones, Adam Kougias, William Roberts, and Vanessa Rubio.**

We have had a busy semester. The majority of the cases worked on by the students were family law cases. The students worked on over twenty-four (24) family law cases and were able to complete eight (8) of those cases - three (3) cases were completed at the Divorce Night Court program. Additionally, we were able to negotiate and reach a settlement for Temporary Orders in one of our divorce cases and a final settlement in another one of our divorces.

Moreover, we saw lots of court action this semester. We had three (3) contested cases that resulted in a bench trial. Two of these cases were family law cases and heard by the Associate Judge's Court and the other bench hearing was for an eviction case and heard by the Justice of the Peace Court. In another family law case, we were also able to help a severely disabled woman to get her child support arrearage resolved. The student was able to file an action, appear in court, and persuade the court to accept the waiver of child support arrearage signed by the custodial parents.

We have continued our Pro Se Clinic for uncontested divorces. This project is a partnership with Judge Anne-Marie Carruth's court. The clinic students review the pro se litigant's

paperwork and help them to prove-up their divorce in court to finalize the pro se litigant's divorce. We have finalized five (5) cases this semester.

This semester we have four (4) adoptions in various stages. One involves a stepparent adoption, which we just began to complete discovery. We have also completed the termination phase in one of the other adoption cases. In this adoption case, the client has had the child for over ten (10) years. We were able to successfully find and serve the mother of the child after looking for her for over a year.

We also had three (3) probate cases, where the primary piece of property involves the family home. This case involves a family home with several siblings located in several different places throughout the state. Because of the complex nature of these cases, we hope to make more progress on these cases next semester.

Finally, this semester we had several landlord-tenant cases. In one case, a student was able to successfully work out a settlement agreement to prevent the tenant and her children from being evicted by negotiating and drafting a settlement agreement. The agreement successfully resolved all concerns and both parties were happy with the final result. We also were able to help an elderly person exercise her right to constructive eviction after it was discovered that her apartment had mold issues.



Professor Wendy Tolson Ross is currently teaching Family Law and Housing Clinic.

Prior to joining Tech Law at the beginning of the 2005 summer sessions, Professor Ross was a Clinical Instructor of Law at St. Mary's University School of Law. She served as a Clinical Instructor from 1999 thru 2005. She was also Acting Associate Director for the Office of Academic Excellence. Professor Ross joined the faculty in the fall of 2005 to teach a section of the Civil Practice Clinic and to teach negotiations. She earned her B.A. from Texas Tech University and her law degree from University of Missouri - Columbia Law School. In addition to teaching the Family Law and Housing Clinic, Professor Ross also teaches Race and Racism, Negotiations Workshop, and Marital Property.

Professor Ross has also served on various community organizations throughout the years.



Pictured L to R:

Standing: Juan Calvo, Clinton Jones, William Roberts, and Adam Kougias

Sitting: Professor Wendy Ross, Vanessa Rubio, and Sydni Emery

FROM THE DESK OF PATRICK S. METZE DIRECTOR, CRIMINAL DEFENSE CLINIC

Just a short note to let everyone know the students in the Criminal Defense Clinic are, as always, busy representing real people in real cases in real time. This semester the students have handled or are handling 95 cases for 70 different clients. Students handle all phases of representation from initial interview through appearance in Court. The responsibility of representation falls entirely on the clinic students' shoulders under the ever watchful eyes of the Clinic Director and Clinic Fellow,

Dwight McDonald. This semester, of those 95 cases, 32 have been completed with 17 pleas of guilty and 15 dismissals for a 47% dismissal rate. These 95 cases represent 74 misdemeanors and 21 felony charges – a very ambitious docket.

Representing clients in the Magistrate Court, two Lubbock County Courts at Law, and in all three criminal District Courts of Lubbock County are: **Elizabeth Balido, Jay'Neisha Davis, Jeffrey Delman, Jon Harris, Christopher Roach, Brianna Weis** and **Sidney Wiltshire.** Please congratulate them all for their hard work. Space does not allow an individual account of all they have accomplished in 3 months. Suffice it to say, these students are practicing law at the highest level for the benefit of their clients every day. They are learning the real life lessons of the practice of

law and putting their education to great use. All students are members of the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association (TCDLA) and the Lubbock Criminal Defense Lawyers Association. Networking with criminal defense lawyers is just one advantage of membership in these organizations. In October, all criminal clinic students attended a two-day seminar in Austin on forensic science at the invitation of TCDLA and a grant provided by the Court of Criminal Appeals.



The students are also set to attend the 40th Annual Prairie Dog Lawyer Advanced Criminal Law Seminar next semester at the Law School, all free of charge. During the course of each semester, each student will spend a minimum of 200 hours representing their clients in addition

to a two hour seminar support course held once a week. This equates to a total time investment during each semester of a minimum of 1400 hours of pro bono representation for the clinic clients. The Criminal Defense Clinic is proud to represent the indigent citizens of the South Plains by court appointment only and plays its part in the Law School's commitment to providing quality, ethical representation for the poor while educating each student of the importance of such work.



Patrick Metz became a full-time faculty member teaching and directing the Criminal Defense Clinic in 2008. Pat is an experienced criminal defense practitioner in Lubbock who is a Past President and Director of the Lubbock Criminal Defense Lawyers Association and former Board member of the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association. He is enthusiastic about continuing the development of our Criminal Defense Clinic and providing a quality experiential program for our students. He received a Bachelor of Arts from Texas Tech University and his Doctor of Jurisprudence from The University of Houston. He was admitted to practice in the State of Texas on April 29, 1974, celebrating this year 45 years in the practice of law. Prior to joining the faculty, he was one of only 14 attorneys qualified for appointment as first chair in Capital Murder cases in the 45 counties of the 9th Administrative Judicial Region and the only attorney in Lubbock who was qualified and solicited appointments to indigent clients for misdemeanors, juveniles, felonies, death penalty cases, and appeals in all courts.



Pictured L to R:

Standing: Clinic Fellow Dwight McDonald, Jon Harris, Christopher Roach, Jeffrey Delman, and Professor Patrick Metz

Sitting: Sidney Wiltshire, Elizabeth Balido, Jay'Neisha Davis, and Brianna Weis

Bailey McGowan (Criminal Defense Clinic 2018-2019) was the first lawyer admitted under military spouse rule in Florida. For a complete story visit: https://www.floridabar.org/the-florida-bar-news/first-lawyer-admitted-under-military-spouse-rule/?fbclid=IwAR31r395SlzzQiRKqQTexelQPAtm2JFnDrzn6EcN5ylrYPD_SnPcKdYyCQ8

She was sworn in on January 31, 2019, as a member of the Florida Bar and is working as a public defender in a misdemeanor court in Okaloosa County.

FROM THE DESK OF DONNIE YANDELL CAPROCK REGIONAL PUBLIC DEFENDER OFFICE

The 2019-2020 Caprock Regional Public Defender Clinic has finished classes for their first semester and one student attorney is about to graduate. This year's student attorneys were **Felicia de Leon**, **Morgan McNabb**, **Dana Dinkens**, **Sam Robbins**, **Chase McCullough**, **Michael Rinehart** and **Rebecca Sanders**. The student attorneys this semester have handled 87 cases. 3 of those cases were felonies, 79 were misdemeanors and 4 were juveniles. The student attorneys closed 1 felony, 16 misdemeanors and 1 juvenile.

The student attorneys represented clients in all manner of cases including Driving While License Invalid, Driving While Intoxicated, Theft, Harassment, Possession of Marijuana, Evading Arrest, Failure to Identify, Assault, Violation of Protective Order, Graffiti, Resisting Arrest, Criminal Trespass, Terroristic Threat, Boating While Intoxicated, Unlawful Restraint, Deadly Conduct, Escape, Burglary of a Motor Vehicle, Possession of a Controlled Substance and Unauthorized Absence from a Correctional Facility to name a few.

With the recent changes in the law relating to hemp, the student attorneys have been able to get several possession of marijuana charges dismissed, however, the student attorneys also have several possession of marijuana cases pending trial. For those who are not aware, the legislature in its last session passed a law that indirectly redefines "marijuana". Hemp, which is now legal, is defined as having less than a 0.03% THC concentration so therefore, marijuana has to have more than a 0.03% THC concentration. The problem is, there is no lab equipment in the State of Texas currently

that can test for THC concentration. The current lab equipment only tests whether THC is present or not. This is placing prosecutors statewide in a bind as to how they will prove the item in our clients' possession is marijuana or hemp.

All of these student attorneys have done an excellent job. The student attorneys have logged almost 2,000 hours working cases, often on their own time, in an attempt to represent their clients to the best of their abilities. Additionally, the student attorneys as a whole traveled nearly 3,500 miles during the semester going to court and meeting with clients. This translates into almost 60 hours of windshield time during the semester. As the student attorneys will tell you, these 60 hours are not spent listening to the radio and enjoying the scenery. It is spent reviewing cases and discussing strategy.



This past summer, **Sam Robbins** participated in his first semester in the clinic. Sam will be graduating in December and we will be sad to see him go. He not only represented clients on 27 cases, he was also extremely helpful in getting the student attorneys that started in August on their feet and running that much quicker. Good luck on the bar Sam and keep in touch!

In closing, I would like to say that this has been a very interesting start of the year. We have run into two or three issues that are extremely rare and time consuming. I hope to see those cases to conclusion next semester. I hope you all had a great Thanksgiving, do well on your finals and then enjoy your Christmas break. I look forward to seeing all of you January!



Donnie Yandell is currently the Chief Public Defender for the Caprock Regional Public Defender Office and teaches Law Practice Technology during the Fall semester.

Donnie attended Texas Tech University School of Law and graduated in December of 2001. Donnie was licensed in May of 2002 and immediately opened a private solo practice. He was in private practice until November of 2010 when he accepted the position of Chief Public Defender for the CRPDO.

Over the years, his practice focused more and more on criminal defense. He also handled family law, wills, probate and a few personal injury cases. He is licensed in federal court and has represented individuals in both civil and criminal cases therein. He has also represented individuals on appeal in the 7th Court of Appeals in Amarillo, the 11th Court of Appeals in Eastland and the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans. Donnie has tried several major felonies in state court. He is a member of the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyer's Association and the Lubbock Criminal Defense Lawyer's Association.



Pictured L to R:

Standing: Professor Patrick Metzger, Chase McCullough, Sam Robbins, and Chief Public Defender Donnie Yandell

Sitting: Morgan McNabb, Dana Dinkens, Felicia De Leon, and

FROM THE DESK OF TERRI M. MORGESON — DIRECTOR, LOW-INCOME TAXPAYER CLINIC

Fall 2019 has another semesters of first for the Low Income Tax Clinic. All new clinical students are male and we have record of new cases accepted for representation. The current clinic students are **Phillip Arendall, Christopher Egbunike, Noah Hearn, Orion Hutchins, Brandon Ihle, Cristian Perez, Daniel Stone** and **J. Riggs**.

Each year the tax clinic is required to set a goal for new clients. Each year we have fallen short of this goal. However, this year we have accepted a record number 61 which is 4 short of the goal set in our grant application with the Taxpayer Advocate Service. This record number is due in large part of the hard work of our outreach coordinator Nancy Mojica.

One interesting case we closed this semester involved a longtime foster mom who was denied the right to claim her foster child for earned income credit, child tax credit and head of household. We took the case to tax court and were successful in getting her a refund.

A second case involved a disabled veteran who was entitled to a refund on taxes paid on her lump disability payment paid by the VA. She had originally come to us for a different. Once we resolved her original issue we filed an amended return and obtained her a refund.

"Participating in the Tax Clinic has enabled me to gain extensive experience in negotiating with the IRS, developing client relations, and applying the law to resolve clients' various tax controversies. The Tax Clinic has been a great medium to use the legal skills that I have developed in law school to help the Lubbock community. I have received great appreciation from my clients, which acts as a reminder of the importance of the Tax Clinic."

Brandon P. Ihle
Tax Clinic

"I'm beyond grateful for the experiences I've had so far in the Low-Income Tax Clinic. Not only have I learned so much about the I.R.S and the practice of Tax law from our wonderful clinic director, Professor Terri Morgeson, working with clients who are depending on me to be an effective advocate for their interests has been incredibly humbling and educational. After this experience, there's little doubt in my mind that I'll be living up to Texas Tech Schools of Law's reputation for producing practice-ready new attorneys upon graduation."

Christopher Egbunike
Tax Clinic



Terri Morgeson began her work with the Clinical Programs in the fall of 2007 as a full-time Clinical Fellow for the Civil Clinic, Family Law Clinic and Criminal Defense Clinics. She continued in this position while occasionally teaching a couple of upper level skills classes, negotiations and interviewing and counseling courses.

Terri graduated from Lubbock Christian University in 1994 and received her J.D. from Texas Tech in 2003. Before becoming an instructor at Texas Tech, Terri had a private practice here in Lubbock. She is currently a committee member for State Bar of Texas, Legal Services to the Poor in Civil Matters.

Additionally, Terri was a founding member of the Lubbock Private Defender's Office.

In May of 2014, Terri Morgeson agreed to accept the responsibilities and duties as Director of the Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic in addition to continuing as Clinical Fellow for the Civil Practice Clinic. Although the learning curve has been steep, she is enjoying the challenge and continuing the tireless work of her predecessors.



Pictured L to R:

Back Row: Daniel Stone, J Riggs,
Christopher Egbunike, Orion Hutchin, and
David Penn
Sitting: Cristian Perez, Noah Hearn, Clinic
Director Terri Morgeson, Brandon Ihle, and
Phillip Arendall



**FROM THE DESK OF ALLISON CLAYTON —
DIRECTOR, INNOCENCE CLINIC**

The Innocence Clinic has already put in almost 900 hours of work on its cases, and we are just halfway through. So far this year, we have primarily worked on an ineffably complicated double-murder involving four co-defendants (three of whom are innocent) and at least 20 additional players. We are also learning a slew of forensic science disciplines implicated by our cases, including bitemarks, arson, cell phone tracking, blood spatter, and abusive head trauma, just to name a few. We have visited 5 clients in 3 different prisons, and plan on seeing even more in the Spring Semester.



In addition to the immense amount of work represented by each court filing, the student attorneys spent hours upon hours reviewing transcripts, working with and visiting clients, and tracking down witnesses, evidence, and documents in their cases. They did this work for the least of our society, without expectation of even a thanks, because it was the right thing to do, and this group of students only knows how to do things above and beyond and exceptionally well. Clinic student clients adore the students as each one learns more and more about what it is to be a true advocate and counselor.



Allison Clayton is the adjunct professor of the Innocence Clinic and also runs a local law practice. She is Deputy Director of the Innocence Project of Texas, Director of the Lubbock Criminal Defense Lawyers Association, and an active member of the Amicus Committee of the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association. Allison graduated from TTU magna cum laude with honors in 2004 and TTU School of Law summa cum laude in 2007. Upon graduation from law school, she served as a clerk on the Second Court of Appeals for one year before becoming a staff attorney for the Federal District Court for the Northern District of Texas. Allison left the federal court in 2013 and started her own law practice focusing on appellate and post-conviction criminal defense litigation, which is ironic considering the fact she started law school fully intending to never practice a day of criminal defense in her life.

Texas Monthly published an article on “Ed” who was wrongly convicted of murder, went to prison for 20 years for something he did not do while the real killer walked free, and walked out of prison in September 2018 due to the hard work and tireless efforts of the Innocence Project of Texas. You can read more on Ed’s story on our Clinical Programs’ Facebook page!



**Pictured L to R:
Jessica Aycock, Sara Jaeckle, Professor
Patrick Metze, William Keffer, Tracie
Dionne, and Innocence Clinic Director
Allison Clayton**

“The Innocence Clinic has been the best experience I have had in law school. To be able to apply what I have learned over the last two years to help real clients has been incredibly rewarding. Allison is an amazing professor and mentor, and I am grateful for the opportunity to learn from her.”

**Tracie Dionne
Innocence Clinic**

Dealing primarily with felony convictions, Allison has represented clients in appellate and post-conviction matters around the state and nation. She currently has cases pending in the United States Supreme Court, Fifth Circuit, Federal District Court for the Northern District of Texas, Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, and multiple Texas courts of appeals.

LOW-INCOME TAXPAYER CLINIC COMMUNITY OUTREACH

by Nancy Mojica, Community Outreach Coordinator



Fall 2019 has been a busy semester and with the winter season and holidays approaching it is sure to be an intense semester. I have been a busy bee with resource fairs and workshops and my goal is to

continue to work hard throughout this semester to continue promoting our program and to help assist the Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic and the taxpayers in our 87 county service area.

On October 8th, I participated at my first resource fair in **O'Donnell, Texas** at the O'Donnell Elementary School. We had over 200 participants attend this event. Who knew there were that many wonderful people in O'Donnell, Texas let alone the O'Donnell Elementary School? It was awesome to see such a great turnout. "If it is to be, it is up to me!" This was one of many of their inspiring bulletin board themes for this semester. O'Donnell, Texas a great community with beautiful modern schools. You should visit it sometime!



On October 10th I was a vendor at the **Wilson, Texas** ISD Resource Fair. With a community this small, we still had a great turnout of over 200 participants. The Principal along with the faculty and staff were wonderful, very helpful and super nice.



October 16th Lynn County Hospital District sponsored a Resource Fair in **Tahoka, Texas**. I was fortunate to reach out to over 170 guests who attended this great event.



On October 23rd, I attended the New Home ISD Resource Fair, **New Home, Texas**. Three

hundred and forty participants took advantage of the great resources available.

Garza County Trail Blazers Senior Citizen Center hosted a Resource Fair, on October 24th in **Post, Texas**. Even with the cold snowy weather, we had over 75 participants attend this event. This fair offered great resources from flu shots, foot massages to great food and even door prizes. It was really a fun event for all ages.



Another resource fair I attended was held on October 29th at the Tahoka Elementary School in **Tahoka, Texas**. We had over 360 attend this event. Great turnout.

On November 1st, I held the First Annual Fall 2019 LITC Workshop at the Mahon Library in **Lubbock, Texas**. Our wonderful guest speaker was our Tax Law Director, Terri Morgeson. Topics included in her presentation were the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), Pitfalls to Avoid, Innocent and Injured Spouse Issues, and IRS Collection Notices. This is just the first of a series of workshops in Lubbock and in our surrounding counties to educate the community. I working on having our next workshop in mid-February 2020 before our tax season begins.



November 7, 2019, I participated at the Yoakum County Hospital District Resource Fair in **Denver City, Texas**, on November 7th. Over 200 participants attended this event. The weather was cold and rainy but they still came to take advantage of the great resources and goodies all the vendors had to provide.



WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Marta Acosta (Criminal Defense Clinic '18) is at the Public Defender's Office in El Paso, Texas.

Stephanie Canero (Criminal Defense Clinic '15) is at the Public Defender's Office in El Paso, Texas.

Brian Livingston (Caprock Regional Public Defender Clinic '15) is at the Public Defender's Office in El Paso, Texas.

Deena Reynolds (Civil Practice Clinic '08) is In-House Landlord/Tenant Counsel at Southern Management Corporation in Rockville, Maryland.

Anna Rains Martin (Tax Clinic summer '12) is a shareholder/attorney at Sanders, Bruin, Coll & Worley, P.A.

Pooja Patel (Family Law/Housing Clinic '19) is an Associate attorney for McClure Law Group in Dallas, Texas.

Alexandra Taylor (Caprock Regional Public Defender Clinic '19) is an Associate in the Law Office of Michael King P.C.



THANKS TO FACULTY AND STUDENTS SUPPORTING PRO BONO

Thanks to the following faculty and staff who assisted at *Pro Bono* Clinics held in conjunction with Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas during the fall semester: **Jamie Baker** (2 clinics), **Cassie Christopher** (1 clinic) **Wes Cochran** (4 clinics), **Jarod Gonzalez** (1 clinic), **DeLeith Gossett** (1 clinic), **Jennifer Horn** (1 clinic), **Dwight McDonald** (3 clinics), **Terri Morgeson** (1 clinic), **Paula Smith** (1 clinic), and **Larry Spain** (6 clinics).

The Law School faculty co-sponsored two *Pro Bono* Clinics held at St. John's United Methodist Church during the month of September as well as assisting with three *Pro Bono* Clinics during the fall semester that are co-sponsored by student organizations and law students. In addition, all

students in the Civil Practice Clinic and Family Law and Housing Clinic participate in the *Pro Bono* Clinics as part of their clinical work. In addition, the following law students assisted at the *Pro Bono* Clinics during the fall semester: **James, Aaron, Patricia Akinfenwa, Maria Alcoser, Kacy Altum, Mary Arapo, Ryan Bennett, Olivia Burton, Miranda Crow, Samantha Espino, Carlos Garcia, Megan Greer, Evan Johnson, Raygen Lee, Heidi Mims, Mariam Omodele, Faith Opawaye, Chandler Patterson, Brandon Reese, Jakob Reynolds, Abigail Roenne, Kayla Ryan, Dania Sadi, Sarah Sanders, Kaitlyn Schiraldi, Aaron Thompson, and Melissa Waggoner.**



Civil Practice Clinic, Family Law/Housing Clinic Students, non-clinic students, Professor Spain, and LANWT staff attorney at St. John's United Methodist Church during National Pro Bono Week.

LOW-INCOME TAXPAYER CLINIC COMMUNITY OUTREACH

(continued from page 9)

Next event attended was on November 12th at Parsons Elementary Family Night Resource Fair, **Lubbock, Texas**. Over 200 participants attended this great event. Lots of great giveaways, goodies, food and I even got a chance to see some nice celebrities in the house.



My final outreach was on November 16th when I attended the Borden County ISD Resource Fair, **Gail, Texas**. First time participating at an event in Borden County, Texas, except to delivery brochures to the courthouse and post office. About 120 adults and kids participated at this fair.

It was nice to meet the people of Gail, Texas. Not too many organizations reach out to the people of Gail so it was a nice welcome. I am glad I had the opportunity to partake at this resource fair and reach out to one of our many secluded cities in our service area.



Well, that is it for now! It has been a fun adventure and I am ready for more, but with the holidays fast approaching and the students winding down and getting ready for finals I will be preparing for our next adventure. Good luck to all the students. Be sure to eat lots of goodies! It is good for the heart and soul. Happy Holidays and safe travels.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Maria Oviedo (Family Law/Housing Clinic '19) is an Associate Attorney at Whittenburg Law Firm—Immigration Attorneys.

Tashika Curlee (Caprock Regional Public Defender Clinic '19) is at New Mexico Public Defender Office.

Allyson Fuller (Caprock Regional Public Defender Clinic '19) is an Associate with Norton and Wood in Texarkana.

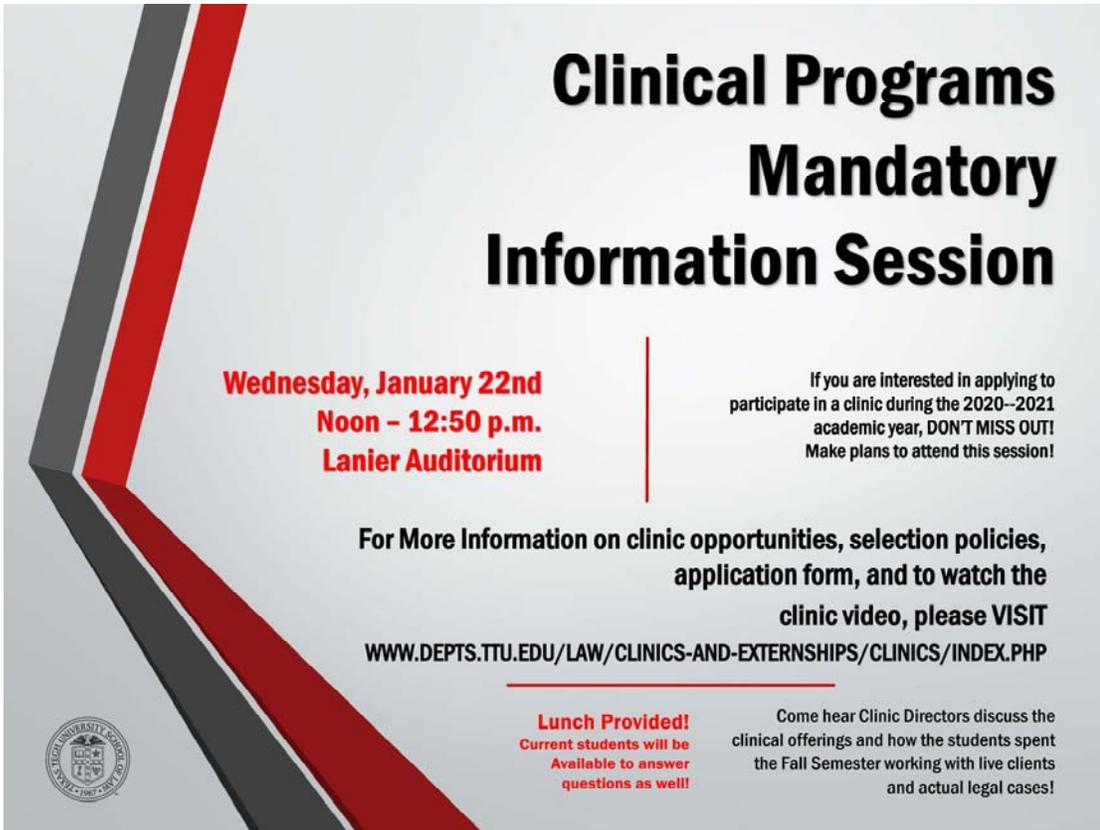
William Harrell (Caprock Regional Public Defender Clinic '19) is practicing in East Texas

Melissa Yvette Reyes (Caprock Regional Public Defender Clinic '19) has partnered with **Ted Wenske** (Criminal Defense Clinic '19) and opened an office in Austin and San Antonio area—Wenske & Reyes.

Logan Sawyer (Caprock Regional Public Defender Clinic '19) partnered with one of his classmates and opened an office in Tyler, Texas—Sawyer & Sirianni, PLLC, Attorneys at law.

Keltin VonGonten (Caprock Regional Public Defender Clinic '19) is an Associate in the Law Office of Hurley & Guinn here in Lubbock.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS MANDATORY INFORMATION SESSION FOR 2020-2021 STUDENT SELECTION PROCESS SCHEDULED



Clinical Programs Mandatory Information Session

**Wednesday, January 22nd
Noon – 12:50 p.m.
Lanier Auditorium**

If you are interested in applying to participate in a clinic during the 2020–2021 academic year, **DON'T MISS OUT!** Make plans to attend this session!

For More Information on clinic opportunities, selection policies, application form, and to watch the clinic video, please VISIT

WWW.DEPTS.TTU.EDU/LAW/CLINICS-AND-EXTERNSHIPS/CLINICS/INDEX.PHP

Lunch Provided!
Current students will be Available to answer questions as well!

Come hear Clinic Directors discuss the clinical offerings and how the students spent the Fall Semester working with live clients and actual legal cases!



More information will be provided during the information session by all clinic directors. If you are currently a 2L student you will be able to apply to participate to any of the clinics. If you are currently a 1L student, you will be able to apply to the Advanced ADR Clinic.

Feel free to attend to find out more and to ask questions!

WHERE ARE THEY NOW!

Brianna Argueta

(Criminal Defense Clinic '19) is at the Public Defender Office in Hobbs, NM.

Eduardo Sosa (Civil Practice Clinic '19) is an Associate with Sandoval & James in Austin, Texas.

Chase Price (Civil Practice Clinic '19) is an Associate with Blaies & Hightower, LLP in Fort Worth, Texas.

Joelle Gonzales

(Innocence Clinic '19) is an attorney with Atkinson, Baker & Rodriguez in Sante Fe, New Mexico.

Makenzie Keene Zarate

(Criminal Defense Clinic '19) is an Associate with Griffith & Associates in Dallas, Texas.

WORDS FROM OUR STUDENTS:

"My experience in the Civil Practice Clinic has been extremely rewarding. I am thankful for all of the practical experience I have gained throughout the semester and for having amazing supervising attorneys who can guide me when I am stuck with a case."

Luke Wallace
Civil Practice Clinic

WORDS FROM OUR STUDENTS

"This semester in clinic, I have already been able to work cases from beginning to end. I have enjoyed the practical application of clinic and know that once I graduate I will be able to hit the ground running. I am looking forward to next semester and hope to be able to help even more criminal defendants in Lubbock County."

Brianna Weis
Criminal Defense Clinic

"The Innocence Clinic is the reason I applied to Texas Tech School of Law; to be in the clinic now has been both a surreal and humbling experience. It is everything I hoped it would be and more. The skills and knowledge Allison imparts are as technical as they are artful, cultivating in each of us a deep respect for the work. I cannot believe it has already been an entire semester, and I cannot wait to see what we accomplish next semester! Equipped with these skills, this work will stay with me my entire career, regardless of what field I go into after graduation. I wouldn't trade this experience for anything."

Sara Jaeckle
Innocence Clinic

"The family law clinic has already been so worthwhile in my goal of acquiring real world experience. I did not want to graduate law school with my only experience coming from summer internships, and I knew I could not balance a full school load along side a legal job. The family law clinic allowed me to reach my goals because it gives both school credit and actual experience, and even though I am barely completing the first semester, I have already created documents, e-filed them, negotiated settlement, and completed a hearing. It has been great!"

Juan Calvo
Family Law/Housing Clinic

"Being a part of the Innocence Clinic is the best decision I have made in law school. I am so honored to be a part of this fight and shed light on these terrible circumstances that innocent people face. The fact of the matter is that there are hundreds of people who are INNOCENT but are serving life sentences or being put to death for crimes they didn't commit. While I hope that these types of cases begin to decline, I understand the importance of this work and having people who will fight for justice. I am so thankful for Allison for providing us the tools to fight this fight, and I plan to use these tools for the rest of my life."

Jessica Aycock
Innocence Clinic

"Clinic has been an ultimate blessing. It has opened up the opportunity to apply what I have learned in class to the real world. The experience you gain, the lessons you learn, and the people you meet is why being part of the Family Law and Housing Clinic is such a blessing."

Sydni Emery
Family Law/Housing Clinic

"There is such a large difference between the study of law and the practice of it, and before I entered the clinic program here at Texas Tech, practicing law seemed like a foreign concept that I was terrified to be thrown into. Even clerkships and internships can't fully prepare you for actual practice. But the clinic program filled in that gap. It has given me the confidence to practice law in every area: client interactions, courtroom experience, drafting and filing all necessary motions and responses, and overall case management. If you are thinking about joining a clinic, I recommend it."

William Roberts
Family Law/Housing Clinic

"Probably the best thing I have done since coming to Texas Tech is my participation in the Defense Clinic. This has been such a learning experience. I get to do the job and be part of the profession I have worked so hard to become part of. The Defense Clinic experience, the mentorship, the instructors, and camaradery are unlike anything else I have been involved in at TTU. This is an opportunity you should not allow to go by."

Jon Harris
Criminal Defense Clinic

"Before clinic, I had very little courtroom experience and no experience talking to clients. After just one semester, I've been able to go to court multiple times and meet with a variety of clients. Clinic has given me the hands-on experience that will be invaluable going into practice."

Clinton Jones
Family Law/Housing Clinic

"The criminal defense clinics were a big part in my decision to stay here at Texas Tech for law school and I have been far from disappointed. I learn something new and challenged every day. I will forever be grateful for being given this opportunity."

Morgan A. McNabb
Caprock Regional Public Defender Clinic

"This clinic experience has been an incredible opportunity to grow in ways that really affect the Lubbock community. Professor Metzger expects a lot - and for good reason. We are working for real clients with real challenges, and this clinic reminds me regularly that I can't let them down. It's a big responsibility and a worthwhile one at that."

Jeffrey Delman
Criminal Defense Clinic

"Out of everything I have done in law school, the Civil Practice Clinic has by far been the most beneficial in furthering my legal education. Being able to gain practical experience and interact with real clients before graduation will make transitioning into the legal world smoother and easier."

Angela Estrada
Civil Practice Clinic

WORDS FROM OUR STUDENTS

"I have thoroughly enjoyed participating in the Civil Practice Clinic this fall. I have learned a lot and look forward to continuing this experience in the spring. The clinic has offered me great hands on experience that will be beneficial to my future."

Kevin Colpoys
Civil Practice Clinic

"I decided to be a part of the Criminal Defense Clinic because I didn't want my first time "practicing law" to occur when I stepped foot into the real-world. In my previous internships, I didn't feel as though I had gained the kind of experience that would allow for me to go out and practice law on my own. As a student attorney, I am responsible for all of the tasks that an associate attorney would be expected to handle. I have my own cases in which I am responsible for interviewing clients, filing and drafting motions, and making court appearances. I would recommend all law students to participate in the clinic!"

Sidney S. Wiltshire, MPH
Criminal Defense Clinic

"The Criminal Defense Clinic was something I wanted to be a part of since the beginning of my time in law school. I spent my first two years of school making sure I kept my GPA above the threshold needed for clinic. Luckily, I was able to accomplish that and have gained practical experience that you simply cannot get in the confines of the classroom. Anyone who wants to be a litigator, but especially a criminal defense attorney, would be making a mistake by not applying for the two Criminal Clinics."

Chris Roach
Criminal Defense Clinic

"Early in my law school career, I had all these ideas and plans of things I wanted to do; being in a clinic was one of them. It was a no brainer. I went to the mandatory meetings, I took the recommended classes my 2L year, I applied... and then I was accepted. I panicked. I had a week or two to decide whether I really wanted to do this before I had to respond. I almost backed out. The reality that I would be dealing with real people, real defendants who could possibly be going to jail applied way too much pressure. But, I'm glad I did it. It's a great learning experience. I feel like I've learned so many things that couldn't or wouldn't be directly taught in any other setting. Everything won't always be perfect, but it's a great feeling when your clients tell you, "you're going to be an amazing attorney, I can already tell." Those moments help put it in perspective that this is an opportunity to gain skills and learn your craft."

Jay'Neisha S. Davis
Criminal Defense Clinic

"Through clinic, I have learned more about what it means to be an attorney in one semester than I have in any of my classes thus far. In one semester alone I have negotiated with prosecutors, appeared as counsel in front of judges, and most importantly, helped real people resolve their legal

matters. Being a part of the Caprock Regional Public Defender Office has made me truly understand the importance of criminal defense and the impact that an attorney can have on a client's life."

Felicia de Leon
Caprock Regional Public Defender Clinic

"It has been my best experience in law school to participate in the Caprock Regional Public Defenders Clinic. I have learned much more than I ever could in a classroom and have enjoyed every minute of it."

Michael D. Rinehart
Caprock Regional Public Defender Clinic

"Clinic has been a great opportunity to see the application of what we talk about in class. It is an eye opening experience that will help you make an informed decision about where you want to practice after graduating."

Chase McCollough
Caprock Regional Public Defender Clinic

"Caprock has been my favorite part of law school thus far. I love the constant challenges and hands on experiences we receive every single day. I appreciate the hard work Donnie and my clinic classmates put in as it makes me strive to be the best attorney I can be."

Dana Dinkens
Caprock Regional Public Defender Clinic

"Clinic was the single most rewarding thing I did during law school. I learned so much. Donnie, Pat, and Dwight were great mentors throughout. The knowledge and experience they imparted on everyone in clinic is invaluable."

Sam Robbins
Caprock Regional Public Defender Clinic

"The criminal defense clinic has been the best learning experience I have had in law school. Being able to use everything you have learned over the past 3 years to actually make a difference in someone's life is extremely powerful. It has made such a difference in my life and I can't thank Pat or Dwight enough for giving me this amazing opportunity."

Elizabeth Balido
Criminal Defense Clinic

"Being a part of the Caprock clinic has by far been the best part of my law school experience. Each case has given me a deeper understanding of laws I thought I knew and made me more confident in my ability to be a practicing attorney. It has been challenging, but along the way I have gained confidence through interactions with judges, prosecutors, and clients. I know that the clinic is preparing me for practice in the "real world" and that has made it invaluable."

Rebecca Sanders
Caprock Regional Public Defender Clinic

SNAPSHOT CORNER



Selection process for Students Interested in Participating in the Clinical Programs during the 2020-2021 academic year will begin in late January! Mandatory Information Session is scheduled for January 22, 2020—Lanier Auditorium! Watch for announcements in January and visit the clinic website at <http://www.law.ttu.edu/acp/programs/clinical/> for more information!

SNAPSHOT CORNER



More pics can be found by visiting our Facebook page!

Search [TTU-School-of-Law-Clinical-Programs!](#)

CLINIC DIRECTORS:

Larry R. Spain
 Director of Clinical Programs
 Civil Practice Clinic
 Advanced ADR Clinic

Wendy Tolson Ross
 Family Law and Housing Clinic

Terri M. Morgeson
 Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic

Patrick S. Metz
 Criminal Defense Clinic
 Capital Punishment Clinic
 Caprock Regional Public Defender Clinic
 Innocence Clinic

INSTRUCTORS:

Allison Clayton
 Innocence Clinic

Dwight McDonald
 Criminal Defense Clinics

Terri Morgeson
 Civil Practice Clinic

Gene Valentini
 Adjunct Professor
 Advanced ADR Clinic

Donnie Yandell
 Chief Public Defender
 Caprock Regional Public Defender Office

STAFF:

Elma Moreno
 Office Manager/Legal Assistant

Guadalupe Gurrola
 Senior Business Assistant

Irma Shepler
 Legal Assistant for CRPDO

Nancy Mojica
 LITC Community Outreach Coordinator



FROM THE

CLINICAL PROGRAMS FACULTY AND STAFF



**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL WHO PASSED THE JULY BAR
 AND
 CONGRATULATIONS DECEMBER GRADUATES!!**



CLINIC NEWS

Fall 2019 Edition

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