

NICOLE S. DANDRIDGE

Michigan State University College of Law Small Business & Nonprofit Clinic
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Michigan Bar Number: P67136
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LEGAL ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Michigan State University College of Law (MSUCOL) – East Lansing, MI

Associate Clinical Professor of Law and Director, Small Business & Nonprofit Clinic 2004 - present

- Develop curriculum and law office systems for the opening of a new Small Business & Nonprofit Organization Legal Clinic designed to teach law students transactional lawyering while providing direct legal services to the community.
- Direct students' work on diverse client issues ranging from basic to complex for-profit and nonprofit organization legal issues, including entity formation, expansion and dissolution, review and drafting of contracts, leases and internal company documents, 501(c)(3) nonprofit tax-exemption, as well as copyright and trademark protections.
- Develop business law library, Client management systems, and Clinic evaluation methods.
- Professor and Supervising Attorney responsible for teaching law students the following fundamental lawyering skills: problem-solving, legal analysis and reasoning, legal research, factual investigation, communication, counseling, negotiation and alternative dispute-resolution procedures, organization and management of legal work, and recognizing and resolving ethical dilemmas.
- Maintain extensive Client files.

Other Courses Taught at MSUCOL:

Academic Skills, Legal Education Opportunity Program Summers 2005 - 2010

- Develop new Academic Skills Course curriculum, teaching materials and skills exercises for the inaugural summer of the Legal Education Opportunity Program (LEOP) in 2005, a law student diversity and conditional admission program.
- Professor responsible for teaching law school candidates best practices for academic success in law school.
- Consult with and advise LEOP students during and beyond LEOP program.

Negotiation & Drafting for the Close Corporation Spring 2006

- Professor responsible for teaching business negotiation and transactional drafting theory and techniques.
- Directed students in negotiation of all of the basic business and legal elements of a proposed entity, and drafting of the major documents required to establish a new entity by way of simulating a developing business transaction, and building transactional-based competencies necessary to be an effective corporate lawyer.

MSUCOL Service and Awards:

- 2005 - present Michigan State University Black Administrators Group
- 2010 Student Bar Association Distinguished Faculty Award nominee
- 2010 - 2011 Curriculum Committee
- 2010 - 2011 Faculty Advisor, Black Law Students Association
- 2010 - 2011 Faculty Advisor, Muslim Law Students Association

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Michigan Small Business & Technology Development Center – Lansing, MI

Legal Consultant 2004 - present

- Special counsel for community residents seeking business and nonprofit organization legal services.

Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) – Lansing, MI

Qualified Technical Assistance Provider 2005-2006; 2009-2010

- Counsel and workshop instructor for nonprofit organizations, participating jurisdictions, and other local units of government seeking or awarded MSHDA financing.
- Instructor of training workshops, including: Nonprofit Organizational Start-Up and Planning, Board Governance, and Personnel/Administrative Management.
- Provide direct legal service to nonprofit organizations regarding formation and compliance.

Black Economic Development Coalition, Inc. d/b/a Tools For Change – Miami, FL

In-House Counsel 2002 - 2004

- Instructor of weekly legal business seminars, including: Business Formation, Filing of Legal Entity, and Internal Corporate Operational Document Review.
- Provided direct legal service to emerging and existing entrepreneurs and nonprofit organizations regarding business entity formation, contract and lease drafting, certification for female and/or minority-owned business, as well as trademark and copyright registrations.
- Represented over 25 nonprofit organizations before the IRS to successfully gain 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status.
- Represented employer in civil matters.
- Practice areas: Business Transactions, Intellectual Property, and Nonprofit Taxation.

Walton, Lantaff, Schroeder & Carson, PC – Fort Lauderdale, FL

Associate Attorney 2001 - 2002

- Appeared extensively in Circuit Court for civil motion hearings.
- Prepared pleadings, memoranda of law, and legal briefs.
- Conducted discovery, including client and expert witness interviews, interrogatories, request for admissions, production of documents, and depositions.
- Practice areas: Commercial, Liability Defense, and Labor & Employment.

PUBLICATIONS

Choking Out Local Community Service Organizations: Increasing Federal Regulation Requirements Imposed on Small Community Nonprofit and Charitable Entities and Potential Realistic Limits (working title); selected for publication in the 2011 *Kentucky Law Journal*.

Racial Equity and Social Capital: Challenges Facing Black Entrepreneurs, 32 W. NEW. ENG. L. REV. 471 (2010).

Small Business & Nonprofit Business Planning Guide (2009)

See, <http://www.law.msu.edu/clinics/sbnp/publications/SBNPBusPlanningGuide.pdf>

PRESENTATIONS AND CONFERENCES

“Choking Out Local Community Service Organizations: Increasing Federal Regulation Requirements Imposed on Small Community Nonprofit and Charitable Entities and Potential Realistic Limits,” selected for presentation at the Association of American Law Schools (AALS) Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA, January 2011.

“Looking Forward: Incorporating Aspects of Medical School Clinical Pedagogy to Produce Law Graduates Ready for Hire in a Competitive Market,” selected for presentation at the AALS Midwest Conference on Clinical Legal Education, Chicago, IL, November 2010.

“Nonprofits: Handling Contributions and Tax Deductions,” presented a national webcast and teleconference for the West LegalEdcenter and the National Business Institute, August 2010.

Georgetown Law Annual Summer Institute on Clinical Teaching, competitively selected participant. A small group of experienced clinical faculty was invited to attend the Institute to reflect on pedagogical choices and re-think and refine teaching and supervision methods. Washington DC, June 2010.

“Uncovering: When and How to Incorporate Our Personal Critical Perspectives and Experiences in Clinical Teaching Across a Range of Critical Theory,” and a poster titled, **“Implementing Backward Design in Creating Curricular Change,”** co-presented at the AALS Annual Conference on Clinical Legal Education, Baltimore, MD, May 2010.

“Identifying & Addressing Tax Issues Resounding in Multiple Legal Contexts,” and **“How to Start a Transactional Pro Bono Program,”** co-presented at the American Bar Association/National Legal Aid & Defender Association Equal Justice Conference, Phoenix, AZ, May 2010.

“Access to Social Capital: Challenges Facing Women and Minority-Owned Businesses,” presented at the Western New England College of Law’s 4th Annual Law and Business Interdisciplinary Symposium, *Women, Ethnicity and Entrepreneurship*, Springfield, MA, October 2009.

7th Annual Faculty Conference and Workshop - Teaching Transactional and Exempt Organization Law in the Classroom, in the Clinic, and in Field Placements, co-hosted conference, April 2008.

“Credible Document Drafting,” co-presented at the Association of American Law Schools (AALS) Midwest Conference on Clinical Legal Education, Des Moines, IA, October 2007.

“Best Practices for Transactional Law Clinics: Teaching Substantive Law,” presented at the 6th Annual Faculty Conference and Workshop - Teaching Transactional and Exempt Organization Law in the Classroom, in the Clinic, and in Field Placements, Chapel Hill, NC, April 2007.

“Exempt Organizations and Social Entrepreneurs,” presented at the 5th Annual Faculty Conference and Workshop - Teaching Transactional and Exempt Organization Law in the Classroom, in the Clinic, and in Field Placements, Chicago, IL, April 2006.

“Developing a New Small Business & Nonprofit Legal Clinic and Building a Transactional Law Clinic Teaching Curriculum,” presented at the 4th Annual Faculty Conference and Workshop - Teaching Transactional and Exempt Organization Law in the Classroom, in the Clinic, and in Field Placements, St. Louis, MO, April 2005.

EDUCATION

University of Miami School of Law – Miami, FL

Visiting student, enrolled January 2000 - December 2000

Activities: Civil Law Clinic; American Bar Association, Government & Public Sector, Labor & Employment and Litigation Section

University of Baltimore School of Law – Baltimore, MD

Juris Doctor, December 2000

Concentration: Government and Public Interest Law

Activities: Student Bar Association; Intellectual Property Law Society; Students for Public Interest; Women's Bar Association

Michigan State University – East Lansing, MI

Bachelor of Arts, Economics, December 1996 - Major GPA: 3.5

Activities: Omicron Delta Epsilon, International Economics Honor Society; McNair/SROP Scholar; Research in law and economics

United States Military Academy – West Point, NY

Enrolled 1992-1993

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

NBI Bryans, Inc. d/b/a NewYoungFathers.com – East Lansing, MI

Volunteer Nonprofit Corporate Counsel, 2010-present

State Bar of Michigan Character and Fitness Committee – Lansing, MI

District Committee Member, 2009-present

Lansing Black Lawyers Association – Lansing, MI

Vice President, 2008-2009

Lansing Minority Bar Passage Program – Lansing, MI

Director and Mentor, 2005-2009

- Developed and implemented the new Lansing Minority Bar Passage Program for Lansing area minority law school graduates taking the February, 2005 Michigan Bar Exam, with a specific focus on writing for the Michigan Bar Essay Exam.
- Supervised and developed all aspects of the program, including 6 class sessions, administered mock essay bar exams, and facilitated mentor and bartender support.
- Program representative to collaborators and expert guest lecturers, and budget manager.
- Mentored and tutored minority bartakers by providing frequent feedback and critique of practice bar essay questions, and advised on time and stress management, and exam strategies.
- Organized social events for the program.

Michigan State University Alumni Club of Mid-Michigan – East Lansing, MI

Board Member, 2005-2007

Minority Bar Passage Program – Miami, FL

Dade County Bar Association Young Lawyers Division

Minority Bar Passage Tutor, 2002-2004

- Mentored and tutored minority bartakers by providing frequent feedback and critique of practice Florida Bar Exam essay questions and Multi-state Bar Exam multiple choice questions.
- Advised bartakers on time and stress management, and exam strategies.