THE JACOB BURNS COMMUNITY LEGAL CLINICS



THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL WASHINGTON, D.C.

WHO WE ARE

The George Washington University Law School impacts the law and the world by uniquely combining renowned scholarship and a D.C.-infused education to prepare students who shape solutions to the pressing challenges of our times.

THE JACOB BURNS COMMUNITY LEGAL CLINICS

REAL-WORLD SKILLS, REAL-WORLD IMPACT.

As both public interest law firm and academic program, the Jacob Burns Community Legal Clinics allow students to develop essential lawyering skills as they represent clients in real cases. The clinics offer students both a traditional classroom setting with faculty who are experts in their fields and hands-on practice on behalf of individuals who could not otherwise afford a lawyer and who are facing critical legal challenges.

Under close supervision of professors, students handle cases as lawyers certified to practice in D.C., Maryland, and federal courts. Student-attorneys work directly with clients in matters involving criminal defense, transactional law, housing, intellectual property, public benefits, and many other practice areas. Given the depth and variety of our clinics, students may be charged with advising a small business entrepreneur, representing a victim of domestic violence seeking a protection order, seeking asylum for someone fleeing violence in another country, or arguing a criminal appeal.

Clinic students learn a broad range of essential professional skills that will enable them to hit the ground running as lawyers. As a result, students gain vivid insights about law, the practice of lawyering, the legal system, and themselves as professionals.

.....

PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE. IMPACTFUL OUTCOMES.

Our student-attorneys achieve victories large and small. From obtaining asylum to securing patent protection for innovative minority-owned businesses, our student-attorneys have a track record of significant accomplishments.

Below is a sample of our recent successes.

• Access to Justice Clinic: Nonprofit and Entrepreneurship Division served as a sponsor for D.C. Start-Up Week 2023, an event that hosts thousands of local start-ups, and provided brief guidance to local start-up businesses.

• Immigration Clinic has helped clients receive asylum this year. One client, from Egypt, faced repeated discrimination, sexual harassment, and threats as a child and young woman due to her religion. Before the clinic took on her case, she had been in removal proceedings for over a decade.

• Health Rights Law Clinic recently achieved a victory for their 10-year-old client with a jaw deformity whose Medicaid-managed health insurance company had denied his orthodontist-ordered medical treament.

• Public Justice Advocacy Clinic represented a local education nonprofit in a Freedom of Information Act request to compel D.C. Public Schools to release records. Student-attorneys presented oral arguments in D.C. Superior Court and the judge ordered at least a partial release and a new search for responsive policy documents.

• Small Business and Community Economic Development Clinic represented a workerdirected nonprofit that has tirelessly fought for the transformation of D.C.'s street vending laws. As a result, the D.C. Council unanimously passed the Street Vendor Advancement Amendment Act, which will bridge equity gaps in street vendor licensing.

• Vaccine Injury Litigation Clinic won a case in a matter that resulted in the death of a young child last year. The U.S. Department of Justice has appealed the matter to the Federal Circuit, and a team of student-attorneys is representing the client in that appeal.

View videos with former clients and more news stories here.















CHOOSE A CLINIC TO FIT YOUR SCHEDULE.

The Jacob Burns Community Legal Clinics offer a robust clinical experience, combining classroom instruction, supervision, and hands-on experiential learning. Most of our clinics require six-credit, one-semester commitments. In addition, we have introduced a series of limited credit clinics to accommodate a greater number of student schedules. Through the Access to Justice Clinic, students receive classroom instruction and a hands-on lawyering experience that require a more limited time commitment but provide cross-disciplinary insight into the barriers to just and equitable access to justice.

Our students can now choose from both the traditional six-credit opportunities or from our limited-credit clinics. This combination of offerings allows students greater flexibility for experiencing a wide variety of clinic opportunities while gaining critical real-world experience.

Some of our practice areas include:

Administrative Appeals Community Economic Development Criminal Appeals Criminal Defense Domestic Violence Education law Employment law Environmental Justice Family Freedom of Information Act Health and Housing Policy Health Rights Housing Advocacy Human Rights Immigration Intellectual Property Mediation Nonprofit and Entrepreneurship Prisoner Civil Rights Public Benefit Advocacy Vaccine Injury Litigation Workers' Rights

More information on each of our Clinical Program's offerings and descriptions of the work our students engage in can be found here.



OUR FACULTY

Clinic students are guided by 30 faculty and clinical fellows who are experts in their fields. Through both in-class seminars and supervised hands-on client work, the faculty support our students through their practice experience, lawyering insight, and scholarly expertise.

Our clinical faculty is frequently sought out by media outlets such as the Washington Post and the New York Times. The faculty includes an expert in publicly funded medical assistance programs such as Medicaid, one of the leading experts on vaccine injury litigation, former attorneys from the U.S. Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division, a pioneer of nationally recognized domestic violence law and litigation, an expert who has litigated extensively in U.S. courts and before regional human rights tribunals, a mediator for the U.S. Court of Appeals for D.C., and a former senior policy advisor to the White House and expert in eviction prevention and U.S. housing policy, among others.

In addition, our adjunct faculty includes the managing attorney for the D.C. Bar's pro bono programs, a mediator for D.C. Superior Court, and an internationally recognized expert on legal and policy advocacy to address gender-based violence and harassment in employment.

These renowned scholars and practitioners help to shape the theoretical and practical knowledge of our students, guiding them toward meaningful professional identities.

More in-depth information on our faculty can be found here.







THE JACOB BURNS COMMUNITY LEGAL CLINICS AT GW LAW

Laurie S. Kohn

Jacob Burns Foundation Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs; Associate Professor of Clinical Law; Director, Family Justice Litigation Clinic; and Director, Access to Justice Clinic 202.994.7463

Andrea R. Willis-Johnson

Managing Attorney and Associate Program Director 202.994.3086

Milagros Tudela

Administrative Supervisor 202.994.7463

Admissions Information

Office of Admissions and Financial Aid 202.994.7230

www.law.gwu.edu/clinics

LAW

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

650 20th Stree

www.law.gwu.edu



THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL

2000 H Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20052