LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO CIVITAS CHILDLAW CENTER and OFFICE OF CAREER SERVICES

JUVENILE JUSTICE LAW RESOURCE GUIDE

2011-2012
Introduction

The Juvenile Justice Law Resource Guide is part of a series published by Loyola University Chicago School of Law’s Civitas ChildLaw Center in cooperation with the Office of Career Services. Each Guide addresses a separate area of child and family law and provides practical information to Loyola students and graduates to aid them in their academic and career decision-making. Other Resource Guides in the series include: Education Law, Family Law, Child and Adolescent Health Law, and International Children’s Rights. For more information on the Civitas ChildLaw Center and its programs, please see www.luc.edu/childlaw. For additional curriculum planning guidance, please consult the Office of the Academic Dean. Additional career-planning support is available form the Office of Career Services and/or from individual faculty members listed in each Guide.

Overview: What is Juvenile Justice Law?

Juvenile justice law refers to a body of law, policy and practice governing situations in which youth are charged with violating federal, state or local law. Juvenile law is largely a matter of state law. The role of the federal government has generally been limited to standard setting and funding. The twin goals of the juvenile justice system are to rehabilitate youth in conflict with the law and promote community safety.

The practice of juvenile justice law is interdisciplinary in nature and touches on a range of subject matter areas, including juvenile law, criminal law, constitutional law, administrative law, education law, mental health law, disability law, immigration law, conditions of confinement, and public benefits law. Lawyers involved in this unique practice area may work as public or private litigators, appellate lawyers, regulatory attorneys, policy advocates, educators, court administrators, researchers, and/or funders.

Although many assume that practicing juvenile justice law means prosecuting or defending youth, in reality the practice may include a wide range of clients, employers and interests, including administrative agencies, service providers, school districts, state and local governments, police departments, unions, public interest organizations, research groups, foundations, and institutions of higher learning.

Degrees/Programs Offered
In addition to the traditional J.D. program (full- and part-time), Loyola University Chicago School of Law offers other degrees and opportunities for students interested in juvenile justice law.

**Child and Family Law Certificate Program**

The School of Law offers a Certificate in Child and Family Law for J.D. students. To complete the certificate, students must take one required course (Child, Parent and State) and three additional child and family law electives, achieving a grade of B or better to receive the certificate.

**J.D./M.S.W.**

The School of Law and Loyola University Chicago School of Social Work offer a 4-year full-time J.D./M.S.W. degree. It may also be pursued part-time.

**LL.M. in Child and Family Law**

Established by the Civitas ChildLaw Center in 1995, the LL.M. program in Child and Family Law allows law school graduates to develop specialized knowledge and skills in the area of child and family law. The program is intentionally small and tailored to meet individual student interests (e.g., domestic relations law, international children’s rights, child welfare law, juvenile justice law).

**M.J. in Children’s Law and Policy (online)**

Loyola now offers the nation’s only online master’s level law degree for professionals working on behalf of children and families. The Master of Jurisprudence is a two-year part-time program designed to provide individuals with a firm understanding of law and policy as they affect children and families. For additional information, please see [www.childlawmj.org](http://www.childlawmj.org). Students have the option to enroll in the program’s standard M.J. degree or earn the M.J./M.S.W. degrees in cooperation with the School of Social Work.

### Faculty/Staff

Loyola’s juvenile justice curriculum is overseen by the school’s Civitas ChildLaw Center. The following faculty members and staff members teach a juvenile justice course, oversee the ChildLaw Clinic and Child Policy Institute, and/or manage Illinois’ Models for Change juvenile justice reform initiative. They can serve as valuable resources to students interested in juvenile justice law. In addition, School of Law faculty who teach in the area of criminal law and faculty in other Loyola University Chicago schools and departments (e.g. Criminal Justice, Social Work, Psychology, the Center for the Human Rights of Children) may be useful contacts.

Mary Bird, Director of Public Interest Programs

Bruce A. Boyer, Clinical Professor and Director, Civitas ChildLaw Clinic
Curriculum

The School of Law has several courses designed to prepare students for the practice of juvenile justice law. In addition, law students may take a limited number of courses in other divisions of the University to develop a broader interdisciplinary understanding of juvenile law. Course offerings include:

- Administrative Law
- Child, Parent and State
- ChildLaw Trial Practice
- Children’s Legal Rights Journal
- Constitutional Law
- Criminal Appellate Practicum
- Criminal Externship
- Criminal Law
- Criminal Law and Procedure Seminar
- Criminal Law Seminar: Sixth Amendment Issues
- Criminal Procedure: Adjudication
- Criminal Procedure: Investigation
- Death Penalty Seminar
- Disability Law
- Evidence
- Federal Criminal Law
- Federal Prosecution Seminar
- Immigration Law
- International Criminal Law Seminar
- International Children’s Rights
- Juvenile Justice
- Law and Education
- Law and Psychology
- Mental Health Law
- State and Local Government
- State Prosecution Function Seminar
- Trial Practice I, II, Advanced
Experiential Learning Opportunities

The School of Law offers many opportunities for students interested in gaining practical experience in the field of juvenile justice law while in law school.

Civitas ChildLaw Clinic

The Clinic represents children primarily in child protection (abuse and neglect), child custody and visitation, education and juvenile justice cases. Students represent actual clients working under the close supervision of clinical faculty and gain skills in such areas as client interviewing and counseling, case planning, mediation, and written and oral advocacy. While the subject matter of the clinic’s cases focuses on children’s issues, students can expect to develop skills transferrable to any practice setting.

Civitas ChildLaw Policy Institute

The Policy Institute introduces students to the development of children’s policy and the legislative process. Students are introduced to these topics and skills through actual and simulated work. Juvenile justice topics on which the Policy Institute has worked include expungement of juvenile records, client confidentiality statutes, sex offender registry laws, and adjudicatory competency legislation.

Illinois Models for Change Initiative

The ChildLaw Center serves as the Lead Entity for the MacArthur Foundation’s Models for Change initiative aimed at juvenile justice reform. Student involvement in the project includes legal research, community outreach, and legislative and public education efforts.

Externships

The School of Law offers many opportunities for students interested in gaining practical experience in the field of juvenile justice law. For a complete list of these opportunities, please contact Josie Gough, Director of Experiential Learning.

Internship/Job Search Resources

Below is a listing of government agencies, law firms, and legal organizations that specialize in or practice some aspect of juvenile justice law. This list is not exhaustive, but serves as a starting point for students who are searching for positions in this area. Loyola’s Office of Career Services is also an important resource for Loyola students and graduates. Note: The offices and organizations listed below are primarily based in Cook County. Many similar opportunities exist throughout the state and nation.

Government Agencies
Office of the Cook County Public Defender
69 W. Washington, Suite 1600
Chicago, IL 60602
Tel. 312-603-0600
www.cookcountygov.com

Cook County State’s Attorney
69 W. Washington, Suite 3200
Chicago, IL 60602
Tel. 312-603-1880
www.statesattorney.org

Office of the Illinois Attorney General
100 W. Randolph
Chicago, IL 60601
Tel. 312-814-3000
www.illinoisattorneygeneral.gov

Office of the State Appellate Defender
1st Judicial District
203 N. LaSalle St., 24th Fl.
Chicago, IL 60601
Tel. 312-814-5472
www.state.il.us.defender

State’s Attorney Appellate Prosecutor
725 South 2nd St.
Springfield, IL 62704
Tel. 217-782-1628
www.ilsaap.org

Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice
James R. Thompson Center
100 W. Randolph
Chicago, IL 60601
Tel. 217-557-1030
www.idjj.state.il.us

Illinois Department of Corrections
James R. Thompson Center
100 W. Randolph
Chicago, IL 60601
Tel. 217-558-2200
www.idoc.state.il.us
Office of the Cook County Board  
Tel. 312-443-5500  
www.cookcountygov.com

Chicago Public Schools  
CPS Law Department  
125 S. Clark Street, 7th Floor  
Chicago, IL 60603  
Tel. 773-553-1700  
Fax 773-553-1701  
www.cps.edu

City of Chicago Department of Family and Support Services  
121 N. LaSalle  
Chicago, IL 60602  
Tel. 312.744-5000  
www.cityofchicago.org

City of Chicago Law Department  
121 N. LaSalle Suite 600  
Chicago, IL 60602  
Tel. 312-744-0200  
www.cityofchicago.org

Office of the Presiding Judge  
Juvenile Division  
1100 S. Hamilton  
Chicago, IL 60612  
Tel. 312-433-4333  
www.cookcountycourt.org

Firms

Child and Family Law Center of the North Shore  
1950 Sheridan Road  
Highland Park, IL 60035  
Tel. 847-926-0101  
www.lawforchild.com

Law Offices of Anthony William Hill
Phillip A. Brigham
4707 N. Broadway  Suite 305
Chicago, IL. 60640
Tel. 773-354-7785

Non-Profits

Cabrini Green Legal Aid
740 N. Milwaukee
Chicago, IL 60642
Tel. 312 -738-2452
www.cgla.net

Community Justice for Youth Institute
10 W. 35th St.,  Room 9C4-1
Chicago, IL  60616
Tel. 312-842-5345
www.cjyi.org

Illinois American Civil Liberties Union
180 N. Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL 60601
312-201-9740
www.aclu.il.org

First Defender Legal Aid
1111 N. Wells,  Suite 308A
Chicago, IL 60610
Tel. 773-434-4162
www.first-defense.org

James B. Moran Center for Youth Advocacy
1123 Emerson  Suite 203
Evanston, IL  60201
Tel. 847-492-1410
www.moran-center.org

John Howard Association
375 E. Chicago Avenue,  Suite 529
Juvenile Justice Initiative
518 Davis Street Suite 211
Evanston, IL 60201
Tel. 847-864.1567
www.jjustice.org

Northwestern University Law School
Bluhm Legal Clinic Children and Family Justice Center
357 E. Chicago Avenue
Chicago, IL 60611
Tel. 312-503-8574
www.law.northwestern.edu

Project Nia
1530 W. Morse Avenue
Chicago, IL
Tel. 773-392-5165
www.project-nia.org

University of Chicago
Edwin F. Mandel Legal Aid Clinic
6020 S. University Avenue
Chicago, IL 60637
Tel. 773-702-9611
www.uchicago.org

Blogs, News, Resources

Resources:

Center for Children’s Law and Policy
1701 K. Street NW Suite 1100
Washington C 20006
Tel. 202-637-0377
www.cclp.org

Center for Juvenile Justice Reform
Georgetown University
Coalition for Juvenile Justice
1710 Rhode Island Ave. NW, 10th Fl.
Washington, DC 20036
Tel. 202-467-0864
www.juvjustice.org

Justice Policy Institute
1012 14th St. NW
Washington, DC 20005
Tel. 202-558-7974
www.justicepolicy.org

Juvenile Justice Clinic
Georgetown Law Center
600 New Jersey Ave. N.W.
Washington, DC 20001
Tel. 202-662-9000
www.law.georgetown.edu
(Prettyman/Stiller Post-Graduate Fellowship)

Juvenile Law Center
1315 Walnut St. 4th Fl.
Philadelphia, PA 19107
Tel. 888-875-8887
www.jlc.org
(Zubrow Post-Graduate Fellowship)

National Center for Juvenile Justice
3700 S. Water St., Suite 300
Pittsburgh, PA 15203
Tel. 412-227-6950
www.ncjjservehttp.org

National Center for Mental Health and Juvenile Justice
345 Delaware Avenue
Delmar, NY 12054
Tel. 866-9ncmhjj
www.ncmhjj.com
National Juvenile Defender Center  
1350 Connecticut Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20036  
Tel. 202-452-0010  
njdc.info  

U.S. Department of Justice,  
Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency and Prevention (OJJDP)  
810 Seventh St. NW  
Washington, D.C. 20531  
Tel. 202-307-5911  
www.ojjdp.gov  

Vera Institute  
233 Broadway # 12  
New York, NY 10279  
Tel. 212-732-3071  
www.vera.org  

W. Haywood Burns Institute  
180 Howard St. Suite 320  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
Tel. 415-321-4100  
www.burnsinstitute.org  

Journals (partial)  

Children’s Legal Rights Journal  
www.luc.edu/childlaw  

Journal of Juvenile Law  
http://law.ulv.edu  

Juvenile and Family Court Journal  
www.ncjfcj.org  

U.C. Davis Journal of Juvenile Law and Policy  
http://jjlp.law.ucdavis.edu/  

Whittier Journal of Child and Family Advocacy  
www.law.whittier.edu  

Youth Violence and Juvenile Justice  
http://yvj.sagepub.com