

## **ADMISSION TO THE ILLINOIS BAR**

November 1995

## **EDUCATION**

### ***DePaul University College of Law - Chicago, Illinois***

Juris Doctor conferred June 1995

- DePaul College of Law Dean's Scholarship
- American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers "Scholarship of Excellence"
- American Jurisprudence Award in Criminal Procedure

### ***University of South Dakota - Vermillion, South Dakota***

Bachelor of Arts conferred May 1992; Honors Program graduate

- Phi Beta Kappa Academic Honors Society
- Designated University Scholar
- National Merit Scholar

## **RESEARCH AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT**

### **Loyola University School of Law [2007 to Present]**

#### ***Program Manager, Loyola University Center for Criminal Justice Research, Policy and Practice (2016 – Present)***

Planned, launched and manage Loyola's Center for Criminal Justice to promote fair, effective and ethical criminal justice and youth justice approaches through collaborative interdisciplinary research, targeted legal reform and system improvement projects. Provide subject matter expertise and technical assistance to local, state and national justice system leaders and policy makers to improve community outcomes through increased justice system fairness and efficacy.

#### ***Program Manager, Illinois Models for Change Initiative (2007 – 2015)***

Managed the Illinois Models for Change Initiative and the work of Loyola University as Illinois Lead Entity. Develop and implement strategies to catalyze reform and promote a more rational, fair and effective response to youth and young adults in conflict with the law. Collaborate with state and local stakeholders to emphasize community-based responses to juvenile crime, reduce the use of incarceration, address racial and ethnic disparities within the justice system and respond to the needs of young people, families and communities. Prepare reports and publications, coordinate media and public communications strategies, prepare and deliver testimony to the Illinois General Assembly and present research and other information at local, state and national conferences.

#### ***Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps Dual Status Youth Initiative [January 2015 – Present]***

Provide subject matter expertise and technical assistance to state and local governance teams – including the judiciary, law enforcement, court personnel, child welfare professionals, legislators and others – to develop research-informed policy, practice and programs to reduce racial inequities and improve the outcomes of youth and young adults "dually involved" involved in child welfare, delinquency and / or criminal justice systems. Reforms include changes in state law and policy and local policy and practice changes. Includes a focus on dually involved youth most at risk of commercial sexual exploitation or trafficking.

## **ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

### **Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts [January 2003 – August 2007]**

#### ***Assistant Director***

Directed the Judicial Education Program for Illinois' more than 900 judges on behalf of the Illinois Supreme Court. Developed a range of resources, courses and reference materials addressing the needs of new and experienced judges, in collaboration with judicial committees designated by the Supreme Court. Worked with judges, researchers, subject matter experts and clinicians to design and deliver courses on a wide range of legal, clinical and specialized topics, including juvenile law, child protection, criminal law and procedure, civil law and procedure, family law, court management and evidentiary issues. Developed strategies for judicial implementation of evidence-based practices in assessing, sentencing and supervising justice-system involved people, with an emphasis on reducing crime and violence, enhancing system fairness, protecting public safety and improving individual outcomes.

### **Illinois Department of Human Services [August 2000 - January 2003]**

#### ***Juvenile Justice Administrator***

Administered Illinois' federal juvenile justice funding, managed \$5 million annual programming budget and coordinated that funding with the state-funded youth services programs with a \$30 million annual budget. Staffed the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission, an independent commission appointed to advise the Illinois General Assembly and Governor on juvenile justice policy and funding. Served as Department and Commission liaison to various state agencies and the federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Chaired the Board of Editors of the Coalition for Juvenile Justice Annual Report to the President, the United States Congress and national policy makers on juvenile justice and detention reform.

### **Office of the Chief Judge, Circuit Court of Cook County [August 1995 - August 2000]**

#### ***Executive Legal Officer & Court Administrator***

Managed complex special projects and oversaw implementation of new programs, policies and Circuit Court rules on behalf of the Chief Judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County. Managed various policy committees convened by the Chief Judge and represented the court on other agencies' committees. Prepared the court's annual programming presentation to the Cook County Board of Commissioners.

#### ***Director, Judicial Education Division, Circuit Court of Cook County***

Developed comprehensive legal education programs for judges and court staff of the Circuit Court. Oversaw development and presentation of the annual course for new judges and managed the New Judge Mentor program for the Circuit Court.

#### ***Staff Attorney, Office of the Presiding Judge, Domestic Relations Division***

Represented the Division's Presiding Judge on various policy committees. Served as liaison to the public and practicing bar on legal and policy issues of the Division. Researched legal issues and prepared research memoranda for the 40 judges of the Division.

## **SELECTED NATIONAL / STATE-LEVEL PRESENTATIONS**

**Redeploy Illinois Annual Summit** (June 2020): *Working Effectively with Emerging Adults in the Criminal Justice System*, (Statewide Webinar)

**National Conference of State Legislators National Legislative Summit** (August 2019): *Not Kids, Not Adults: Growing Up and Out of Crime*, Panelist (Nashville, Tennessee)

**Supreme Court of Ohio** (April 2019): *Dual Status / Crossover Youth: Innovative Solutions for Multi-System Youth and Families* (Dayton, Ohio & Toledo, Ohio)

**National Conference of Juvenile and Family Court Judges Annual National Conference** (March 2019): *Expanding Jurisdiction to 18 and 19 Year Olds: Exploring the New Frontier in Juvenile Justice*, Plenary Session Panelist (Las Vegas, Nevada)

**National League of Cities, National Association of Counties and National Conference of State Legislatures Intergovernmental Policy Academy** (February 2019): *Emerging Adults and Criminal Justice: Innovations for Improved Outcomes* (Washington, DC)

**National Juvenile Defender Center Annual Summit** (October 2018): *Improving Community-Based Responses: Understanding the Nexus Between Girls, Family Violence, & the Justice System* (St. Paul, MN)

**National Conference of Juvenile and Family Court Judges Annual Conference** (March 2018): *Reducing Reliance on Confinement and Improving Community-Based Responses for Girls Experiencing Family Conflict* (San Diego, California)

**Illinois Probation and Court Services Association Annual Conference** (October 2017): *Emerging Adults research, data analysis and policy implications*, Co-Presenter with Dr. David Olson, Loyola University Chicago (St. Charles, Illinois)

**Illinois Supreme Court Judicial Education Conference** (September 2017), *A Trauma-Informed Courtroom: Addressing Racial and Ethnic Disparities* (Springfield, Illinois)

**Federal Advisory Committee for Juvenile Justice, United States Department of Justice** (April 2017): *Emerging Adults and the Justice System*, Co-Presenter with Dr. David Olson, Loyola University Chicago (Chicago, Illinois)

**Illinois Juvenile Justice Leadership Council** (January 2017), *Use of Detention in Illinois: Current Data, Emerging Trends and Critical Issues* (Chicago, Illinois)

**Child Welfare League of America, Annual National Conference** (April 2017), *Effective Policy and Practice with Youth Who Commit Sex Offenses*, Co-Presenter with Anita Weinberg, Loyola University Chicago (Washington, DC)

**Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps National Symposium** (April 2016), *Judicial Leadership and System Reform* Panelist (Boston, Massachusetts)

**Illinois Supreme Court Judicial Education Conference, Bi-Annual Conference** (February 2016 and April 2016), *Research and Policy: Interrupting the Trajectory from Maltreatment to Criminal Justice System Involvement* (Lombard, Illinois)

**Testimony to the Illinois General Assembly**, Joint Meeting of House Judiciary Committee and Committees on Youth and Young Adults, Human Services and Juvenile Justice and System Involved Youth (January 2016), *Emerging Adults and the Criminal Justice System: Research, Data and Practitioner Perspectives* (Chicago, Illinois)

**Council on State Governments** (2015), *What Works to Promote Reentry Success: Spotlight on Youth Convicted of Sex Offenses* (National Webinar)

**Illinois Sex Offender Management Board (2015)**, *Improving Safety and Outcomes in Juvenile Sex Offense Cases* (Multiple regional presentations)

**National Association of Counties, National Juvenile Justice Conference** (2014), *Juvenile Justice Reform: Implementing Change and Improving Outcomes* (Chicago, Illinois)

**Illinois Child Advocacy Centers Annual Conference (2014)**, *Adolescent Development and the Juvenile Justice System: Producing Better Outcomes for Youth, Families and Communities* (St. Charles, Illinois)

**American Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers, National Conference (2013)**, *Intervening Effectively with Youth Adjudicated Delinquent for Sexual Offenses; Using the Research to Educate Legislators and Policy Makers*, Co-Presenter with Anita Weinberg, Loyola University Chicago (Chicago, Illinois)

**Testimony to the Illinois General Assembly**, House Committee on Restorative Justice, (2013) *Sexual Victimization in Juvenile Corrections Facilities* (Chicago, Illinois)

**National Conference of Juvenile and Family Court Judges Annual Conference (2012)**, *Families in Crisis: Illinois' Adolescent Domestic Battery Interventions* (Las Vegas, Nevada)

**Coalition for Juvenile Justice & Models for Change Initiative**, Addresses to multiple national conferences, 2008 –2015 (Washington, DC)

### **SELECTED PUBLICATIONS and MATERIALS**

*Detention of Children 10-12 Years Old in Illinois*, Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission, February 2021.

*Criminal Justice Data Guide: State-level collection, reporting and availability of criminal justice data in Illinois*, June 2018.

*JUVENILE JUSTICE DATA GUIDE: State-level collection, reporting and availability of juvenile justice data in Illinois*, August 2018.

*Emerging Adults and the Criminal Justice System: Specialized Policies, Practices & Programs*, September 2017.

*Juvenile Law Benchbook*, Appellate Review Chapter, Illinois Institute for Continuing Legal Education, 2017 Edition. Contributing Author.

*Improving Illinois' Response to Sexual Offenses Committed by Youth*, Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission, March 2014. Co-Author; project management.

*Raising the Age of Juvenile Court Jurisdiction: The Future of 17 Year Olds in Illinois' Juvenile Justice System*, Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission, February 2013. Co-Author; project management.

*Youth Reentry and Aftercare in Illinois*, Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission, December 2011. Co-Author; project management.

*Illinois Juvenile Justice Research and Information Consortium Briefing Series*, Illinois Models for Change. Varied topics; 2012 – present. Lead Author.

*Juvenile Law Benchbook*, Appellate Review Chapter, Illinois Institute for Continuing Legal Education, 2013 Edition. Contributing Author.

*Adolescent Domestic Battery: Responding Effectively to Families in Crisis*, Models for Change Initiative, December 2012. Co-Author and project management.

## **BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS (SELECTED)**

Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission, Vice Chairperson (2010 to present)

Illinois Collaboration on Youth, Board of Directors (2016 to present)

Federal Advisory Committee for Juvenile Justice, United States Department of Justice (2015 to 2017)

Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps Probation System Review National Network (2015 to present)

Robert F. Kennedy Children's Action Corps Dual Status Youth National Network (2015 to present)

Illinois Sex Offenses and Offender Registration Policy Task Force (2016 to 2017)

Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority Board (2011 – 2015)