

AMANDA CECILIA SAVAGE
University of Denver, Sturm College of Law
2255 East Evans Ave. • Denver, CO 80208

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

University of Denver, Sturm College of Law, Denver, CO

Visiting Assistant Professor of Law, Aug. 2024 – Present

Courses: Criminal Defense Clinic, Criminal Defense Clinic Seminar

Member: Constitutional Rights and Remedies; Rocky Mountain Collective on Race, Place, and Law

Directing semester-long criminal defense clinic. Supervising teams of student attorneys in their holistic representation of clients on criminal matters. Teaching two seminar classes per week on issues ranging from trial skills to forensic science to inequities within the criminal legal system.

EDUCATION

Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA – Juris Doctor, *cum laude*, May 2015

Activities: Trial Advocacy Workshop
Civil Rights - Civil Liberties Law Review, General Board Member
Research Assistant, Professor Peter Murray
Harvard College Resident Tutor, Lowell House

Honors: Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court Pro Bono Honor Roll
Justice John Paul Stevens Public Interest Fellowship
James Vorenberg Equal Justice Summer Fellowship
Summer Theory Institute Fellowship
Dean's Scholar Prize: Criminal Justice Institute: Defense Theory and Practice; Torts

American University, Washington, D.C. – Master of Arts in Teaching, May 2012

Harvard College, Cambridge, MA – Bachelor of Arts, *cum laude* in Psychology, May 2010

PUBLICATION

The Pseudoscience of Gun Hunting, forthcoming in the *Columbia Law Review*.

LEGAL PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

Maryland Office of the Public Defender, Baltimore, MD

Assistant Public Defender, District 1 Felony, Jan. 2022 – July 2024

Represented adults charged with murder and other complex and serious felonies in Baltimore City Circuit Court. First chaired felony jury trials, including murder, child sexual assault, attempted murder, and other felonies. Handled high-profile media-involved cases. Litigated pretrial issues, including novel *Daubert* challenges to expert testimony in the characteristics of an armed person framework. Trained less experienced attorneys to handle murder/life cases. Member of Forensic Liaison Program. Participated in Advanced Litigation Training.

New Jersey Office of the Public Defender, Newark, NJ

Assistant Deputy Public Defender, Essex Adult Felony Trial Region, Dec. 2015 – Jan. 2022

Attorney Assistant, Essex Adult Trial Region, Sept. 2015 – Dec. 2015

Represented adults facing criminal felony charges, including murder, at all stages of the criminal process. First chaired serious felony jury trials including murder, attempted murder, rape, aggravated assault,

armed robbery, weapons, and other offenses. Member of Forensic Science Workgroup, working to create resources for and educate other public defenders about cutting edge social science research and litigation strategies. Trained new and experienced attorneys on topics such as advanced cross examination at agency-wide trainings. Mentored new felony attorneys.

PRESENTATIONS & SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Panelist, “Modernizing Clinical and Experiential Training in Criminal Defense to Reflect the Realities of Practice in the Era of Advancing Forensics and Technology,” Association of American Law Schools (AALS) Conference on Clinical Legal Education, upcoming April 2025

Panelist, “Unified Justice: Advancing Holistic Legal Education Through Structured Cross-Clinic Collaboration,” AALS Conference on Clinical Legal Education, upcoming April 2025

Lecturer, “Storytelling Through Opening Statements,” New Jersey Office of the Public Defender (NJOPD), upcoming April 2025

Presenter, “Proactive Policing: A Dangerous and Discriminatory Tactic,” American Bar Association and AALS Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure Work in Progress Roundtables, Dec. 2024 (virtual)

Panelist, “Election Implications,” Rocky Mountain Collective on Race, Place and Law, Oct. 2024

Plenary Panelist, “Redefining Justice: Conversations on Criminal Justice Reform,” Society of American Law Teachers Teaching Conference, Sept. 2024

Panelist, “Breaking Silos: Enhancing Legal Education Through Cross-Clinical Collaboration,” Society of American Law Teachers Teaching Conference, Sept. 2024

Panelist, “Supreme Court Preview,” Constitutional Rights & Remedies, Sept. 2024

Presenter, “Advanced Cross Examination,” Maryland Office of the Public Defender Misdemeanor Jury Trial Unit, Feb. 2024

Trainer, “Trial Skills Training,” NJOPD, May 2023

Breakout Group Leader, “Essential Skills Program – Impeachment,” NJOPD, Nov. 2020

Breakout Group Leader, “Playing the Part: Essential Acting Training for Lawyers,” NJOPD, March 2020

Panelist, “Criminal Law Trial Series: Discovery and Admissibility of Evidence in an Ever Changing Technology World,” Essex County Bar Association, Feb. 2020

Breakout Group Leader, “Essential Skills Program – Cross Exam,” NJOPD, Oct. 2019

Presenter, “Challenging IDs from Videos,” 2nd Annual Forensic Science Conference, NJOPD, Sept. 2019

Presenter, “Essential Skills Program – Chapter Method of Cross Examination,” NJOPD, Sept. 2019

Breakout Group Leader, “Essential Skills Program – Advanced Cross Examination,” NJOPD, Sept. 2019

Presenter, “Ethical Uses and Challenges for Social Media Evidence,” NJOPD, March 2019

Presenter, “Social Media Evidence,” NJOPD – Essex County Annual Training, Nov. 2018

Breakout Group Leader, “Office of Parental Representation – Storytelling,” NJOPD, Oct. 2018

Breakout Group Leader, “Essential Skills Program Training,” NJOPD, Oct. 2018

Faculty, “Bring Your Own Case Training,” NJOPD, June 2018

Panelist, “School Success for All Students: Dismantling the School to Prison Pipeline,” Harvard Law School Bicentennial: HLS in the World, Oct. 2017

Breakout Group Leader, “Cross Examination” New Lawyer Training, NJOPD, Oct. 2017

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Criminal Justice Institute, Cambridge, MA

Student Attorney, Sept. 2014-May 2015

Provided complete representation to adults and juveniles for misdemeanors and felonies. Investigated cases, prepared motions, and argued at hearings and trials under a clinical instructor’s supervision.

The Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia, Washington, D.C.

Law Clerk, Juvenile Trial Division, Summer 2014

Researched and briefed topics including unlawful interrogations and arrests, met with clients, families, and experts, and improved advocacy skills in the Trial Practice Group.

Prison Legal Assistance Project, Cambridge, MA

Managing Director, Training Coordinator & Student Attorney, Sept. 2012 – May 2015

Provided legal services to people in prison for disciplinary matters, handled intake, researched resources, corresponded with clients, and supervised new members.

Mississippi Delta Project, Cambridge, MA

Mental Health and Substance Abuse Project, Co-Leader, Sept. 2012 – May 2015

Researched and wrote reports and legislative proposals about mental health treatment in detention centers and diversion programs for offenders with mental illnesses.

Cambridge Juvenile Court, Child Advocacy Clinic, Cambridge, MA

Student Law Clerk, Jan. 2014 – April 2014

Analyzed cases, researched legal issues, and wrote memorandums relating to juvenile delinquency, abuse and neglect, and adoption matters with Justice Kenneth King.

Education Law Clinic, Cambridge, MA

Student Attorney, Sept. 2013 – Dec. 2013

Represented a student and a parent on matters relating to students’ entitlement to a Free and Appropriate Public Education, and conducted a workshop for community members on special education rights.

New York Legal Assistance Group, Disability Advocacy Project, New York, NY

Legal Intern, Summer 2013

Conducted legal research and drafted pre-hearing briefs, represented clients at Social Security hearings, and completed client intakes and referrals.

Teach For America, Corps Member, Washington, D.C.

Eighth Grade Mathematics Teacher - Cesar Chavez Public Charter School, Aug. 2010 – June 2012

Taught math to students with diverse needs, helping school reach adequate yearly progress mark for the first time.

Content Team Leader - Teach For America, Aug. 2011 – June 2012

Led workshops and clinics on teaching and planning practices for TFA corps members teaching math.

Host Teacher - Urban Teacher Center, Aug. 2011 – June 2012

Mentored and trained a student teacher from a local teacher development center.

BAR ADMISSIONS

Colorado Bar 2024 (Law Professor Certification)

Maryland Bar 2023

New York Bar 2016

New Jersey Bar 2015