

Veronica Tobar Thronson
Michigan State University College of Law
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EDUCATION

City University of New York School of Law, J.D. May 2000
Honors: Charles H. Revson Public Interest Fellowship, 1999

City University of New York - City College, B.A. in International Studies, 1993
Honors: *cum laude*

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Michigan State University College of Law , East Lansing, MI	
<i>Clinical Professor of Law</i>	July 2016 - Present
<i>Associate Clinical Professor of Law</i>	July 2013 – July 2016
<i>Assistant Clinical Professor of Law</i>	May 2010 – July 2013
<i>Director, Immigration Law Clinic</i>	May 2010 – Present

Direct and teach Immigration Law Clinic, providing opportunities for students to experience the practice of law through direct client representation in a well supervised and academically rigorous program with a broad and diverse docket of cases before administrative agencies, immigration courts, state trial courts, and appellate courts. Clients include unaccompanied minors in removal proceedings, victims of domestic violence, family-based immigration petitioners, asylum seekers, and naturalization applicants. Engage students in policy research, resource development, community outreach and systemic advocacy on issues related to immigration. Oversee all aspects of major federal contract as subcontractor for the Vera Institute of Justice to provide know your rights presentations, legal screenings and legal representation to all unaccompanied and separated children in Office of Refugee Resettlement custody in Michigan. Also teach Immigration and Nationality Law and a seminar, Domestic Violence.

University of Nevada, Las Vegas, William S. Boyd School of Law , Las Vegas, NV	
<i>Adjunct Professor of Law</i>	Spring 2006 – Spring 2008
Taught Community Property.	

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada (formerly Clark County Legal Services), Las Vegas, NV	
<i>Directing Attorney, Domestic Violence Project</i>	February 2004 – May 2010
<i>Attorney, Domestic Violence Project</i>	September 2002 – January 2004

Developed and implemented overall vision for domestic violence and immigration programs. Oversaw all functions of program and supervised domestic violence attorneys and support staff. Provided direct representation to individual victims of domestic violence primarily in the areas of divorce, custody, immigration and protective orders. Directed outreach efforts and impact litigation components of domestic violence and immigration programs. Provided training program for domestic violence shelter staff and volunteers. Supervised law student externs and coordinated the program's involvement with law school community service program. Prepared grant proposals and reports, including statewide Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women, Legal Assistance for Victims grants.

New York Immigration Coalition, New York, NY

Director of Training and Legal Services

Interim Advocacy Director

September 2000 – April 2002

September 2000 – January 2001

Developed and implemented strategies to achieve positive change in policies affecting immigrants and refugees for umbrella advocacy organization of approximately 150 not-for-profit organizations. Created and led statewide training program on issues affecting immigrants and refugees including beginning and advanced topics in immigration, citizenship, social services and employment law, as well as advocacy and civic participation strategies that can be used to address key community concerns. Supervised program staff, oversaw research and creation of training materials, and conducted trainings for staff of community organizations, immigrants and refugees. Responded to requests for technical assistance or other information related to training programs topics. Tracked and analyzed proposed or actual changes in federal, state and city laws and regulations that could impact New York's immigrant and refugee families. Assisted in design and implementation of advocacy campaigns on key legislative or other community concerns. Researched and developed NYIC policy positions and background materials. Wrote reports, fact sheets, brochures and position papers. Testified before legislative bodies on issues affecting immigrants. Coordinated local INS and asylum office liaison meetings and represented concerns of NYIC network at national INS liaison meetings. Served as NYIC spokesperson to ethnic media, including biweekly appearances on national Spanish-language television discussing current immigration law issues. Prepared grant proposals and reports.

Main Street Legal Services, Flushing, NY

Elder Law Clinic

January 2000 – May 2000

Through a twelve-credit academically supervised law school clinic, represented older adults, people with disabilities, and family members in a variety of cases involving estate and disability planning, probate and estate administration, government benefit counseling, adult guardianships, healthcare proxies, and end-of-life decision making. Provided government benefit counseling to local Alzheimer support center.

New York Immigration Coalition, New York, NY

Legal Services Coordinator

June 1998 – May 2000

Coordinated legal services activities for NYIC. In summer 1998, directed the Citizenship and Homeownership Outreach Project designed to encourage naturalization and utilization of programs to facilitate home ownership. Hired and trained 25 multi-lingual outreach workers through whom over 100,000 people were advised regarding naturalization rights and options. Organized community sessions on education issues for immigrants with children in the public school system.

Travelers Aid Immigration Legal Services, Jackson Heights, NY

Legal Intern

June 1999 – August 1999

Interviewed clients and prepared applications for a range of immigration benefits including asylum, cancellation of removal, Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) relief and adjustment of status. Screened immigration court-referred individuals for possible representation. Led VAWA and naturalization workshops on criminal charge implications under U.S. immigration law. Conducted witness examination in a cancellation of removal hearing.

Main Street Legal Services, Flushing, NY

Immigrant & Refugee Rights Clinic

January 1999 – May 1999

Represented clients applying for immigration benefits under Nicaraguan Adjustment and Central American Relief Act through a four-credit academically supervised law school seminar. Provided naturalization assistance to individuals through CUNY Naturalization Project.

New York Immigration Coalition, New York, NY

Project Coordinator

May 1995 – August 1997

Administrative Assistant

May 1994 – April 1995

Conducted, designed and implemented HIV and AIDS education campaigns targeting Trinidadian, Honduran and Brazilian communities in New York City. Wrote handbook on the rights and responsibilities of employers under the Immigration and Nationality Act. Created and coordinated a speakers' bureau on immigration-related concerns. Regularly conducted presentations, in Spanish and English, on citizenship, welfare reform and the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996. Monitored changes in asylum, and other immigration laws during significant congressional overhaul of the Immigration and Nationality Act. Researched and designed multilingual educational materials. Prepared program budgets.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Veronica T. Thronson et al. *The Clash of Laws, Cultures, and Custody: Parental Rights for Immigrant Survivors*, ___ FAM. & INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE Q. ___ (forthcoming 2017).

Veronica T. Thronson, *The Impact of SIJS on Access to Protection of Unaccompanied Child Migrants to the United States*, in HANDBOOK ON MIGRATION AND CHILDHOOD, (Jacqueline Bhabha, Daniel Senovilla Hernandez, and Jyothi Kanics, eds., Elgar Publishing) (forthcoming).

David B. Thronson & Veronica T. Thronson, *Immigration Issues—Representing Children Who Are Not United States Citizens*, in CHILD WELFARE LAW AND PRACTICE: REPRESENTING CHILDREN, PARENTS AND STATE AGENCIES IN ABUSE, NEGLECT AND DEPENDENCY CASES (Donald N. Duquette, Ann M. Haralambie, and Vivek Sankaran eds., 3d ed., National Association of Counsel for Children 2016).

Veronica T. Thronson, *Immigration Concerns for Family Law Practitioners*, 46 MICH. FAM. L. J. 4 (2016).

Veronica T. Thronson & Zena D. Zumeta, *Mediation and Domestic Abuse*, 45 MICH. FAM. L. J. 6 (2015). (reprinted at A.D.R. Q. Vol. 23 No. 3, at 8 (July 2015)).

Veronica Tobar Thronson, *International Kidnapping, Domestic Violence and the Hague Convention*, 44 MICH. FAM. L.J. 15 (2014).

Rachel Settlage, Elizabeth Campbell & Veronica Tobar Thronson, IMMIGRATION RELIEF: LEGAL ASSISTANCE FOR VULNERABLE NONCITIZEN VICTIMS OF CRIME (American Bar Association Section of Criminal Justice, 2014).

David B. Thronson & Veronica T. Thronson, *Introduction: Global Families in Local Courts*, 47 Fam. L.Q. 137 (2013) (as editors for special Symposium on Global Families issue).

Veronica T. Thronson, *Immigration Remedies for Domestic Violence Survivors*, 43 MICH. FAM. L.J. 45 (2013).

Veronica T. Thronson, *'Til Death Do Us Part: Affidavits of Support and Obligations to Immigrant Spouses*, 50 FAM. CT. REV. 594 (2012).

Veronica T. Thronson, *Domestic Violence and Immigrants in Family Courts*, 63 JUV. & FAM. CT. J. 63 (2012).

Veronica T. Thronson, *Special Considerations in Representing Pro Bono Clients: Representing Victims of Domestic Abuse*, Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada (2009).

David B. Thronson and Veronica Tobar Thronson, *Immigrants and the Family Courts*, NEV. LAW., Jan. 2006, at 30.

SELECTED JUDICIAL TRAININGS AND LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY

Michigan District Court Judges Association Annual Conference, *Ramifications, Implications and Resources: Immigration Status and Admissions and Pleas*, Thompsonville, MI, August 17, 2015.

The National Judicial College, *Managing Challenging Family Law Cases: A Practical Approach, Immigration Consequences in Family Law Cases*, Reno, NV, June 11, 2015.

Michigan Third Judicial Circuit, Family Division, *Special Immigrant Juvenile Status*, Detroit, MI, April 23, 2015.

Michigan Judicial Institute, Family Division Referee Seminar, *Immigrant Youth who Commit Status or Delinquent Offenses –What should courts do?* Lansing, MI, October 15, 2014.

The National Judicial College, *Managing Challenging Family Law Cases: A Practical Approach, Immigration Consequences in Family Law Cases*, Reno, NV, October 24, 2012.

Texas Center for the Judiciary and The National Judicial College, *Immigration Issues for Texas State Trial Judges*, San Antonio, TX, October 12, 2012.

Michigan Judicial Institute, Probate Judges Association Annual Conference, *Immigration Issues and Collateral Consequences in State Courts*, Thompsonville, MI, June 28, 2011.

Michigan Judicial Institute, *Immigration Issues and Collateral Consequences in Divorce, Child Protective, and Delinquency Proceedings*, Grand Rapids, MI, September 17, 2010.

State of Nevada, *Testimony on TANF Availability for Domestic Violence Victims*, Las Vegas, NV, January 25, 2006.

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

UAW Local 602 *Hispanic Latino Celebration: Immigration Reform, Hopes, Fears, Reality*, (keynote speaker) Lansing, MI, October 18, 2015.

Michigan Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights, 2015 Annual Meeting: *Unaccompanied Children in Michigan, Looking Back a Year*, Lansing, MI, September 18, 2015.

State Bar of Michigan, Annual Meeting, Family Law Section, *Working with Immigrant Children*, Grand Rapids, MI, September 18, 2014.

Hofstra University Law School, *Immigrants and the Family Court: Policies, Practice and Systemic Change*, (moderator), Hempstead, NY, November 9, 2012.

Michigan Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights, 2012 Statewide Immigrant Rights Summit, *Plenary Address: VAWA Reauthorization*, Lansing, MI September 28, 2012.

State Bar of Michigan, Pro Bono Initiative: 4th Annual Spring Pro Bono Workshop, *Legal Services and Law Schools, Immigration Panel*, Lansing, MI, May 23, 2012.

Michigan Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights, 2011 Statewide Summit, *Addressing Federal Immigration Legislation*, Lansing, MI, September 23, 2011.

UNLV Boyd School of Law and Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada, *Special Considerations in Representing Pro Bono Clients*, Las Vegas, NV, October 27, 2009.

American Immigration Lawyers Association, National Annual Conference, *Families in Crisis: Violence Against Women Act Advanced Topics*, Las Vegas, NV, June 5, 2009.

Clark County Bar Association, *Domestic Violence and Immigration*, Las Vegas, NV, March 7, 2008.

State Bar of Nevada, *Family Law and Immigration*, Las Vegas, NV, December 5, 2007.

The National Center for Victims of Crime, *Immigration and Domestic Violence*, Las Vegas, NV, December 4, 2007.

Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, *Immigration Relief for Victims of Crime*, Las Vegas, NV, May 8, 2007.

State Bar of Nevada, *Domestic Violence: Representing the Non-Citizen*, Las Vegas, NV, April 25, 2007.

Clark County Bar Association, *Issuance and Enforcement of Temporary Protection Orders*, Las Vegas, NV, June 28, 2006.

Clark County Bar Association, *Representing Victims of Crime (VAWA/U Visa)*, Las Vegas, NV, April 6, 2006.

Nevada Attorney General's Office, *Policies and Civil Liabilities for Train the Trainers Program*, Las Vegas, NV, March 10, 2006.

Safe Nest, *Cultural Diversity, Domestic Violence and Immigration*, Las Vegas, NV, February 1, 2006.

Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence Annual Conference, *Working with Legal Services Providers*, Reno, NV, April 2005.

Interfaith Task Force Against Domestic Violence, *Domestic Violence, Child Support and Immigration*, Las Vegas, NV, January 22, 2005.

SELECTED CONTINUING EDUCATION AND TRAINING PRESENTATIONS

National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project at American University, faculty for eight sessions, including serving as lead faculty for two plenary sessions, at back-to-back conferences funded by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office in Violence Against Women on "Addressing Culture: Systematic Responses to Underserved Immigrant Populations." New Orleans, LA, December 12-16, 2016.

Migration Policy Institute, presenter at national call for school administrators *Supporting Students, Families, and Schools through the Political Transition*. December 6, 2016.

American Bar Association, Section of Family Law, Fall Conference, *Intersection of Family and Immigration Laws: Tips, Tools and Best Practices*, Quebec City, QC, October 22, 2016.

Bethany Christian Services, *Other Forms of Immigration Relief for Unaccompanied Minor Children*, Grand Rapids, MI, June 13, 2016.

Advocates and Leaders for Police and Community Trust (ALPACT), *Unaccompanied Children and the Courts*, Grand Rapids, MI, May 18, 2016.

National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project, Family Law Attorneys Community of Practice, facilitator and presenter for national monthly conference calls, March 24, 2015 to present.

National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project, *Community of Responders: A Holistic Approach to Working with Immigrant Survivors of Abuse*, New Orleans, LA, July 30, 2015.

Institute of Continuing Legal Education 13th Annual Family Law Institute, *Working with Immigrant Children*, Novi, MI, November 14, 2014.

Michigan Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights and the Michigan Immigrant Rights Center, *Unaccompanied Minor Training*, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI, November 12, 2014.

Bethany Christian Services, *Identifying and Serving Children who are Victims of Human Trafficking*, Grand Rapids, MI, September 26, 2014 (with faculty of University of Michigan Human Trafficking Clinic).

Lutheran Social Services, Social Worker Training Program, *Working with Immigrant Children*, Lansing, MI, July 17, 2014.

Lutheran Social Services, Foster Parent Training Program, *Overview of Immigration Issues for Children*, Lansing, MI, July 14, 2014.

Refugee Resettlement Program, Bethany Christian Services, *Working with Immigrant Children*, Grand Rapids, MI, September 12, 2013.

Michigan Supreme Court State Court Administrative Office, Community Dispute Resolution Program, Domestic Relations Mediator Training, *Domestic Violence Screening Training for Mediators*, Lansing, MI, July 19, 2013.

The Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada: *Immigration Relief for Victims of Crime*, Las Vegas, NV October 22, 2012.

Nebraska Children's Summit: Making Change Happen, *Representing Immigrant Parents in Juvenile Court*, Kearney, NE, August 28, 2012.

Michigan Supreme Court State Court Administrative Office, Community Dispute Resolution Program, Domestic Relations Mediator Training, *Domestic Violence Screening Training for Mediators*, Lansing, MI, May 16, 2012.

BAR ADMISSIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS

New Jersey, November 2000

New York, March 2001

Nevada, October 2002

Michigan, November 2010

Family Law Certificate, Michigan Institute of Continuing Legal Education, October 2013

Domestic Violence Screening Mediation Trainer for Michigan Domestic Relations Mediation certification, Michigan State Court Administrative Office, Office of Dispute Resolution, March 2013

United States District Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York, July 2001

United States District Courts for the District of Nevada, November 2002

United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, December 2010

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Bar Association

(Member, 2003 to present)

Family Law Section

(2003 – 2010)

American Bar Foundation

(Fellow, elected 2016)

American Immigration Lawyers Association

(Member, Pro bono Committee – Michigan Chapter, 2011 – 2012)

Association of the Bar of the City of New York

(Immigration and Nationality Committee, 2001 – 2002)

Clark County Bar Association

(2002-2009)

Michigan Committee for Refugee Resettlement

(Board Member, 2012 – present)

Michigan Supreme Court, State Court Administrative Office

Domestic Violence Screening Protocol Curriculum Review Committee

(Member, 2014)

Michigan State University Research Consortium on Gender-Based Violence

(Core Faculty, 2010 – present)

Migration Policy Institute, National Center on Immigrant Integration Policy

(Advisory Board Member, 2007 – 2012)

National Judicial College
(Faculty, 2012 – present)

National Immigrant Women’s Advocacy Project at American University Washington College of Law
(Family Law Attorneys Community of Practice, expert faculty, 2015 - present)

Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence
(Board Member, 2005 – 2009; Vice-Chair, 2007 – 2009)

Nevada State Bar
(2002 – present)

Southern Nevada Domestic Violence Task Force
(Member 2002 – 2007)

State Bar of Michigan
(Member, 2010 – present)
Family Law Section Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee
(Member 2015 – present)
Domestic Violence Subcommittee
(2015 – present)
Domestic Violence Committee
(Co-Chair, 2014 – present, Member 2012 – present)

SELECTED AWARDS

Southern Nevada Domestic Violence Task Force S.T.A.R. Award (2006)

Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada, Louis Wiener Service Award (2009)

Michigan State University Service-Learning and Civic Engagement Award (2014)

Michigan State University Excellence in Diversity Award (on behalf of Immigration Law Clinic, 2015)

LANGUAGES

Native speaker of Spanish.