

SOPHIE CRISPIN

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BAR ADMISSIONS AND EDUCATION

Bar Admissions

Wisconsin State Bar 2017
New York State Bar 2018

University of Wisconsin Law School

Juris Doctorate May 2017

Honors:

- Pro Bono Society Award of Distinction 2017 May 2017
Recognizes over 100 hours of pro bono service
- Stearns-Shaw Scholarship, 2014-2017 2014-2017
Recognizes advocacy for the LGBTQ community

Activities:

- Moot Court Board
- Ready to Rent Reentry Training Program, Organizer
- Madison LGBTQ Books to Prisoners, Volunteer
- Rebellious Lawyering Conference 2016, Panel Organizer
- National Lawyers Guild, Member and Legal Observer Volunteer

Ohio Wesleyan University

Bachelor of Arts with honors in Gender Studies and US History May 2014

EXPERIENCE

University of Wisconsin Law School

July 2022-present

Clinical Instructor and Director, Eviction Defense Clinic

- Represent clients at all stages of litigation in District Courts, administrative forums, and the WI Court of Appeals
- Manage a fast-paced docket of cases, with an average of 4 new clients each week
- Supervise up to 10 students practicing under my license
- Develop curriculum and course materials and prepare students for litigation
- Coordinated community legal clinics for limited representation, legal advice, and education
- Coordinate with other provider organizations to advocate for systemic change
- Participate in local advocacy and media efforts relating to rental housing
- Created and facilitate a collaborative multi-clinic course on race equity that has been renewed twice
- Facilitated an office-wide inservice day, including a trauma-informed lawyering presentation
- Draft grant proposals
- Maintain files and data for internal and external reporting

EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

New York Legal Assistance Group

August 2018-June 2022

Senior Staff Attorney, Tenants' Rights Unit

Manhattan Litigation Team, August 2018-July 2021

Public Housing Justice Project, July 2021-June 2022

- Defended tenants from eviction in Housing Court, Manhattan Supreme Court, and Administrative forums
- Managed 50+ open and active cases, from initial client meeting to resolution
- Engaged in complex litigation, including trials, discovery & depositions, and motion practice
- Coordinated with other provider organizations to advocate for systemic change
- Participated in direct supervision of interns and developed a program curriculum
- Sat on hiring committees and developed hiring policy for both staff and management-level positions

Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York

August 2017-August 2018

Staff Attorney, Public Benefits and Community Reentry Units

- Managed a caseload of 50+ active cases
- Litigated in state courts and administrative forums
- Defended complex post-incarceration motions for relief from collateral consequences and record sealing
- Facilitated community education and outreach efforts

Judge Furay, Chief Bankruptcy Judge for the Western Dist. Of WI

Spring 2017

Extern

- Researched and drafted a judicial opinion and weekly bench memos

Columbia Legal Services

June-August 2016

Law Clerk, Institutions Project

- Assisted with research and document review during the class certification process
- Researched and drafted motions for relief from legal financial obligations
- Assisted with a legislative "ban the box" effort to curb criminal record-based discrimination in rental housing
- Produced an internal research guide on prison policies relating to transgender inmates in the 9th circuit

Community Justice, Inc.

Spring 2016

Public Defense Intern

- Participated in all aspects of trial preparation and in plea and sentencing negotiations

Neighborhood Law Clinic

May 2015-May 2016

Clinical Law Student

- Handled cases involving eviction, employment discrimination, wage theft, and bankruptcy
- Represented clients in administrative, state, and federal court proceedings

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- Presenter, "Encouraging Mutual Support for Improved Pedagogy and Professional Resilience in Clinics and Externships"
ALAA Clinical Conference May 2024
- Presenter, "Soft Funding, Hard Truths"
ALAA Clinical Conference May 2024
- Panelist, "The Path Forward for DEI in Wisconsin"
UW-Madison QLaw April 2024
- Presenter, "Creating a Cohort for Ongoing Education"
Midwest Clinical Conference October 2023
- Presenter, "ABA Rule 303 & Political Pressures"
Midwest Clinical Conference October 2023
- Panelist, "The State of Housing Law in Wisconsin"
UW-Madison Public Interest Law Foundation April 2023
- Presenter, "The Trick with Trauma"
Mid-Atlantic Regional Clinical Conference February 2023
- Panelist, "Careers in Civil Legal Aid"
UW-Madison Public Interest Law Foundation November 2022