

CURRICULUM VITAE

Blake Nordahl
Professor of Lawyering Skills
McGeorge Law School
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Bar Membership

State Bar of California (Admitted 2002 / Active Status)
California Certified Law Specialist, Immigration Law

Education

University of California, Davis School of Law, J.D., 2002
Senior Research Editor, U.C. Davis Law Review

University of California, at Berkeley, B.A., 1999
(International) Development Studies

Academic Experience

Professor of Lawyering Skills and Supervising Attorney, Immigration Law Clinic,
University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law, June 2009 – Present

- Supervise law students representing non-citizens in affirmative applications before the USCIS including asylum, Special Immigrant Juvenile petitions, U visas, and VAWA applications as well as various applications in removal proceedings.
- Initiated deportation defense project where students represent immigrants before the Immigration Court in San Francisco. Students have successfully represented clients in proceedings including asylum, cancellation of removal, bond, and requests for prosecutorial discretion.
- Initiated a detention project where students travel to Yuba county jail and provide consultations and advice to detained immigrants. Coordinate annual Immigration Fair where over 1000 community members have received assistance with naturalization and DACA applications since 2009.
- Coach Moot Court teams for UC Davis National Asylum and Refugee Law Competition from 2015 and 2017-2019.

Judicial Law Clerk, Federal Immigration Court, U.S. Department of Justice Honors Program,
San Diego, CA, September 2002 – September 2003

Summer Honors Intern, U.S. Department of Justice, Los Angeles, CA, June 2001 – August 2001

Clinic Student, Immigration Law Clinic, U.C. Davis School of Law, August 2001 – May 2002

Private Practice Experience

Private Law Practice, Sacramento, CA, June 2005 – 2017

Maintained an immigration law practice with focus on representing non-citizens before various federal agencies including USCIS, the Immigration Courts, the BIA, and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Publications

A Migration Story from the Sugar Fields of Southwest Guatemala: A Case for Treating Corporations as Persecutors under Asylum and Refugee Law in *From Extraction to Emancipation, Development Reimagined* (Raquel Aldana and Steve Bender eds.) (American Bar Association 2018).

Service

California State Bar Advisory Commission on Legal Specialization for Immigration and Nationality Law, 2013-2018 (served as Chair, 2017-2018)

Legal Advisor, Sacramento FUEL Network, 2017 (City of Sacramento taskforce to defend immigrants in Sacramento)

AILA NorCal Liaison with USCIS Sacramento District Office, 2013-2015

Professional Associations

American Immigration Lawyers Association

Selected Presentations

Panelist, Immigration: Calming the Community and Facilitating a Dialogue, 6th Annual Sacramento Court/Clergy Conference, October 17, 2019

Moderator, Local Advocates Confront the Immigration Policy Crisis, ABAS Law Foundation, February 12, 2019.

Presenter, Legal Options for Immigrants Who Are Victims of Crime, Center for Violence Free Relationships, Placerville CA, January 24, 2019.

Panelist, FUEL Network Community Teach In, (discussion of current legal strategy for undocumented immigrants), Organized by the City of Sacramento and CRLAF, February 21, 2018.

Presenter, From Extraction to Emancipation: Development Reimagined, Law and Society conference, June 21, 2017, Mexico City

Panelist, Executive Training on Immigration Rights and Resources: Federal, State and Local, McGeorge Law School, Feb. 3, 2017