

DENISE L. GILMAN

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EDUCATION

Georgetown University Law Center, Washington, D.C.
Master of Laws with distinction, 2007.

Columbia University School of Law, New York, NY
Juris Doctor, June 1994. Parker School Certificate in Foreign Law with honors.

- Columbia Law Review
- Stone Scholar; Rosenmann Award for leadership and public interest scholarship
- President, Student Senate

Northwestern University, Evanston, IL
Bachelor of Arts with honors in Political Science, May 1990.

- Honors Thesis: A Comparison of Contemporary Revolutions in Nicaragua and El Salvador
- Dean's List
- Study in Sevilla, Spain

EXPERIENCE

The University of Texas at Austin School of Law, Austin, TX *2007-Present*
Clinical Professor of Law and Co-Director, Immigration Clinic

- Teach the Immigration Clinic, including through designing and implementing the classroom component of the course, which covers substantive and procedural immigration law and theory as well as practical skills.
- Supervise students handling asylum, removal, Violence Against Women Act, and other immigration cases and engage in regular review and feedback of students' legal writing and oral advocacy.
- Manage the operation of the clinic, including selection of students and cases and budgeting.
- Represent clients before the Department of Homeland Security and immigration courts.
- Participate in policy projects and impact litigation, in representation of the clinic and independently, seeking to improve human rights protections for immigrants.
- Teach a Refugee Law and Policy writing seminar.

Georgetown University Law Center, Washington, D.C. *2005-2007*
Teaching Fellow, Center for Applied Legal Studies –

- Co-taught asylum clinic, including by designing and teaching classes, critiquing students' legal writing and oral advocacy, grading, and selecting law students and fellows.
- Supervised students representing asylum seekers in immigration court.
- Represented the clinic in interactions with community organizations and government and court personnel.

Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights, Washington, D.C. *2000-2005*

Immigrant and Refugee Rights Project Director –

- Provided representation to political asylum seekers, directly and through the coordination of work by pro bono attorneys from area law firms.
- Litigated cases of law enforcement abuses and discrimination against immigrants in federal court and before administrative agencies.
- Advocated on immigrants' rights issues with Congress, the Department of Homeland Security, the D.C. City Council and other national and local policymakers.
- Played a leadership role in coordinating the advocacy of grassroots immigrant groups on local immigrants' civil rights issues and provided legal support and advice to these groups.
- Provided political asylum training to pro bono attorneys through the D.C. Bar.
- Conducted outreach on the civil rights of immigrants through the press and through presentations to diverse audiences.
- Prepared grant proposals and conducted fundraising efforts.

Human Rights First, Washington, D.C. *1999-2000*

Mexico Project Coordinator –

- Designed and implemented a project to combat the use of torture to obtain confessions in criminal proceedings in Mexico. Engaged in extensive contact with private and public defense attorneys, governmental authorities, non-governmental organizations and the press.
- Advocated with Mexican and U.S. officials to improve the Mexican criminal legal system.
- Litigated cases challenging aspects of the Mexican criminal justice system before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.
- Analyzed and reported on limitations to freedom of expression affecting non-governmental human rights organizations in Mexico.

Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, O.A.S., Washington, D.C. *1995-1998*

Human Rights Specialist/Staff Attorney –

- Served as attorney for Guatemala and Colombia; prepared Commission decisions in cases brought against these States by individuals asserting violations of their human rights.
- Coordinated on-site and working visits to O.A.S. member states and prepared reports on the general situation of human rights in those countries.
- Engaged in regular interactions with the leadership of non-governmental organizations and with high-level governmental officials in O.A.S. member states.
- Managed the litigation of select cases before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.
- Recommended appropriate action on requests that the Commission adopt emergency precautionary measures or that the Commission petition the Court for such measures.
- Conducted training and outreach regarding the inter-American human rights system.

United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, Austin, TX *1994-1995*

Law clerk to the Honorable Judge Thomas M. Reavley.

SERVICE, AWARDS AND PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- 2023-present Founding Board Member, Texas Immigration Law Council
- 2012-present American Bar Association Commission on Immigration and Section of Civil Rights and Social Justice
- 2007-present Service on Rules, Teaching, Experiential Learning, Standards and Rules, Dean Review, Faculty Awards Faculty Committees at Texas Law
- 2018-2023 Member of the University of Texas at Austin Faculty Council and Committee of Counsel on Academic Freedom
- 2021 Casa Marianella Award for Outstanding Service to the Immigrant Community
- 2021 Grassroots Leadership *Abogada del Pueblo* Award
- 2019 University of Texas Awards-Outstanding Community Based Learning Professor
- 2016 Federal Bar Association Immigration Law Section “Attorney of the Year”
- 2005 D.C. Court of Appeals Community Outreach Recognition and Opportunity Award
- 2005-2007 Board of Directors, D.C. Central American Resource Center (CARECEN).
- 2003 MALDEF Excellence in the Legal Profession Award Recipient.
- 2008-2023 American Immigration Lawyers Association (including the Federal Court Litigation Section Executive Committee and Online Asylum Course Committee).
- Regularly interviewed and quoted by NPR, The New York Times, USA Today, and other media outlets
- District of Columbia Bar and the State Bar of Texas.

LANGUAGE

Fluent in written and oral Spanish.

SELECTED SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS

Making Protection Unexceptional: A Reconceptualization of the U.S. Asylum System, forthcoming in 55 Loyola U. Chi. L. J. (2023)

Barricading the Border: COVID-19 and the Exclusion of Asylum Seekers at the U.S. Southern Border, Front. Hum. Dyn. (Dec. 2020) (peer-reviewed)

Immigration Detention, Inc., 6 J. Migration & Hum. Sec. 145 (2018) (peer-reviewed) (co-authored with Luis A. Romero)

The Unending Floods: Disaster Recovery and Immigration Policy, 96 Tex. L. Rev. Online 91 (2018) (co-authored with Elissa Steglich)

To Loose the Bonds: The Deceptive Promise of Freedom from Pretrial Immigration Detention, 92 Indiana L.J. 157 (2016)

Realizing Liberty: The Use Of International Human Rights Law To Realign Immigration Detention In The United States, 36 Fordham Int'l L.J. 243 (2013)

A “Bilingual” Approach to Language Rights: How Dialogue between U.S. and International Human Rights Law May Improve the Language Rights Framework, 24 Harv. Hum. Rts. J. 1 (2011)

Seeking Breaches in the Wall: An International Human Rights Law Challenge to the Texas-Mexico Border Wall, 46 Tex. Int’l L.J. 257 (2011)

Calling the United States’ Bluff: How Sovereign Immunity Undermines the United States’ Claim to an Effective Domestic Human Rights System, 95 Geo. L.J. 591 (2007)

OTHER SELECTED WRITING

Opinion Author (with Karen Musalo and Jaya Ramji-Nogales), Just Security – *Welcoming the Persecuted is an American Value* (July 2024), <https://www.justsecurity.org/97461/america-welcoming-the-persecuted/>

Opinion Author, Austin American Statesman – *Claims of an Open Border are False and Harmful* (Jan. 16, 2024), <https://news.utexas.edu/2024/01/16/claims-of-an-open-border-are-false-and-harmful/>

Author (with Kate Evans, Emily Ryo, Mary Holper, and Brandon Garrett), Invited Memorandum to Immigration and Customs Enforcement – *Considerations Regarding Money Bond and Alternatives to Detention* (April 2023)

Primary Contributor, American Bar Association - *Border Primer* (most recent August 2024), <https://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/administrative/immigration/border-primer.pdf>

Author, Non-Paper for the White House - *Proposal for Receiving Asylum Seekers at the Southern Border* (May 2021)

Contributor, Oral Argument 2.0 – *Pham v. Guzman Chavez* (detention) (2021), <https://argument2.oyez.org/2021/pham-v-guzman-chavez/>

Author (with Elissa Steglich), *Public Comment on Proposed Rules on Procedures for Credible Fear Screening and Consideration of Asylum, Withholding of Removal, and CAT Protection Claims by Asylum Officers* (Oct. 2021), <https://www.regulations.gov/comment/USCIS-2021-0012-5191>

Primary Author (with Sarah Paoletti, Daniella Burgi-Palomino, Helen Kerwin) – *Request to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights for Precautionary Measures Filed on Behalf of Asylum Seekers Placed Into MPP [Migrant Protection Protocols] and Forcibly Returned to Mexico* (2020), <https://law.utexas.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/11/2020/02/2020-IC-Request-for-PM-MPP.pdf>

Primary Author (on behalf of law and social science faculty nationwide) - *Expert Response to the Final Emergency Interim Report of the CBP Families and Children Care Panel of the Homeland Security Advisory Council* (May 2019), <https://law.utexas.edu/clinics/2019/05/15/expert-response-to-the-final-emergency-interim-report-of-the-cbp-families-and-children-care-panel-of-the-homeland-security-advisory-council/>

Primary Author (with ACLU of Texas), *Amicus Curiae Brief in Support of Habeas Petitioner, Jovel-Jovel v. Contreras* (S.D. Tex.) (prolonged immigration detention challenge) (March 2019)

Primary Author (on behalf of immigration law professors), *Amicus Curiae Brief, Matter of M-S-* (BIA) (in support of review of immigration detention custody decisions) (Nov. 2018), <https://www.lexisnexis.com/community/insights/legal/immigration/b/insideneews/posts/law-profs-file-amicus-brief-in-in-matter-of-m-s--27-i-n-dec-476-a-g-2018?srsIid=AfmBOorkExIUeD3VUUgkzLmsxQB6139s7SvuUSwAVllzINVhmOePxyzsf>

Opinion, USA Today - *Donald Trump is Ignoring the Immigration Laws that Protect Children and Families* (July 2018), <https://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2018/07/17/trump-ignores-immigration-laws-protecting-families-children-asylum-seekers-column/776788002/>

Counsel, Complaint and Briefing, *Mukaya et al v. Collins* (habeas petition for detained asylum seekers) (W.D. Tex. 2018)

Opinion Author, Houston Chronicle – *As a “Country of Laws,” U.S. Must Ensure Immigration Courts Work Properly* (Aug. 2017), <https://www.houstonchronicle.com/opinion/outlook/article/Gilman-As-a-country-of-laws-U-S-must-ensure-11746141.php>

Opinion Author, The Guardian - *The U.S. Deportation System is Verging on Lawlessness* (Aug. 2017), <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2017/aug/23/immigration-crisis-us-deportation-system-lawlessness-trump-administration>

Opinion Author, Houston Chronicle – *Asylum-Seeking Families Need Help Not Immigration Detention* (Dec. 2015), <https://www.chron.com/opinion/outlook/article/Gilman-Asylum-seeking-families-need-help-not-6668483.php>

Primary Author, American Bar Association - *Family Immigration Detention: Why The Past Cannot Be Prologue* (July 2015), www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/publications/commission_on_immigration/family_detention_report_2015.pdf

Co-Counsel, Complaint and Briefing, *R.I.L.R. v. Johnson* (class action challenging family detention) (D.D.C. 2014), <https://www.aclu.org/cases/rilr-v-johnson?document=rilr-v-johnson-complaint#legal-documents>

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

International Political Science Association RC26 (Webinar), *Comments on World Refugees Day* (June 2024)

Immigration Law Teachers and Scholars Workshop (University of Minnesota), *Perspectives on Breaking, Mending and Expanding the U.S. Asylum Framework* (May 2024)

Universidad Carlos III, Taller Pluralismo Cultural y Minorías (Webinar), *Asilo en Estados Unidos y Trato Diferencial por Origen Racial o Nacional* (March 2024)

American Bar Association (Webinar), *Immigration Enforcement Mechanisms at the U.S. Southwest Border: The Only Constant is Change* (December 2023)

Texas Bar Annual Meeting, International Law Section (Austin, TX), *The End of Title 42 and Challenges at the Border* (June 2023)

Law and Society International Meeting (San Juan, Puerto Rico), *Reader Commentary on Stephen Meili, The Constitutionalization of Human Rights Law: Implications for Refugees* (June 2023)

University of Texas Rapoport Center for Human Rights and Justice Center for Public Interest Law (Austin, TX), *Expanding Forms of Immigration Detention and E-carceration* (October 2022)

UNHCR (Webinar), *International Law, UNHCR Guidance, and Their Strategic Use in Representation and Litigation* (September 2022)

Law and Society International Meeting (Lisbon, Portugal), *A Change of Course on Asylum: Ending Exceptionality* (June 2022)

Harvard Law School Human Rights Program (Webinar), *Abusing Public Health Powers at the Border: Litigating Title 42 Deportations before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights* (November 2021)

American Immigration Lawyers Association Annual Conference (Virtual), *Fighting for Procedural Due Process in Immigration Proceedings* (June 2021)

Doctors without Borders (Austin, TX), *Defending Humanity: Caring for Refugees and migrants Trapped in Danger* (December 2019)

Metropolis North America Migration Policy Forum (San Diego, CA), *Restrictive Asylum Policies, Mobility Control and Stranded Refugees on North America's Borders* (November 2019)

Refugee Law Initiative, University of London (London, England), *The Multiplying Immigration Mechanisms for Legal and Physical Exclusion from the U.S. Asylum Process* (June 2019)

Boston College Global Migration Conference (Boston, MA), *Admission and Exclusion* (April 2019)

University of Gothenburg (Gothenburg, Sweden), *Asylum and Refugee Law in the USA – What is Happening Nationally and at the Texas/Mexico Border?* (October 2018)

University of Texas, Institute of Latin American Studies, Mexico's Political Earthquake (Austin, TX), *Migration in United States-Mexico Relations Moving Forward* (September 2018)

American Association for the Advancement of Science 2018 Annual Meeting (Austin, TX), *Migration: A Case for Science Diplomacy?* (Feb. 2018)

9th Worldwide Global Alliance for Justice Conference (Puebla, Mexico), *Cross-Border Clinical Collaboration to Provide Legal Aid and Advocacy for Asylum Seekers* (December 2017)

Levin Center at Wayne Law, Symposium: Current Issues in Immigration Policy (Detroit, MI), *Immigration Detention* (November 2017)

Law and Society International Meeting (Mexico City), *Immigration Detention, Inc.* (June 2017)

Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Professional Development Session (via video from Austin, TX), *U.S. Asylum Law and Procedure* (May 2017)

Texas A&M Law Review Symposium, American Immigration Law: The New Colossus (Forth Worth, TX) *What Do New Policies Mean for Immigrants and Refugees* (April 2017)

USC Gould School of Law, Immigration Detention in the Age of Migration and Control (Los Angeles, CA), *Detention and Inequality* (April 2017)

AALS Annual Meeting (San Francisco, CA), *The Central American Refugee Crisis* (Jan. 2017)

American Bar Association Annual Meeting (San Francisco, CA), *Controversy Delays Progress: Prospects for Immigration Initiatives in the Next Administration* (Aug. 2016)

Center for Migration Studies, Rethinking the Global Refugee Protection System (New York, NY), *Refugee and Unaccompanied Children: Family Detention* (June 2016)

Immigration Law Professors Workshop (Michigan State University), *International Norms and Immigration Detention* (May 2016)

Rapoport Human Rights Center Annual Conference: Inequality and Human Rights (Austin, TX), *Detention, Inc.* (April 2016)

UCLA Chicano Studies Research Center, Central American Refugees in Detention (Los Angeles, CA), *Opening Keynote – UnFAMILIAR Policies? The Detention of Central American Refugee Families* (Sept. 2015)

Columbia Law School, Bringing Human Rights Home Lawyers' Network Annual Human Rights in the U.S. Symposium/CLE: Engaging with the Inter-American Human Rights System for U.S. Advocacy (New York, New York), *Strategies for Effective Engagement* (June 2015)

New York University School of Law Journal of International Law and Politics Symposium, The Human Rights of Migrants: From Treaty to Reality (New York, New York), *Towards a Rights Respecting Immigration Enforcement System* (Nov. 2014)

University of Leiden, The Borders of Crimmigration (Leiden, Netherlands), *Bond Proceedings: The Elusive Promise Of Freedom From Immigration Detention* (Nov. 2014)

Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine Annual Meeting (Austin, Texas), *How Immigration Policy and International Human Rights Effects the Lives of Adolescents and Young Adults* (March 2014)

Human Rights First, Dialogues on Detention (Austin, Texas), *Finding Effective Counsel from Jail: Models of Legal Representation in Texas* (Sept. 2012)

International Conference on Law and Society (Honolulu, Hawaii), *Realizing Liberty: The Use of International Human Rights Law to Reform Immigration Detention in the United States* (June 2012)

Universidad de San Andres Law School Global Law Seminar (Buenos Aires, Argentina): *A "Bilingual" Approach to Language Rights* (June 2011)

Texas International Law Journal and Rapoport Center for Human Rights and Justice Conference (Austin, Texas): *Brick by Brick: Using a Human Rights Challenge to Build Momentum against Construction of the Texas/Mexico Border Wall* (February 2010)

US Human Rights Network National Human Rights Conference (Chicago, IL): *Introduction to the Inter-American Commission* (April 2008)

Symposium, NYU (New York, NY): *The Economic and Social Rights of Non-Citizens: Human Rights Principles and the Development of U.S. Policy* (2005)

Lecture Series, United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity (Washington, D.C.): *Immigrants and Fair Housing* (2004)

Latino Civil Rights Ten Years after the Mount Pleasant Disturbances, United States Civil Rights Commission (Washington, D.C.): *Testimony on the Findings of the Civil Rights Review Panel* (2002)

Annual Conference and Training, United States Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, Housing Section (Washington, D.C.): *Language Access and National Original Discrimination* (2001).

Training for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (Washington, D.C.): *The Inter-American Human Rights System and its Relation to Refugee Protection* (2000)

Hearing on Human Rights in Mexico, Congressional Human Rights Caucus (Washington, D.C.): *Elements of the Criminal Justice System in Mexico Leading to Human Rights Violations* (2000).