

MOLLY M. PETTRY

AZ Bar Member since November 2011

EDUCATION

University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law, Tucson, AZ

Juris Doctor, May 2011

- American Constitution Society; Lawyers for Literacy
- Richard Grand Scholarship Award, James E. Rogers College of Law (2010-2011)
- Southern Arizona Arthritis Foundation Winterhoff Scholarship (2010-2011)

University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

Bachelor of Arts, Spanish Literature and Philosophy, May 2008, Magna cum laude, GPA 3.844/4.0

- Arizona Department of Philosophy Kathryn Anne Gernal Perseverance Award
- Sigma Delta Phi (Spanish Honor Society)
- Undergraduate Philosophy Club (2006-2008)
- Study Abroad - Segovia, Spain (Summer 2006)

EXPERIENCE

Attorney, Office of Court Appointed Counsel - Mental Health Division, Pima County

(Jan. 18, 2012 – Present)

- Defend indigent clients facing civil commitment under A.R.S. Title 36. Appeal mental health cases to the Court of Appeals. Represent clients throughout their year of Court Ordered mental health treatment (“COT”), which includes bringing issues before the superior court for judicial review on matters regarding placement: when the doctor is recommending long-term placement at Arizona State Hospital, or when a placement is too restrictive (i.e. hospital vs. group home or independent housing), petitions to extend COT for a subsequent year, and when the doctor is prescribing electro convulsive therapy as a treatment against the client’s will.

- Defend indigent clients of whom Pima County is seeking guardianship under A.R.S. Title 14.

-Act as a Guardian Ad Litem to victims in criminal cases who have diminished capacity.

Associate Attorney, Weekes Law LLC, Tucson, AZ (Sep. 10, 2011 – Dec. 1, 2011)

Performed initial assessments with clients and follow-up consultations to determine eligibility for either a Chapter 7 or 13 bankruptcy, and advised them on the process of bankruptcy.

Legal Intern, Tucson Family Advocacy Program, Tucson, AZ (Nov. 2010 – May 2011)

Conducted interviews with refugees to assess their eligibility for state and federal benefits. Helped them apply for SSI, SSD, and SSA benefits and Medicaid. Started the appeals in SSI denials.

Volunteer, Justice Project, College of Law Tucson, AZ (January 2010 – December 2010)

Drafted appeal for the Clemency Board of AZ requesting that the client’s sentencing be reviewed a whole. Compared Arizona law to other state law and wrote letters to the Board appealing to the history and purpose of clemency along with the client’s personal situation. Met with client in prison and interviewed family and others on the client’s behalf.

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Law Clerk, AZ Center for Disability Law, Tucson, AZ (Summer 2010)

Drafted complaints with the EEOC and DOJ and wrote demand letters to private colleges, employers, and public facilities for reasonable accommodations. Participated in drafting Amended Complaint for the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, arguing that closed captioning and descriptive narration in movie theaters are reasonable accommodations. Participated in a mediation in which the client successfully received monetary compensation for being discriminatorily terminated based on her disability. Edited and rewrote up-to-date public education brochures on “Getting a Job when You Have a Disability.”

Legal Intern, AZ Center for Disability Law, Tucson, AZ (Fall 2009)

Drafted demand letters for reasonable accommodations. Researched and wrote memos on the changes to Title II and III of the ADA under the 2008 ADA Amendments Act. Educated clients on the ADA. Handed out information and answered questions about the Center at the Commission on Disability Issues Conference.

Judicial Extern, Pima County Superior Court, Tucson, AZ (Summer 2009)

Worked under Judge Stanford on the family law bench. Researched and wrote memos on property and child visitation rights post-divorce.

Tutor to University of Arizona Athletes, Tucson, AZ, (Spring 2008)

Worked with the students to increase their grade point average in order to maintain eligibility to play college sports.