

SUJATHA BALIGA

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EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, J.D., May 1999

Honors: Public Interest Scholar
Activities: Equal Justice Foundation
Loan Forgiveness Committee
National Lawyers Guild
Custody and Support Assistance Clinic

HARVARD & RADCLIFFE COLLEGES, A.B., South Asian Women and Development, June 1993

Transferred from Franklin & Marshall, Fall 1991
A.B. and Senior Thesis, *cum laude*
Harvard Foundation for Intercultural and Race Relations
Harvard Center for International Affairs, Undergraduate Fellow
Various public service and travel awards and grants
Peer counselor
Coordinator, Gender Issues Center

EXPERIENCE

COMMUNITY WORKS, BERKELEY, CA July 2008 – Oct. 2008, Oct. 2009 – present
Director, Community Justice Works. Continuing implementation of restorative juvenile justice diversion program initiated under Soros Fellowship with RJOY, below. Assists Oakland Unified School District in adopting restorative discipline alternatives to expulsion/suspension. Leads forgiveness workshops using restorative justice principles for groups of incarcerated men labeled violent offenders. Conducts restorative justice trainings. Advises Community Works on all restorative justice programs.

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE FOR OAKLAND YOUTH (RJOY), OAKLAND, CA Apr. 2008 – Sept 2009
Soros Justice Advocacy Fellow. Recipient of fellowship from the Open Society Institute to assist Alameda County's juvenile justice system adopt restorative justice practices to decrease its reliance on incarceration and other forms of punishment. Worked toward implementation of county-wide system to help youth accused of crime and their victims collectively resolve conflicts and root out the causes of juvenile offending.

STANFORD CRIMINAL JUSTICE CENTER, Palo Alto, CA July 2007 – Jan. 2008
Consultant for academic symposium titled *Rights, Needs, Power: The Victim in Criminal Justice* held in January 2008. Speakers included Hon. Paul Cassell, Professors Howard Zehr, Eric Stover, Donna Coker, and Linda Mills, among others.

NEW COLLEGE SCHOOL OF LAW, San Francisco, CA Aug. 2007 – Jan. 2008
Adjunct Faculty. Taught *Restorative Justice* seminar.

CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE FOR INTEGRAL STUDIES, San Francisco, CA Jan. 2007 – May 2007
Adjunct Faculty. Taught undergraduate *Approaches to Justice* seminar.

LIBERATION PRISON PROJECT, San Francisco, CA Aug. 2006 – 2008
Volunteer Counsel. Advised Buddhist non-profit in assisting inmates with legal questions.

NOLAN, ARMSTRONG & BARTON, Palo Alto, CA June 2007 – Sept. 2007
Independent Contract Attorney. Performed legal research and writing for criminal defense firm.

LAW OFFICES OF RICHARD B. MAZER, San Francisco Oct. 2006 – July 2007
Independent Contract Attorney. Completed Appellant's Opening Brief in capital state direct appeal, and helped prepare case for state habeas corpus proceedings.

OFFICE OF THE APPELLATE DEFENDER, New York, NY Sept. 2004 – Aug. 2006
Staff Attorney. One of three attorneys chosen nationally to participate in two-year appellate defense training program.

NEW MEXICO PUBLIC DEFENDER DEPARTMENT, Santa Fe, NM Oct. 2002 – May 2004
Assistant Appellate Defender. One of thirteen attorneys responsible for representation of New Mexico indigent criminal defendants before the New Mexico Court of Appeals and Supreme Court.

U.S. FEDERAL DISTRICT COURT, Santa Fe, NM Aug. 2001 – June 2002
Law Clerk to the Honorable Martha Vázquez, U.S. District Court Judge. Drafted civil and criminal opinions and jury instructions. Researched application of the Federal Sentencing Guidelines on variety of issues, including illegal reentry cases. Organized conference on application of recent changes in the Sentencing Guidelines.

U.S. FEDERAL DISTRICT COURT, Burlington, VT Sept. 1999 – Sept. 2000
Law Clerk to the Honorable William K. Sessions, III, U.S. District Court Judge and Chair of the U.S. Sentencing Commission. Drafted judicial opinions as well as jury instructions in both criminal and civil trials.

NATIONAL CLEARINGHOUSE FOR THE DEFENSE OF BATTERED WOMEN, Phila., PA 1999
As summer intern, performed legal research and developed trial strategies on pre-trial and habeas issues facing battered women accused of violent and non-violent crimes. Researched issues on self-defense and other jury charges in cases of women accused of harming their abusers.

SOUTHERN CENTER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, Atlanta, GA May – June 1998
As summer intern, drafted briefs and motions on prisoners' rights and capital defense cases. Assisted staff attorneys in preparation for depositions of prison officials. Interviewed clients in detention facilities.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION, Washington, DC July – Aug. 1998
One of twelve law students selected nationally for Summer Law Intern Program. Worked on police and prison guard brutality cases, and with the National Church Arson Task Force in the Civil Rights Criminal Section. Drafted memoranda and indictment in case involving Ku Klux Klan members allegedly burning African American church. Researched prosecution of grand jury witness for perjury in cross burning case.

KRASNER & RESTREPO, Philadelphia, PA Fall 1997 – Spring 1999
Worked during law school as student intern for small civil rights criminal defense firm.

KAIRYS, RUDOVSKY, EPSTEIN, MESSING AND RAU, Philadelphia, PA Summer 1997
Served as summer intern for small civil rights firm. Assisted in preparation of class action in which female applicants for Philadelphia Police Department were denied employment. Researched class certification, drafted and answered interrogatories, and assisted in preparation for depositions of class representatives.

PREP FOR PREP, New York, NY Summer 1996
Taught English Literature and Research Skills to seventy 5th and 6th graders in a program tracking academically gifted children of color in New York City public schools for placement in private schools. Advised double-dutch.

NEW YORK CITY URBAN FELLOWS PROGRAM, New York, NY 1994-1995
One of 25 recent college graduates selected nationally for public service fellowship combining placements in Mayoral Offices or city agencies with weekly seminars on issues facing the City of New York. Served as Intake Coordinator for city-operated domestic violence shelters.

- PFORZHEIMER FOUNDATION FOR PUBLIC SERVICE**, San Francisco, CA 1993-1994
One of four recipients of a stipend awarded by Harvard University to promote post-graduate public interest work. Worked with two South Asian battered women's organizations and a domestic violence shelter in the Bay Area.
- LET'S GO TRAVEL GUIDES**, Cambridge, MA Summer 1993
Jointly oversaw editing of 900-page guide as Assistant Editor of *Let's Go: Europe 1994*.
- MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY**, Calcutta, West Bengal, India Summer 1992
Volunteered as medical assistant in Mother Teresa's Home for Dying Destitutes (Nirmal Hriday).

RECENT TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

- SANTA CRUZ COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION** Jan. 2011
Presentation on applications of restorative justice in Alameda County.
- UC BERKELEY RESTORATIVE JUSTICE COMMITTEE CAREER PANEL** Oct. 2010
Discussed value of a law degree in promoting restorative justice.
- SAN FRANCISCO COALITION AGAINST HATE CRIME** Oct. 2010
Presentation on restorative justice as a remedy to bias related crimes.
- ASIAN LAW CAUCUS** July 2010
Presentations on restorative justice as a remedy to bias related crimes.
- PRISON UNIVERSITY PROJECT, SAN QUENTIN STATE PRISON** June 2010
Graduation Address.
- BERKELEY SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WELFARE SOCIAL JUSTICE SYMPOSIUM** Feb. 2010
Presentation on applications of restorative justice in the Bay Area.
- NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW**, Boston, MA Jan. 2010
Daynard Distinguished Visiting Fellow. Daynard Fellows join the Northeastern Law community for three days to deliver an address that focuses on the strategic use of law to promote public interest goals, and to participate in classes, consult about professional opportunities for students and graduates, and meet individually with interested faculty, administrators and students. Delivered Community Lecture titled "Beyond the Binary: Restorative Justice as Liberatory Practice." Led Roundtable Discussion titled "Restorative Justice in our Courts and Communities."
- PA 17TH ANNUAL FORENSIC RIGHTS AND TREATMENT CONF.**, Hershey, PA Dec. 2009
Plenary lecture titled "Crime and Forgiveness: Healing on Both Sides of Our Prison Walls."
- UC BERKELEY LAW SCHOOL CAREER DEVELOPMENT OFFICE** Nov. 2009
Panel Discussion: Careers in Criminal Law: Beyond Defense & Prosecution
- OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE ANNUAL SOROS FELLOWS MEETING**, Chicago, IL June 2009
Presentation on applications of restorative juvenile justice in Alameda County.
- NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF FORENSIC SOCIAL WORKERS**, San Francisco, CA April 2009
Keynote Speaker. Addressed restorative justice, incarcerated child sexual abuse survivors, and forgiveness.
- HAPPINESS AND ITS CAUSES**, San Francisco November 2008
Interactive presentation on use of healing circles inside adult detention facilities with men labeled violent offenders.
- CENTERFORCE 9TH ANNUAL INSIDE/OUT SUMMIT**, Sonoma, CA October 2008
Presentation on applications of restorative justice in Alameda County's juvenile justice system.
- FEMINISM AND LEGAL THEORY WORKSHOP, EMORY LAW SCHOOL**, Atlanta, GA Sept. 2008
Presented working paper titled "Self-identified Victim's Needs: Toward a Feminist Restorative Justice."

TRANSFORMATIVE JUSTICE & COMMUNITIES OF COLOR, BERKELEY LAW Sept. 2008
Presented notes on ongoing transformation of Alameda County's juvenile justice system towards a restorative justice model.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Convenor, Alameda County Restorative Juvenile Justice Task Force (Jan. – July 2009)
Advisory Board Member, Non-Violent Offender Rehabilitation Act (NORA, Prop 8, 2008)
Consultant for media inquiries on child sexual abuse cases, Justice Policy Institute (present)
Board Member, Santa Fe Rape Crisis Center (2003-2004)
Member, New Mexico Alternative Dispute Resolution Advisory Council (2003-2004)
Member, New Mexico Criminal Defense Lawyers' Association (2002-2004)
Facilitated numerous trainings on restorative justice and circle work
Regular speaking engagements on capital defense, restorative justice, sexual abuse, and forgiveness

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE TRAININGS/CERTIFICATES

Seminars for Trauma Awareness and Resiliency, David Anderson Hooker and Elaine Zook
Barge, April 2010
Family Group Conferencing New Zealand Style Workshop, Allan MacRae, Dec. 2009
Defense Initiated Victim Outreach in Capital Cases, Kelly Branham and Lisa Eager, Aug. 2009
Victim Offender Dialogue in Crimes of Severe Violence, Lorraine Stutzman Amstutz and Barb Toews, June 2009
Restorative Discipline in Schools Workshop, Lorraine Stutzman Amstutz, March 2009
Peacemaking Circles, Kay Pranis, December 2008
Restorative Group Conferencing, Jessalyn Nash and Jon Kidde, December 2007

BAR MEMBERSHIPS

State Bar of New York (2006 - present)
State Bar of New Mexico (2001 - present, inactive)