

## Public Interest and Social Justice Guidelines and Requirements

### PUBLIC INTEREST AND SOCIAL JUSTICE LAW CERTIFICATE (PISJLC)

#### A. INTRODUCTION

Social justice is the province of all lawyers, not just those who choose to specialize in this field. Public interest and social justice lawyers give a voice in the legal system to marginalized, subordinated, and underrepresented clients and causes.

Santa Clara University School of Law students may earn a Certificate in Public Interest and Social Justice Law upon graduation, allowing them to serve community needs for social justice while studying law. Students may elect to earn a certificate with an emphasis in criminal justice.

The Center for Social Justice and Public Service administers this Certificate Program and is responsible for decisions relating to it.

Students must complete Public Interest and Social Justice Law Certificate Requirements in three categories:

- Academic
- Practicum
- Public service

These requirements are described below.

The Public Interest and Social Justice Law Certificate with an emphasis in Criminal Justice is appropriate for students who are interested in a wide range of possible issues in criminal justice; it could be students who wish to be defense counsel or prosecutors; it could include students who wish to work in the area of immigration, refugee or asylum law.

#### 1. Advising

Students are encouraged to notify the Center for Social Justice and Public Service of their intent to pursue a Public Interest and Social Justice Law Certificate and may request an advisor. Students are strongly urged to file this notice as early in their law school career as possible, both to take full advantage of the advising opportunities and to ensure that their course of study will satisfy the Certificate.

#### 2. Deadline to Apply for Award

Students getting ready to graduate must file the Application for Award with the Center for Social Justice and Public Service by February 28 prior to graduation. The submission deadline for December graduates is November 19 prior to graduation.

## **B. Public Interest and Social Justice Law Certificate Requirements**

### **1. Academic Course work.**

Students shall take fifteen (15) units of advanced course work (classes other than those required for graduation) in Public Interest and Social Justice Law. These 15 units shall include at least eight (8) units from the list of Public Interest and Social Justice Law Core Courses (List A), Remaining units for the course work requirement may be selected from List A or List B (additional public interest and social justice courses and skills courses) or any other course, not required for graduation that satisfies the goal of learning more about the use of law and the legal system to aid those marginalized, subordinated, and underrepresented clients and causes

### **2. Practicum**

Students must complete 150 hours of supervised legal work in a public interest/social justice organization. This may include work at the Northern California Innocence Project (NCIP) and the Katharine & George Alexander Community Law Center (KGACLC), The International Human Rights Clinic, or other social justice organization. The work can be paid, volunteer, or for unit credit. However these hours must be distinct from the 50 hours of volunteer work also required for this certificate (see Public Service requirement) and must also be distinct from the 50 hours of volunteer work under the Pro Bono Recognition Program. To satisfy this requirement the work must serve marginalized, subordinated, or underrepresented clients or causes.

### **3. Public Service**

Students must complete 50 hours<sup>1</sup> of community volunteer work promoting public interest and social justice as defined by the Pro Bono Recognition Program . These hours cannot be paid or for unit credit. These hours may be law-related, but need not be. Work as an officer or active member of a campus student organization may not count toward fulfillment of this requirement. The supervisor must sign the Application for Award verifying completion of the work.

## **PUBLIC INTEREST AND SOCIAL JUSTICE LAW CORE COURSES (LIST A)**

For the general Certificate, students must take at least 8 units from List A

Law 268 Law and Social Justice Law

Law 408 Public Interest and Social Justice Practice

Law 267 Social Justice Workshop

Law 505 Northern California Innocence Project(as a full year program this will count as 6 units)

Law 515 Northern California Innocence Project Advanced Practice Clinic

Law 511 KGACLC Com Law Practice: Civil Clinical Skills I

Law 481 KGACLC Com Law Practice: Civil Clinical Skills II  
Law 458 KGACLC Consumer and Debtors' Rights Interviewing and Advising  
Law 468/469 KGACLC: Immigration Law Interviewing and Advising  
Law 463 KGACLC: Workers' Rights Interviewing and Advising  
Law 591 Criminal Justice Internship and Seminar  
Law 590 Civil Practice Internship and Seminar  
Law 727A International Human Rights Clinic A  
Law 727B International Human Rights Clinic B

Law 403 Children and the Law Seminar  
Law 231 Consumer Protection  
Law 437 Contemporary Legal Theory Seminar: Current Topics in Employment Law  
Law 364 Criminal Law and Policy  
Law 333 Critical Race Theory  
Law 350 Disability Law  
Law 401 Domestic Violence Seminar  
Law 238 Employment Discrimination  
Law 239 Employment Law  
Law 434 Gender and Law  
Law 418 Health Law Seminar: Abortion and Reproductive Justice  
Law 304 Housing Discrimination  
Law 212 Immigration Law  
Law 402 Juvenile Court Law Seminar  
Law 268 Law and Social Justice Seminar  
Law 317 Race and Law  
Law 315 Sexuality and the Law

#### **ADDITIONAL PUBLIC INTEREST AND SOCIAL JUSTICE LAW COURSES (LIST B)**

Any course on this list may count toward the 15 unit course requirement

Please note that each course is not necessarily offered each year.

Law 207 Administrative Law  
Law 446A Advanced Criminal Law  
Law 311 Advanced Criminal Procedure  
Law 209 Advanced Immigration Law  
Law 540 Advanced Torts  
Law 562 Arbitration Law and Practice  
Law 525 Assisted Reproduction, Cloning and Genetic Engineering  
Law 504 California Civil Procedure  
Law 452 California Post-Conviction Procedures  
Law 669 Climate Change: Legal Institutional Responses  
Law 438 Comparative Law Seminar  
Law 426 Constitutional Law Seminar (SCOTUS Seminar)  
Law 265 Consumer Mini-Course  
Law 260 Debtors' and Creditors' Rights  
Law 415 Drug Abuse Law Seminar

Law 239 Employment Law  
Law 444 Energy resources law  
Law 414 Environmental Law Seminar  
Law 288 Environmental Protection Law  
Law 291 Family Law  
Law 322 Federal Courts and Jurisdiction  
Law 527 Health Law 1: Patient, Providers and Payers  
Law 524 Health Law 2: Health Care Regulation and Finance  
Law 418A Health Law Seminar  
Law 440 International Human Rights Theory and Practice  
Law 215 International Law  
Law 601 International Dispute Resolution  
Law 608 International Environmental Law  
Law 218 International Organizations Seminar  
Law 341 Islamic Law  
Law 531 Juvenile Justice Topics: Leadership Training  
Law 286 Land Use  
Law 534 Law and Behavioralism  
Law 542 Law of Nonprofit Organizations  
Law 204 Legal Aspects of War  
Law 347 Litigating International Human Rights  
Law 398 Moot Court (topic must be approved by the director and must cover a public interest and social justice topic)  
Law 410 Privacy Law Seminar  
Law 344 The Prison System  
Law 499 Understanding Capital Punishment Law  
Law 346 Wrongful Convictions  
Law 530 Sentencing Seminar  
Law 609 Statutory Analysis  
Law 426 Supreme Court Seminar or Constitutional Law SCOTUS seminar  
Study Abroad: Geneva-Strasbourg International Human Rights Courses  
Study Abroad: The Hague, The Netherlands Seminar in International Criminal Justice  
Study Abroad: Costa Rica

### **Public Interest and Social Justice Skills Courses**

Please note that each course is not necessarily offered each year.

Law 331 Advanced Trial Techniques  
Law 300 Alternative Dispute Resolution  
Law 532 Juvenile Justice Topics: Practical Applications  
Law 469 KGACLC Immigration Interviewing and Advising  
Law 521 Leadership for Lawyers  
Law 602 Mediation: Theory and Practice  
Law 327 Negotiating  
Law 791 Pretrial Litigation Techniques  
Law 325 Trial Techniques

## **PUBLIC INTEREST AND SOCIAL JUSTICE LAW CERTIFICATE WITH EMPHASIS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

This certificate is appropriate for students who wish to practice in the area of criminal justice in a range of professions including as a prosecutor, defense counsel, immigration or asylum attorney. Students must successfully complete the following classes required for all J.D. candidates: Criminal Law (Law 106) and Evidence (Law 311). Students must also complete 16 units in this specialization as follows:

- Ten units within the Core courses including Criminal Procedure Investigation and/or Criminal Procedure Adjudication
- One professional skills course relating to criminal justice (including NCIP, Human Rights Clinic, KGACLC Immigration, Immigration Appellate Practice or other courses identified as criminal justice professional skills courses)

Enough additional elective units of PISJ- -designated courses to reach a total of 16 units. Students earning this certificate must also complete the same Public Interest and Social Justice Law Certificate requirements of a practicum (in the area of criminal justice) and public service work in any area.

### Core Courses

Students must complete at least 10 units from the courses below

Law 310 Criminal Procedure Investigation or/and Law 311 Criminal Procedure Adjudication must be taken

Law 212 Immigration Law

Law 408 Public Interest and Social Justice Practice

Law 268 Law and Social Justice Course

Law 505 Clinic Northern California Innocence Project (requires 2 semesters)

Law 515 Clinic Northern California Innocence Project Advanced Practice Clinic

Law 591 Criminal Justice Internship and Seminar

Law 538 Immigration Appellate Practice before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeal

Law 469 KGACLC Immigration Interviewing and Advising

Law 511 KGACLC Clinical Skills I (with focus on immigration practice)

Law 481 KGACLC Clinical Skills II (with focus on Immigration Law Practice)

Law 333 Critical Race Theory

Law 301 Forensic Science and the Law

Law 434 Gender and the Law

Law 402 Juvenile Court law Seminar

Any course on this list may count toward the 15 unit total.

Law 674 Advanced Mediation

Law 331 Advanced Trial Techniques

Law 400 Alternative Dispute resolution for Youth: Teaching Conflict Resolution in a High School setting

Law 364 Criminal Law and Policy

Law 435 Domestic Violence Minicourse  
Law 291 Family Law  
Law 434 Gender and the law  
Law 204 Legal Aspects of War: Humanitarian Law  
Law 609 Statutory Analysis  
Law 431 Supreme Court seminar  
Law 367 Transitional Justice  
Law 499 Understanding capital punishment law

## **FACULTY**

W. David Ball

Professor W. David Ball works primarily in the field of criminal justice, writing and teaching in the areas of criminal law, criminal procedure, sentencing and corrections. His articles have been published in the Columbia Law Review, the Yale Law and Policy Review, the American Journal of Criminal Law, and the Stanford Law and Policy Review, among other journals.

In 2013 he was voted 1L Professor of the Year. Prior to becoming a full time member of the Santa Clara University School of Law faculty in 2009, Ball served as a Social Justice Teaching Fellow at Santa Clara, a Research Fellow at the Stanford Criminal Justice Center, and a law clerk for the Honorable John T. Noonan, Jr., of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in San Francisco.

Before law school he was an actor, writer, and filmmaker in New York City. He graduated with highest distinction from the University of North Carolina, where he was a Morehead-Cain Scholar, and got a second BA from Oxford University, where he was a Rhodes Scholar.

Ball is currently Co-Chair of the Corrections Committee of the American Bar Association's Criminal Justice Section. He has also served as the Chair of the Public Safety Working Group for Lt. Gov. Gavin Newsom's Blue Ribbon Commission on Marijuana Law and Policy and a member of the Advisory Board of the Bill of Rights Defense Committee.

In his spare time, he enjoys traveling, photography, and playing with his cat-sized dog, Nellie. Education J.D., Stanford University B.A./M.A., Oxford University B.A., University of North Carolina Areas of Specialization include Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Sentencing & Corrections, Islamic Law

## Pratheepan “Deep” Gulasekaram

Professor Gulasekaram teaches Constitutional Law and Immigration Law and is well published on the topics of immigration federalism and the constitutional rights of noncitizens. His research currently focuses on the political and legal dynamics of state and local immigration regulations, including their constitutionality and their effect on federal immigration lawmaking. He has also extensively explored the relationship between the Second Amendment and noncitizens, as a way of understanding constitutional protections for non-citizens.

He is a frequent media commentator on issues of state and local immigration laws, comprehensive immigration reform, same-sex marriage, the first amendment, and equality concerns.

Professor Gulasekaram joined the Santa Clara University School of Law faculty in 2007, and has also taught as Visiting Assistant Professor at Stanford Law School, Acting Assistant Professor of Lawyering at New York University School of Law and Visiting Assistant Professor at Loyola University Law School in New Orleans.

Prior to academia, he was a litigation associate with O’Melveny & Meyers LLP and Susman Godfrey LLP, both in Los Angeles. He clerked for the Honorable Jacques L. Wiener Jr. on the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit in New Orleans. In addition, he is the co-founder of the World Children’s Initiative, Inc., a non-profit organization dedicated to improving health and educational infrastructure for children in developing areas around the world. Education: J.D., Stanford University, 2001 B.A., Brown University, 1996

## Ellen Kreitzberg

Professor Kreitzberg has practiced and written extensively on the death penalty. She co-founded and now directs the Death Penalty College, a residential training program held each August at Santa Clara University School of Law to train lawyers assigned to the defense of a capital case.

Professor Kreitzberg area of research and expertise is in the area of the death penalty. She began representing post-conviction inmates on a pro bono basis in 1982. Prior to joining Santa Clara University School of Law in 1988, Professor Kreitzberg was a trial attorney for the Public Defender Service in Washington, D.C., while also representing death row inmates on a pro bono basis.

Education: J.D., George Washington University Law School B.A., University of Pennsylvania

## Lynette Parker

Lynette Parker has been teaching and supervising law students handling immigration cases at the Katharine and George Alexander Community Law Center since 2000, and she also serves as clinical faculty in the law school. She provides technical support to attorneys on political asylum, VAWA, U visa and T visa cases. She has authored a law review article published by Georgetown Immigration Law Journal titled “Increasing Law Students Effectiveness When Representing

Traumatized Clients: A Case Study of the Katharine & George Alexander Community Law Center.”

Prior to joining the KGACLC, Parker worked as a staff attorney at the International Institute of the East Bay for 10 years. She has extensive experience representing asylum applicants, as well as battered spouses and children who are self-petitioning for permanent residence, victims of crimes who are petitioning for U visas, and victims of human trafficking who are petitioning for T visas.

Parker spent three years of her childhood in Puerto Rico and five years in India. She has traveled to China, Nicaragua, Chiapas, Mexico, and Colombia, and is fluent in Spanish.

Education: J.D., University of California Hastings College of the Law, 1986; M.A., University of California, Berkeley, 1986 B.A., The College of Wooster, 1982

Kathleen “Cookie” Ridolfi

A Professor of Law at Santa Clara University School of Law and the cofounder and former Director of the Northern California Innocence Project. In 2004, she co-founded the Innocence Network, an affiliation of organizations dedicated to pursuing exonerations on behalf of wrongfully convicted prisoners and working to redress the causes of wrongful conviction.

She was lead researcher and co-author of Preventable Error, A Report on Prosecutorial Misconduct in California 1997-2009. From 2004-2008, she served on the California Commission on the Fair Administration of Justice tasked with the study and review of the administration of criminal justice in California. In 2010, Professor Ridolfi launched the VERITAS Initiative, a research and policy program at Santa Clara University School of Law committed to pursuing data-driven justice reform. She remains committed to educating law students by teaching in the areas of criminal law, wrongful conviction, and legal ethics.

Professor Ridolfi has been the recipient of numerous awards, including California Lawyer Magazine Attorney of the Year, Women Defenders Annual Award, and the ACLU’s Don Edwards Civil Liberties Award. She has also been recognized by the Daily Journal as one of the top 75 women litigators in California.

Education: J.D., Rutgers University Law School, 1982 B.A., Rutgers University, 1976 Santa Clara University School of Law

Linda Starr

Starr is co-founder of the Northern California Innocence Project (NCIP) at Santa Clara University School of Law. She has more than 25 years of experience as an attorney both in California and New York. Starr clerked for the California Court of Appeal, worked as an assistant district attorney in Brooklyn NY, and has worked as a private practitioner in post-conviction matters at all levels of the state and federal courts. At NCIP, Starr oversees all aspects of investigation and litigation into wrongful conviction in state and federal courts. She also



develops and teaches Innocence Project and Advanced Innocence Project courses. Education:  
J.D., University of Southern California Law Center B.S., Ohio State University