**ALMA MAGAÑA**

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# Academic Appointments

## Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law New York, NY

*Harold A Stevens Visiting Assistant Professor of Law* 2021-present

* Courses: Evidence (Spring/Fall 2022), Criminal Law (Spring 2023)

# Publications

*Public Defenders as Gatekeepers of Freedom* (**Forthcoming UCLA Law Review 2023**)

# Education

## Penn. State University, Dickinson School of Law Carlisle, PA

*Juris Doctor, 2007*

Activities: Miller Center Public Interest Advocate; President, LLSA;

Vice President, Public Interest Law Fund; Inmate Assistance Clinic

## Furman University Greenville, SC

*Bachelor of Arts in Politics, Spanish, and Latin American Studies, 2004*

# Selected Lectures and Presentations

*From Defender to Professor: What Do We Take From That Work; What Can We Offer?*

* Workshop on Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure, SEALS Conference, July 2022

*Origins of Autonomy Rights*

* Decarceration Law Profs Workshop, June 2022
* Latina Scholars Workshop, June 2022
* Inaugural GO LILA Workshop, June 2022
* CrimFest, July 2022

*Public Defenders as Gatekeepers of Freedom*

* Invited Presenter, Boston University Law School, March 14, 2023
* Invited Presenter, University of Iowa Law School, November 3, 2022
* Invited Presenter, Case Western Reserve School of Law, April 2022
* Junior Faculty Workshop, Benjamin N. Cardozo School, February 2022
* Latina Scholars Workshop, February 2022
* LATCRIT, October 2021
* Junior Faculty Forum at University of Richmond Law School, October 2021
* CrimFest, July 2021
* Decarceration Law Profs Workshop, July 2021
* CrimWIP, July 2021

# Professional Experience

**The Legal Aid Society** New York, NY

*Staff Attorney, Special Litigation Unit – Decarceration Project* June 2018 – December 2020

* Developed and implemented strategies for challenging bail determinations in an effort to eliminate unconstitutional pre-trial detention, including through bail applications, bail packages, bail reviews, referrals to alternatives to detention, filing of bail writs, appeals, and motions for interim relief, and instructing attorneys on such strategies.
* Worked with social workers to develop bail packages by finding programming and presenting diagnoses and treatment plans.
* Supervised students from Cardozo Criminal Defense Clinic working on Decarceration Project assignments.

*Staff Attorney (Felony-Certified), Criminal Defense Practice* 2010-2015, 2017-2018

* Represented over 2,200 indigent clients from arraignment to resolution, including hearings and trials.
* Investigated cases, represented clients at proffer sessions and collateral proceedings, and strategized to provide holistic advocacy.
* Negotiated with prosecutors and judges to obtain favorable plea bargains and sentences.
* Worked with social workers and other Legal Aid staff members to ensure legal and non-legal client needs were met to the highest extent practicable.

*Criminal Immigration Specialist (1 yr. rotation), Immigration Law Unit*  June 2015-August 2016

* Provided legal counsel to attorneys and non-citizen clients on the potential immigration consequences of their criminal cases.

*Staff Attorney, Parole Revocation Defense Unit* Sept. 2007-Oct. 2010

* Represented over 1,200 indigent clients from arraignment to resolution.
* Advocated for clients in contested hearings, including witness examination, presentation of evidence, and negotiation of mutually-favorable dispositions.
* Worked with other staff members to secure access to alternative-to-incarceration programs and services.

## Leonard Weinglass, Esq. New York, NY

*Volunteer Research Assistant* Spring 2007

**Defender Corporation** Greenville, SC

*Cherie T. Millage Public Interest Law Fund Fellow* Summer 2005

**South Carolina Center for Equal Justice**  Greenville, SC

*Legal Intern* Summer-Fall 2004

# Admissions

State Bar of New York, Admitted 2008