

## CATHERINE R. KAPPLES

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### EDUCATION

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**Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law, Villanova, PA** May 2021

J.D.

Awards: 2019 Walter A. Lucas Public Interest Fellow; Dorothy Day Award for Pro Bono Service; Clinical Legal Education Association (CLEA) Award Recipient

Activities: Walter A. Lucas Public Interest Fellowship Program Vice Director; Immigration Law Society Co-President; Street Law Society Treasurer; Pro Bono Society Executive Board Member

**Colby College, Waterville, ME**

B.A., English Literature

May 2015

Honors: Colby College's Dean's List 2011, 2012, and 2014; Distinction in Major

Activities: Alternative Spring Break Coordinator; Maine Adaptive Sports Instructor; Director of *Inklings*; Colby Cares About Kids Mentor; Waterville Junior High School Tutor

### LEGAL EXPERIENCE

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**Charles Widger School of Law Clinic for Asylum, Refugee and Emigrant Services** Aug 2021-Present

Clinical Fellow

- Represent individuals seeking asylum and other forms of immigration relief in the U.S.
- Co-teach CARES clinic seminar employing clinical teaching methods
- Assist in the administration of the CARES Clinic and assist with immigration related matters of the Farmworker Legal Aid Clinic (FLAC)

**Villanova Law Clinic for Asylum, Refugee and Emigrant Services** Jan-May 2020 and Aug 2020-May 2021

Student Attorney

- Represented refugees applying for asylum, Withholding of Removal, CAT and related immigration relief
- Wrote briefs, affidavits, interviewed lay witnesses, researched caselaw and country conditions, investigated facts, corroborated evidence, secured expert witnesses, and communicated with immigration officials
- Mentored law student teams, held weekly office hours, and worked with students individually on their cases

**Professor Michele Pistone, Villanova, PA**

Jan 2021-May 2021

Research Assistant

- Conducted and organized research for various research projects

**Villanova Law Clinic for Interdisciplinary Mental and Physical Health**

Summer 2020

Student Attorney

- Represented a SSI and SSI Disability claimant in an appeal hearing and claimants in the appeals process
- Gathered and evaluated evidence and medical records, wrote prehearing memorandums, prepared claimants for their hearings before administrative law judges

**Norfolk County District Attorney's Office, Canton, MA**

Summer 2019

Legal Intern

- Wrote memorandums and model motions of law and drafted an amicus brief for the state supreme court
- Researched issues for assistant district attorneys in the Appeals Unit with time-sensitive legal questions

**Catholic Charities of San Antonio, Inc., San Antonio, TX**

2015-2016

Legal Assistant/Court Monitor

- Interviewed clients, drafted Wills and Powers of Attorney, and managed the pending guardianship cases
- Conducted court monitor visits for the Bexar County Probate Courts of individuals under guardianship

## **RELEVANT EXPERIENCE**

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**Face to Face**, Student Coordinator 2018-2021

- Met with low-income clients and completed intake forms to assist them in obtaining birth certificates
- Oversaw law student volunteers during the monthly birth certificate clinics

**Street Law**, Lesson Leader 2018-2021

- Taught middle and high school students about civic and legal principals using interactive methodologies
- Organized and planned small group exercises, role-plays, and simulations of legal proceedings

## **VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE**

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**Pennsylvania Center for Adaptive Sports**, Instructor 2019-Present

- Teach children and adults with cognitive and/or physical disabilities how to ski and snowboard

**Face to Face**, Legal Center Volunteer July 2021-Present

- Meet with clients to review their criminal records and prepare petitions to have their criminal record expunged

**Christian Legal Clinics of Philadelphia**, Law Clerk 2020-2021

- Met with low-income clients, conduct intakes, and take notes and assist volunteer attorneys in a range of legal matters including, immigration, expungement, employment, estate planning, and custody matters

**Montgomery County Public Defender Office Expungement Clinic**, Volunteer 2020-2021

- Interviewed clients who were represented by the Montgomery County Public Defender Office and qualified for expungement and/or sealing to clear their criminal records