Legal Clinics

University of San Diego School of Law

Goals of USD Clinical Program

- Provide high quality training in fundamental skills and values of law practice in a realistic professional context

- Serve particular segments of the low-income population of San Diego County

- Provide focus and development of expertise and skill development in particular practice areas

By the Numbers…

- Number of cases closed in 2012: 688

- Average number of cases that were open at
   any given time: 300

- Number of phone calls in 2012: 15,816

- Number of student interns trained: 148

- Number of hours logged by student interns in 2012 in
   Client Services: 20,060.45

*(If we were billing time at $150/hour, a typical rate that a law firm might
bill out for a law clerk, our firm would have earned $3,009,067.50!)*

CLINICS OFFERED*

Appellate

Civil

Criminal

Education and Disability

Entrepreneurship

Federal Tax

Immigration

Land Use

Small Claims

State Income Tax (CA)

State Sales & Use Tax (CA)

Veterans

* * Check the course schedules for availability.

Office Information

USD Legal Clinics Office:

Barcelona 305

(Alcala West)

Office Phone:

619-260-7470

Course Information

- Upper division students (1L summer OK)

- Six interns per professor/attorney

- Weekly class/case rounds

- Course credit hours:
  Spring/Fall: A little more than four hours per unit - per week
  Summer: A little more than eight hours per unit - per week

- Please check the course schedule for each semester's offerings.

Application Information

Applications are available online at:

http://www.sandiego.edu/law/academics/ clinical_education/application_procedure.php

Required information:

- Completed Application form

- Resume

- Unofficial transcript

Registration questions?

Email Margaret Dalton at mdalton@sandiego.edu

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Appellate Clinic

Michael Devitt, Esq. – lead professor
Candace Carroll & David Schlesinger

- <u>Cases</u>: Appeals before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals
- <u>Activities</u>: This is a year-long clinic in which two teams of students will handle an appeal from start to finish.
- <u>Requirements</u>: Civil Procedure, Evidence, Professional Responsibility, and Criminal Procedure.

*This course is open only to third or fourth-year law students.

Civil Clinic

Allen Snyder, Esq.
Allen Gruber, Esq.

- **<u>Cases</u>**:
  - Consumer issues, general litigation in Superior Court

- **<u>Activities</u>:**
  - Represent clients in civil matters, including counseling, negotiating, trial representation, drafting documents

- **<u>Requirements</u>:**
  - Civil Procedure and Evidence(concurrent is ok)

Criminal Clinic

Jean Ramirez, Esq.

Students are placed with the Public Defender and the District Attorney's office.

Call 619-260-2345 for application information and deadlines.

Education & Disability Clinic
Margaret Dalton, Esq.

- **Cases**: Litigation Clinic - Cases focus on education and disability rights, including special education, discipline & expulsions; Section 504; Regional Center; Conservatorships

- **Activities**: Interview, counsel & advise, mediations, administrative hearings, Probate Court

- **Requirements**: None
- Helpful: Special Education and the Law

Entrepreneurship Clinic

Donna Matias, Esq.

- **<u>Cases</u>**: "Transactional" matters for individuals & small businesses; trademark & copyright
- **<u>Activities</u>**: Interview, research, counsel, draft papers
- **<u>Requirements: None</u>**

  Preferred: Corporations & Tax I

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Federal Tax Clinic

Richard Carpenter, Esq.

- **<u>Cases</u>:** Disputes with the IRS

- **<u>Activities</u>:** Interview & Counsel Clients, Represent at IRS, Tax Court, community outreach

- **<u>Requirement</u>:** Tax I

  (priority for students with a high grade in the class)

Immigration Clinic

Sandra Wagner, Esq.
Peggy Kane, Esq.

- **<u>Cases</u>**:

  Asylum, deportation, naturalization, DACA

- **<u>Activities</u>**:

  - Interview & Counsel clients
  - Represent clients before the USCIS

- **<u>Requirements</u>**: None

Land Use Clinic

Susan Quinn, Esq.

- **<u>Placement Clinic</u>**

- **<u>Cases</u>**: Permits, zoning, variances

- **<u>Activities</u>**: Intern with agencies to learn how the system works

- **<u>Requirements</u>**: None

Small Claims Clinic

Franco Simone, Esq.

- **Cases**: Small Claims cases

- **Activities:** Interview, counsel, assist in preparation, create trial plan; represent defendants on appeal
- **Requirements:** None

State Income Tax Clinic
Craig Shaltes, Esq.

- **Cases:** Disputes with the CA FTB   over tax owed.

  (A joint effort with CA State Board of Equalization)

- **Activities**: Interview & Counsel Clients, Negotiate   with the FTB; Represent clients at oral hearings before the BOE.

- **Requirements**: None

State Sales & Use Tax Clinic
Michael Larkin, Esq.

- **Cases:** Appeals Conferences and Appeals before the Board of Equalization.

  (A joint effort with CA State Board of Equalization)

- **Activities**:

  Interview & Counsel Clients, Prepare legal arguments for Appeals Conferences; appear at BOE oral hearings.

- **Requirements**: None

Veterans Clinic

Robert Muth, Esq.

- **<u>Cases</u>**:
  - Cases focus on veterans and military family members who have disputes with for-profit educational institutions and predatory lenders and over the use of Post 9/11GI Bill funds and related loans.

- **<u>Activities</u>:**
  - Advise clients; Draft documents; Represent clients in negotiations, arbitrations and litigation.

- **<u>Requirements</u>:** None

Certification

- Required for: Civil and Criminal Clinics

- Under State Bar Rules, allows supervised students to appear for clients in state courts

- Procedures:
  - Obtain forms from Registrar's Office
  - Obtain signature of supervising attorney, write check
  - Return completed forms and check to Registrar
  - Certification sent to supervising attorney with copy for student
  - Takes about three weeks, can be renewed

Law Clerks 2013

"Never to reject, for any consideration personal to himself or herself, the cause of the defenseless or the oppressed."

California Business & Professions Code section 6068(h)

Questions?