

SARA ELIZABETH PORTER

5423 Constance Street • New Orleans, Louisiana 70115 • (763) 242-4207 • porterse@gmail.com

EXPERIENCE:

Smith & Fawer, LLC

New Orleans, LA

Associate Attorney, August 2011 – May 2017, August 2018 – Present

Law Clerk, May 2010 – August 2011

- Represented individuals and corporations charged with securities fraud, mail and wire fraud, public bribery, tax violations, money laundering, structuring financial transactions, harboring illegal aliens, and environmental crimes in various stages of federal cases, including pre-indictment negotiations, grand jury appearances, plea negotiations, trial preparation, and sentencing. Represented individuals charged with state court crimes as well as students charged with violations of conduct codes.
- Significant experience in complex civil litigation, including preparing for and participating in internal investigations, mediations, administrative hearings, motion hearings, and trials, both on the plaintiff and defense side, including many high profile, public matters.
- Boutique litigation setting permitted significant client and witness contact, including preparing clients and witnesses for depositions, hearings, and trials. Also gained experience as first chair on oral arguments and depositions, and examining witnesses in trials and administrative hearings.
- Highly capable of complicated legal research and writing and well versed in appellate work. Accomplishments include: successfully defending a motion for criminal restitution requesting restitution of \$5,627,160.00; achieving dismissal of a civil RICO case on the basis of statute of limitations/prescription, which dismissal was affirmed on appeal; and achieving dismissal, and affirmance on appeal, of a breach of contract suit based on lack of procedural capacity.

Fabyanske, Westra, Hart & Thomson P.A.

Minneapolis, MN

Associate Attorney, May 2017 – August 2018

- Represented owners, general contractors, and subcontractors in a variety of construction and commercial disputes, including participating in motion practice, discovery, taking and defending depositions, oral arguments on both dispositive and non-dispositive motions, and trial and arbitration preparation in complex, high-dollar value litigation.

United States Army JAG Corps

Heidelberg, Germany

Legal Intern, Summer 2010

- Provided full spectrum legal support in the key Army legal disciplines including client services, legal assistance, Administrative Law, Military Justice, International Law, and Operational Law.
- Researched evidentiary motions and drafted pleadings and memoranda; interfaced with expert and lay witnesses; and provided in-court assistance for courts-martial and other disciplinary proceedings.
- Drafted legal opinions regarding proposed command policies involving the United States government and the Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA).
- Researched, drafted, and updated Army in Europe Administrative Regulations, policies and procedures.

Minneapolis City Attorney's Office

Minneapolis, MN

Law Clerk, Student-Certified Attorney by the State of Minnesota, Summer 2009

- Made settlement offers to and negotiated plea agreements with *pro se* defendants.
- Prosecuted criminal arraignments in Minneapolis Community Court and Serious Traffic Court; made bail arguments; and represented the City of Minneapolis in court trials.
- Researched, argued, and drafted briefs and legal memoranda; reviewed police reports to make charge determinations; and translated Spanish victim and witness statements.

s

SARA ELIZABETH PORTER

EDUCATION:

Tulane Law School – Juris Doctor, *magna cum laude*, May 2011
GPA: 3.692, Class Rank: 20/238

New Orleans, LA

Honors:

- Order of the Coif
- Ralph J. Schwarz Merit Scholarship
- Cali Excellence for the Future Awards: Administrative Law and International Commercial Arbitration

Activities:

- Intraschool Trial Competition Chair, Moot Court Board
- Senior Business Editor, Tulane Journal of International and Comparative Law
- Student Attorney, Tulane Criminal Litigation Clinic: Represented clients charged with attempted murder and possession of cocaine, and advocated on behalf of criminal clients with mental health issues
- Research Assistant, Professors Catherine Hancock and Vernon V. Palmer
- Tutor, Tulane Law School Tutoring Program: Developed exam-taking techniques and study strategies of struggling first year students in their Contracts II class

Boston College – B.A., Political Science and Spanish, May 2006
GPA: 3.39

Chestnut Hill, MA

Honors and Activities: Dean's List; Boston College Athletic Director's Award for Achievement; Varsity Women's Rowing Team; Server, Vinny T's of Boston

Universidad de Complutense – Fall Semester 2004

Madrid, Spain

BAR ADMISSIONS: Louisiana (2011), Eastern District of Louisiana (2012), United States Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals (2015), Minnesota (2017), District of Minnesota (2017).

PUBLICATION: *Harboring Aliens: Easier for Employers to Commit than Congress Intended?*, American Bar Association 29th Annual National Institute on White Collar Crime (2015).

STRENGTHS AND INTERESTS:

- Proficient in Spanish and French.
- Running (2018 Boston Marathon finisher with a time of 3:24.45; 25th place in age group in 2016 Twin Cities Marathon with a time of 3:23.05; 3rd place in age group and 34th place overall in 2015 Crescent City Classic with a time of 42:06; 13th place overall in the 2015 Jazz Half Marathon with a time of 1:40.33.3), traveling, and cooking.
- Assisted in teaching the White Collar Crime seminar at Loyola University New Orleans College of Law from 2012-2017.
- Served as the Chapter Leader of the Boston College Alumni Chapter in New Orleans in 2016-2017, and currently assist with planning events for the Boston College Alumni Chapter in Minnesota.