

Melissa R. Soberalski

Saint Francis, WI 53235

## EDUCATION

**Marquette University Law School, Milwaukee, Wisconsin**

*Juris Doctor*, June 2012

- Saint Thomas More Scholarship and Jaeger Law Fund Scholarship
- Outstanding Public Interest Student of the Year, Public Interest Law Section, Wisconsin State Bar (2011)
- Marquette Immigration Law Association, Founder and President
- Refugee Help Desk with Pan-African Coalition Association, Founder
- ABA Pro Bono and Public Interest Litigation Committee Newsletter Board, Assistant Editor (2012)
- Marquette University Volunteer Legal Clinic, Legal Volunteer
- Pro Bono Society, Member with 120+ *pro bono* hours

**University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, California**

*Bachelor of Arts in Political Science*, December 2005

## PUBLICATIONS

*Balancing Act: Ethical Issues Facing Attorneys Who Serve on a Non-Profit Board of Directors*, ABA Pro Bono & Public Interest Committee Newsletter, May 2012

## EXPERIENCE

**Lopez & Soberalski Immigration Law, LLC, Milwaukee, Wisconsin**

*Immigration Attorney and Co-Owner*, May 2013 to present

- Practice immigration law with a focus on family-based immigration visas and removal defense.

**Vargas Law Office, LLC, Milwaukee, Wisconsin**

*Immigration Attorney*, June 2012 to May 2013

- Practiced immigration law with a focus on Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) applications.

**National Immigrant Justice Center, Chicago, Illinois**

*Legal Extern*, Spring 2012

- Drafted asylum cover letter and affidavit for client's affirmative asylum application.

**Catholic Legal Services for Immigrants, Milwaukee, Wisconsin**

*Legal Intern*, Fall 2011

- Conducted extensive legal research and wrote cover letters and affidavits for U-Visas and VAWA applications.

**Oregon Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, Milwaukee, Wisconsin**

*Project Intern*, Summer 2011

- Drafted immigration-law focused section of a legal manual for Oregon domestic violence shelters.

**Honorable Margaret J. Mullen, Nineteenth Judicial Circuit Court of Lake County, Waukegan, Illinois**

*Judicial Intern*, Summer 2010

- Conducted extensive legal research, wrote memoranda, and drafted oral opinions.

**University of Arkansas Mechanical Engineering Department, Fayetteville, Arkansas**

*Administrative Support Supervisor*, March 2006 to July 2009

- Received the *University of Arkansas Employee of Second Quarter* for 2008 to 2009, the *College of Engineering Employee of the Semester* for Fall 2008, and elected to University of Arkansas Staff Senate.
- Worked with the Department Head on course planning, staff and faculty hiring, and department budgeting.

## PERSONAL

**Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metro Milwaukee, Milwaukee, Wisconsin**

*Volunteer Big Sister*, October 2010 to Present