

**UNITED STATES SENATE  
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY**

**QUESTIONNAIRE FOR JUDICIAL NOMINEES**

**PUBLIC**

1. **Name**: State full name (include any former names used).

Laura Margarete Provinzino

2. **Position**: State the position for which you have been nominated.

United States District Judge for the District of Minnesota

3. **Address**: List current office address. If city and state of residence differs from your place of employment, please list the city and state where you currently reside.

United States Attorney's Office – District of Minnesota  
300 South Fourth Street, Suite 600  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415

4. **Birthplace**: State year and place of birth.

1975; St. Cloud, Minnesota

5. **Education**: List in reverse chronological order each college, law school, or any other institution of higher education attended and indicate for each the dates of attendance, whether a degree was received, and the date each degree was received.

2000 – 2003, Yale Law School; J.D., 2003

1998 – 2000, Balliol College, Oxford University; B.A., 2000 (examination passed), 2005 (degree conferred in absentia)

1994 – 1998, Lewis & Clark College; B.A., 1998

6. **Employment Record**: List in reverse chronological order all governmental agencies, business or professional corporations, companies, firms, or other enterprises, partnerships, institutions or organizations, non-profit or otherwise, with which you have been affiliated as an officer, director, partner, proprietor, or employee since graduation from college, whether or not you received payment for your services. Include the name and address of the employer and job title or description.

2010 – present

United States Attorney's Office – District of Minnesota

300 South Fourth Street, Suite 600  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415

Assistant United States Attorney

Project Safe Childhood Coordinator (2012 –2014)

Human Trafficking Coordinator (2014 – 2018)

Deputy Chief, Major Crimes (2018 – 2022)

Deputy Chief, Violent and Major Crimes (2022 – 2023)

Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons AUSA (2023 – present)

2006 – 2010

Robins Kaplan LLP

800 LaSalle Avenue, Suite 2800

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402

Litigation Associate

2004 – 2006

The Advocates for Human Rights

330 Second Avenue South, Suite 800

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401

Wellstone Legal Fellow

2003 – 2004

United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit

Diana E. Murphy United States Courthouse

300 South Fourth Street

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415

Law Clerk for the Honorable Diana E. Murphy

2000 – 2003

Yale Student Accessibility Services

35 Broadway, Room 222

New Haven, Connecticut 06511

Student Notetaker

Fall 2002

Professor Harold Hongju Koh

Yale Law School

127 Wall Street

New Haven, Connecticut 06511

Teaching Assistant

Summer 2002

Robins Kaplan LLP

800 LaSalle Avenue, Suite 2800

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402

Summer Associate

Fall 2001  
Professor Owen M. Fiss  
Yale Law School  
127 Wall Street  
New Haven, Connecticut 06511  
Teaching Assistant

Summer 2001  
Yale Law School Clinics  
127 Wall Street  
New Haven, Connecticut 06511  
Summer Intern

Summer 2000  
Upward Bound  
College of St. Benedict/Saint John's University  
37 South College Avenue  
St. Joseph, Minnesota 56374  
Academic Instructor

Summer 1998  
Upward Bound  
Pacific University  
2043 College Way  
Forest Grove, Oregon 97116  
Head Counselor

7. **Military Service and Draft Status**: Identify any service in the U.S. Military, including dates of service, branch of service, rank or rate, serial number (if different from social security number) and type of discharge received, and whether you have registered for selective service.

I did not serve in the military. I was not required to register for the selective service.

8. **Honors and Awards**: List any scholarships, fellowships, honorary degrees, academic or professional honors, honorary society memberships, military awards, and any other special recognition for outstanding service or achievement.

Attorney General's David Margolis Award for Exceptional Service (2023)

Attorney of the Year from Minnesota Lawyer – Non-Profit/Government Category (2023)

Women in Federal Law Enforcement (WIFLE) Top Prosecutor Award (2023)

Duluth (Minnesota) Police Department Commendation (2019)

Homeland Security Investigations Executive Associate Director Award – Outstanding Human Smuggling/Human Trafficking Investigation (2018)

Distinguished Alumni Award Technical High School – St. Cloud, Minnesota (2017)

Pioneer Alumni Leadership Award: Minnesota Chapter of Lewis & Clark Alumni (2010)

Up and Coming Attorney Award from Minnesota Lawyer (2009)

Yale Journal of International Law

Book Reviews Editor (2002 – 2003)

Articles Editor (2001 – 2002)

Editor (2000 – 2001)

Rhodes Scholarship (1998)

Lewis & Clark College

Department Honors for History and International Affairs (1998)

American Association of University Women Outstanding Senior Award (1998)

GTE Academic All-American Women's Spring At-Large College Division Team (1998)

Intercollegiate Tennis Association Scholar-Athlete All American (1998)

Pamplin Society of Fellows (1998)

The Phi Beta Kappa Society (1997)

Barbara Hirschi Neely Scholarship (1994 – 1998)

9. **Bar Associations:** List all bar associations or legal or judicial-related committees, selection panels or conferences of which you are or have been a member, and give the titles and dates of any offices which you have held in such groups.

Eighth Circuit Bar Association (2020 – present)

Federal Bar Association (FBA) Minnesota Chapter (2003 – present)

Hennepin County Bar Association (HCBA) (2006 – 2010)

Mentor Program (2006 – 2008)

Infinity Project (2007 – present)

Board of Directors (2007 – present)

President (2018)

Minnesota Association for Justice (formerly Minnesota Trial Lawyers Association) (2007 – 2010)

Minnesota Mother Attorney's Association (MMAA) (2013 – 2016)

Board of Directors (2013 – 2016)

United States Magistrate Judge Merit Selection Panel – District of Minnesota (2022)

Wellness Committee – District of Minnesota (2016 – 2019)  
Representative for the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals

**10. Bar and Court Admission:**

- a. List the date(s) you were admitted to the bar of any state and any lapses in membership. Please explain the reason for any lapse in membership.

Illinois, 2006  
Minnesota, 2003

There have been no lapses in membership. I went on inactive status in Illinois in 2011, shortly after I joined the U.S. Attorney's Office.

- b. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice, including dates of admission and any lapses in membership. Please explain the reason for any lapse in membership. Give the same information for administrative bodies that require special admission to practice.

United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit, 2004  
United States District Court for the District of Minnesota, 2006

There have been no lapses in membership.

**11. Memberships:**

- a. List all professional, business, fraternal, scholarly, civic, charitable, or other organizations, other than those listed in response to Questions 9 or 10 to which you belong, or to which you have belonged, since graduation from law school. Provide dates of membership or participation, and indicate any office you held. Include clubs, working groups, advisory or editorial boards, panels, committees, conferences, or publications.

Lewis & Clark College Minnesota Alumni Chapter (2003 – present)

Pangea World Theater  
Board of Directors (2007 – 2010)

Yale Alumni Association of the Northwest (2003 – present)

- b. The American Bar Association's Commentary to its Code of Judicial Conduct states that it is inappropriate for a judge to hold membership in any organization

that invidiously discriminates on the basis of race, sex, or religion, or national origin. Indicate whether any of these organizations listed in response to 11a above currently discriminate or formerly discriminated on the basis of race, sex, religion or national origin either through formal membership requirements or the practical implementation of membership policies. If so, describe any action you have taken to change these policies and practices.

To my knowledge, the organizations listed above do not and have not discriminated on the basis of race, sex, religion, or national origin, either through formal membership requirements or the practical implementation of membership policies.

12. **Published Writings and Public Statements:**

- a. List the titles, publishers, and dates of books, articles, reports, letters to the editor, editorial pieces, or other published material you have written or edited, including material published only on the Internet. Supply four (4) copies of all published material to the Committee.

With Michele Garnett McKenzie, Rosalyn Park, Robin Phillips & Laura Young, ADVOCATES FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, HUMAN RIGHTS IN ETHIOPIA: THROUGH THE EYES OF THE OROMO DIASPORA (Dec. 1, 2009). Copy supplied.

With Mark Johnson, *Judge Diana E. Murphy: Memories from the District Court*, BAR TALK (May 19, 2009). Copy supplied.

With Chris Messerly, *Mandatory Reporters Must Speak for the Abused Child*, MINN. ASSOC. OF JUST. (Oct. 29, 2007). Copy supplied.

ADVOCATES FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, VOICES FROM SILENCE: PERSONAL ACCOUNTS OF THE LONG-TERM IMPACT OF 9/11 (Feb. 2007). Copy supplied.

Dan Freed, *Panel II: The Effects of Region, Circuit, Caseload and Prosecutorial Policies on Disparity*, 15 FED. SENT'G REP. 165 (Katherine Tang Newberger & Laura Provinzino eds., 2003). Copy supplied.

Dennis Curtis, *Panel IV: Accomplishing the Purposes of Sentencing—Criminal History and Recidivism*, 15 FED. SENT'G REP. 185 (Susan Lin & Laura Provinzino eds., 2003). Copy supplied.

Article Summary, 15 FED. SENT'G REP. 207 (2003) (summarizing Lisa Farabee, *Disparate Departures Under the Federal Sentencing Guidelines: A Tale of Two Districts*, 30 CONN. L. REV. 569 (1998)). Copy supplied.

Book Note, 26 YALE J. INT'L L. 288 (2001) (reviewing RUTI G. TEITEL, *TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE* (2000)). Copy supplied.

- b. Supply four (4) copies of any reports, memoranda or policy statements you prepared or contributed in the preparation of on behalf of any bar association, committee, conference, or organization of which you were or are a member. If you do not have a copy of a report, memorandum or policy statement, give the name and address of the organization that issued it, the date of the document, and a summary of its subject matter.

On behalf of the Infinity Project, I joined the statement of Minnesota Women Lawyers to the State of Minnesota Board of Law Examiners Requesting Comment on the Review of Rule 7A of the Rules for Admission to the Bar Pursuant to Minnesota Supreme Court Order ADM10-8008 (Nov. 30, 2017). Copy supplied.

- c. Supply four (4) copies of any testimony, official statements or other communications relating, in whole or in part, to matters of public policy or legal interpretation, that you have issued or provided or that others presented on your behalf to public bodies or public officials.

On September 22, 2020, I presented to the Attorney General Advisory Committee (AGAC), Child Exploitation and Human Trafficking Subcommittee on the Bangkok Dark Nights Case. I have no transcript or recording.

Letter to Governor-elect Tim Walz and Lieutenant Governor-elect Peggy Flanagan from the Infinity Project regarding Minnesota's Judicial Selection Commission (Dec. 26, 2018). Copy supplied.

Letter to Minnesota's Congressional Delegation from former clerks and staff of Judge Murphy in support of naming the United States Courthouse in downtown Minneapolis for the Honorable Diana E. Murphy (June 13, 2018). Copy supplied.

I joined the Brief of 13,922 Current Law Students at Accredited American Law Schools as Amici Curiae in Support of Respondents in *Grutter v. Bollinger et al.*, No. 02-241, 2003 WL 554404 (Feb. 18, 2003).

- d. Supply four (4) copies, transcripts or recordings of all speeches or talks delivered by you including commencement speeches, remarks, lectures, panel discussions, conferences, political speeches, and question-and-answer sessions. Include the date and place where they were delivered, and readily available press reports about the speech or talk. If you do not have a copy of the speech or a transcript or recording of your remarks, give the name and address of the group before whom the speech was given, the date of the speech, and a summary of its subject matter. If you did not speak from a prepared text, furnish a copy of any outline or notes from which you spoke.

The following list reflects my best efforts to identify the speeches or talks that I have delivered. To compile the list, I consulted my own records and internet sources. There may, however, be other speeches or panel discussions that I have been unable to recall or identify.

May 20, 2024: Panelist, Combatting Trafficking in Persons—UAE, Minneapolis, Minnesota. The presentation was part of the State Department's International Visitor Leadership Program to discuss law enforcement collaboration on human trafficking investigations. We used a PowerPoint for this presentation, but because the materials are law enforcement sensitive they are not provided.

April 24, 2024: Presenter, MMIP and U.S. DOJ Coordination of Regional MMIP Program, in Grand Portage, Minnesota. Presentation supplied.

March 12, 2024: Presenter, Department of Justice MMIP Regional Program Response to the Michigan Tribal Police Chiefs Meeting at Four Winds Casino and Resort, New Buffalo, Michigan (Remote Presentation). Presentation supplied.

November 16, 2023: Panelist, 2023 Internet Crimes Against Children and Human Trafficking Legal Update, United States Attorney's Office, Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, Minnesota Attorney General's Office, and the Ramsey County Attorney's Office, Nisswa, Minnesota. We used a PowerPoint for this presentation, but because the materials are law enforcement sensitive they are not provided.

October 26, 2023: Presenter, Human Trafficking Seminar at the University of Minnesota Law School, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Presentation supplied.

January 25, 2023: Panelist, Federal Criminal Practice Panel Discussion for Law Students and Newer Lawyers at St. Thomas Law School, Minneapolis, Minnesota. The panel was on the personal pathway of each panelist to his or her current legal position. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for the Minnesota Chapter of the Federal Bar Association is 2200 Wells Fargo Center, 90 South Seventh Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402.

June 14, 2022: Panelist, Fighting Hate Crimes, Minnesota Chapter of the Federal Bar Association 47th Annual Federal Practice Seminar, Minneapolis, Minnesota. The presentation was on the increase in hate crimes in Minnesota and efforts to use federal hate crime laws to address the rise in hate crimes. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for the Minnesota Chapter of the Federal Bar Association is 2200 Wells Fargo Center, 90 South Seventh Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402.

March 15, 2022: Presenter, Human Trafficking Seminar at the University of Minnesota Law School, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Presentation supplied.



July 22, 2021: Presenter, Legal Update to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Camp Ripley, Minnesota (Remote Presentation). We used a PowerPoint for this presentation, but because the materials are law enforcement sensitive they are not provided.

March 15, 2021: Presenter, Human Trafficking Seminar at the University of Minnesota Law School, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Presentation supplied.

March 3 – 5, 2020: Presenter, Human Trafficking Training with Judges and Human Trafficking Training with Police and Prosecutors, Nicosia, Cyprus. The program was sponsored by the U.S. Department of State and the Ministry of Interior in Cyprus. The presentation was on trial preparation, common defenses, and developing additional evidence for law enforcement. We used a PowerPoint for this presentation, but because the materials are law enforcement sensitive they are not provided.

January 8, 2020: Panelist, U.S. Attorney's Office Training for the U.S. Marshals Service, Minneapolis, Minnesota. We used a PowerPoint for this presentation, but because the materials are law enforcement sensitive they are not provided.

December 3, 2019: Panelist, Sextortion Panel Presentation, Hermantown, Minnesota. The panel was on ways to identify and prevent online exploitation. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for the U.S. Attorney's Office is 300 South Fourth Street, Suite 600, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415.

November 20, 2019: Panelist, Stump the Prosecutor: Prosecutor Panel at Human Trafficking Conference, Breezy Point, Minnesota. The panel was on legal developments in human trafficking. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension is 1430 Maryland Avenue East, St. Paul, Minnesota 55106.

November 6, 2019: Panelist, Presentation on Federal Sentencing Guidelines in Child Exploitation and Child Pornography Offenses to the Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission, St. Paul, Minnesota. I answered questions about federal sentencing guidelines in these cases as the state commission was revisiting its guidelines. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for the Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission is 658 Cedar Street, Suite G-587, St. Paul, Minnesota 55155.

October 21, 2019: Panelist, Presentation on Sextortion for Minneapolis School Support Services staff, Minneapolis, Minnesota. The panel was on ways to identify and prevent online exploitation. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for Minneapolis Public Schools is Davis Center, 1250 West Broadway Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55411.

July 1, 2019: Moderator, Global Minnesota's Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report

Heroes, Minneapolis, Minnesota. The program was on strategies and challenges in prosecuting human trafficking cases and the Anti-Trafficking Coordination (ACT) Team's work in developing high-impact investigations and prosecutions through interagency collaboration. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for Global Minnesota is 1901 University Avenue Southeast, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415.

May 10, 2019: Presenter, Building Strong Human Trafficking Cases, Bois Forte Band of Chippewa Victim Services, Tower, Minnesota. Presentation supplied.

March 21, 2019: Panelist, Grounding and Growing: Tools for a Powerful Anti-Trafficking Movement, Freedom Network USA, Washington, DC. Presentation supplied.

March 1, 2019: Moderator, Who Decides? Picking Judges in the 21st Century, University of St. Thomas Law Journal Symposium, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Video available at <https://youtube.com/watch?v=jY2Qr2DqbLo>.

October 30, 2018: Panelist, Bangkok Dark Nights case, Bank Secrecy Act Conference, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Presentation supplied.

October 18, 2018: Panelist, Conversation of Former Clerks of The Honorable Diana E. Murphy, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit, Memorial Session, St. Paul, Minnesota. Video available at <https://www.lb8.uscourts.gov/pubsandservices/histsociety/coa8.murphy-memorial.html>.

June 4 – June 9, 2018: Presenter, How We Learned To Stop Worrying and Love Visa Fraud, Buffalo, New York. This conference was for federal agents and prosecutors who investigate labor trafficking. I presented on federal charges available in a labor trafficking investigation and prosecution. We used a PowerPoint for this presentation, but because the materials are law enforcement sensitive they are not provided.

March 28, 2018: Presenter, Human Trafficking 101, Bethany Baptist Church, St. Paul, Minnesota. I gave a presentation on human trafficking red flags and federal human trafficking laws to the student senate of homeschooled children. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The event was organized by the U.S. Attorney's Office Community Outreach. The address for the U.S. Attorney's Office is 300 South Fourth Street, Suite 600, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415.

March 20, 2018: Panelist, Trafficking in Persons Briefing to the University of Minnesota's Naval ROTC Program, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Presentation supplied.

March 9, 2018: Panelist, Upper Midwest Immigration Conference—American

Immigration Lawyers Association and The Advocates for Human Rights, St. Thomas Law School, Minneapolis, Minnesota. The panel was on the red flags and risk factors of human trafficking in Minnesota's immigrant population. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for The Advocates for Human Rights is 330 Second Avenue South, Suite 800, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401.

February 23, 2018: Presenter, The State of Human Trafficking in Minnesota, for Out of the Shadows: Ending Human Trafficking in Minnesota, a Rotary Club Initiative, St. Louis Park, Minnesota. Speech supplied.

November 1 – November 3, 2017: Panelist, Minnesota BCA Human Trafficking Conference, Nisswa, Minnesota. The panel was on legal developments in human trafficking. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension is 1430 Maryland Avenue East, St. Paul, Minnesota 55106.

September 18, 2017: Panelist, Human Trafficking 101, Duluth, Minnesota. The panel was on prosecuting human trafficking cases, dealing with victims and their families, and restitution for the annual retreat of U.S. Probation and Pretrial Services. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for U.S. Probation and Pretrial Services is 300 South Fourth Street, Suite 406, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415.

September 12 – 14, 2017: Panelist, Human Trafficking Presentation for federal, Tribal, state, and local law enforcement partners, Fargo, North Dakota. The panel was on the use of the grand jury to investigate human trafficking cases and various law enforcement investigative techniques to build a strong human trafficking case. The conference was sponsored by DOJ's Human Trafficking Prosecution Unit (HTPU) and the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of North Dakota. We used a PowerPoint for this presentation, but because the materials are law enforcement sensitive they are not provided.

July 18, 2017: Presenter, Federal Human Trafficking: A Legal Overview, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Presentation supplied.

May 17, 2017, Panelist: Sex Trafficking, Federal Bar Association Monthly Lunch, Minneapolis, Minnesota. The panel was on a recent human trafficking case in federal court. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for the Minnesota Chapter of the Federal Bar Association is 2200 Wells Fargo Center, 90 South Seventh Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402

March 10, 2017: Presenter, Human Trafficking Presentation for high school teachers and staff, St. Paul, Minnesota. The presentation was on human trafficking indicators and prevention. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for the Paladin Career and Technical High School is 10220 Goldenrod Street Northwest, Coon Rapids, Minnesota 55448.

June 3, 2016: Presenter, Legal Update to the National Park Service, St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin. We used a PowerPoint for this presentation, but because the materials are law enforcement sensitive they are not provided.

May 24, 2016: Panelist, Safe Harbor Tribal Summit, Mystic Lake Casino, Prior Lake, Minnesota. Presentation supplied.

April 21, 2016: Presenter, Legal Update to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Camp Ripley, Minnesota. We used a PowerPoint for this presentation, but because the materials are law enforcement sensitive they are not provided.

April 13, 2016: Presenter, State Department Delegation on Human Trafficking, Minneapolis, Minnesota. The presentation was part of the State Department's International Visitor Leadership Program to discuss law enforcement collaboration on human trafficking investigations, particularly focusing on public-private partnerships and the role of the prosecutor. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for Global Minnesota is 1901 University Avenue Southeast, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415.

April 11, 2016: Panelist, Club Operators Against Sex Trafficking, Minneapolis, Minnesota. The training was led by Homeland Security Investigations with a focus on teaching club owners and their employees sex trafficking indicators. I have no notes, transcript, or recording, but press coverage is supplied and available at <https://www.fox9.com/news/federal-agents-meet-with-twin-cities-adult-nightclubs-to-combat-sex-trafficking>. The address for HSI is 1 Federal Drive, Suite 1340, Fort Snelling, Minnesota 55111.

March 18, 2016: Panelist, Appellate Practice Institute CLE and Minnesota CLE, Minneapolis, Minnesota. The panel was on brief writing tips from the vantage point of former law clerks. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for Minnesota CLE is 600 Nicollet Mall, Suite 370, Third Floor City Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402.

February 25, 2016: Speaker, Minnesota Mother Attorney Association's Third Annual Membership Event and Scholarship Award Presentation: An Evening of Conversation and Inspiration, Minneapolis, Minnesota. I provided welcoming remarks for a celebration of the successes of members and to honor an exceptional mother soon-to-be attorney with the MMAA's annual scholarship award. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The MMAA is no longer active and does not have a mailing address.

February 17, 2016: Panelist, The Reality of Making a Murderer: How True Crime Documentaries Affect Minnesota's Justice System, MSBA Criminal Law Section and the Criminal Certified Specialist Program, Minneapolis, Minnesota. The panel was on whether true crime documentaries have changed the day-to-day

justice system in Minnesota, including motions practice, juror skepticism, and how attorneys and judges can maintain excellent practice in the face of new challenges. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for the MSBA is 600 Nicollet Mall, Suite 380, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402.

January 14, 2016: Panelist, Human Trafficking 101, St. Paul, Minnesota, with the Mexican Consulate and the FBI. Presentation supplied.

September 15, 2014: Speaker, Ramsey County Attorney's Office, Training Videos on Identifying and Responding to Sex Trafficking in Minnesota for Law Enforcement and Systems Professionals, St. Paul, Minnesota. The training videos are available at <https://www.ramseycounty.us/your-government/leadership/county-attorneys-office/community-initiatives/combating-sex-trafficking/training-videos-law-enforcement>.

July 28, 2014: Panelist, International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) State Department visit, Minneapolis, Minnesota. The presentation was part of the State Department's International Visitor Leadership Program to discuss law enforcement collaboration on human trafficking investigations. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for Global Minnesota is 1901 University Avenue Southeast, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415.

May 5, 2014: Presenter, Legal Update to the National Park Service, St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin. We used a PowerPoint for this presentation, but because the materials are law enforcement sensitive they are not provided.

February 20, 2010: Panelist, Secrets of a Great Alumni Chapter at Lewis & Clark College, Portland, Oregon. The panel discussion with the Board of Trustees was on strategies to develop a strong alumni chapter. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address for Alumni, Lewis & Clark College is 615 South Palatine Hill Road, Portland, Oregon 97219.

- e. List all interviews you have given to newspapers, magazines or other publications, or radio or television stations, providing the dates of these interviews and four (4) copies of the clips or transcripts of these interviews where they are available to you.

Brian Martucci, *Attorneys of the Year: United States v. Anton Joseph Lazzaro et al.*, MINN. L. (Feb. 9, 2024). Copy supplied.

Kirsten Swanson, *Meet the Women Who Prosecuted "Minnesota's Jeffrey Epstein,"* KSTP (Sept. 12, 2023). Recording available at <https://kstp.com/kstp-news/top-news/meet-the-women-who-prosecuted-minnesotas-jeffrey-epstein>.

Press Release, *St. Paul Woman Sentenced to Three Years in Prison for Role in Child Sex Trafficking Conspiracy*, United States Attorney's Office (Sept. 5,

2023). Copy supplied.

Press Release, *Anton "Tony" Lazzaro Sentenced to 21 Years in Prison for Child Sex Trafficking*, United States Attorney's Office (Aug. 9, 2023). Copy supplied.

Press Conference, Announcing the Verdict in *United States v. Anton Joseph Lazzaro et al.*, United States Attorney's Office, Minneapolis, Minnesota (Mar. 31, 2023). Partial recordings available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IT3eipRLtes>, <https://www.cbsnews.com/minnesota/news/closing-arguments-end-in-trial-of-anton-lazzaro-accused-of-sex-trafficking-minors>, and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qtE-1Ik9inY>.

Press Release, *Federal Jury Finds Anton "Tony" Lazzaro Guilty on All Counts in Child Sex Trafficking Conspiracy*, United States Attorney's Office (Mar. 31, 2023). Copy supplied.

Stephen Montemayor, *Anton Lazzaro Found Guilty in Child Sex Trafficking Case*, STAR TRIB. (Mar. 31, 2023). Copy supplied.

Disability Justice, Interview Addressing Human Trafficking, Hate Crimes, and Prosecution of Cases Involving People with Disabilities for the Minnesota Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities (2021). Videos available at <https://disabilityjustice.org/laura-provinzino-us-attorneys-office>.

Rachel Axon et al., *Sex Trafficking is Behind the Lucrative Illicit Massage Business. Why Police Can't Stop It.*, USA TODAY (July 29, 2019; updated Dec. 16, 2019). Copy supplied.

Dan Browning, *Columbia Heights Restaurateur Sentenced for Visa Fraud, Alien Harboring*, STAR TRIB. (Feb. 7, 2019). Copy supplied.

Press Release, *Columbia Heights Restaurant Owner Sentenced to 42 Months in Prison for Visa Fraud and Harboring an Illegal Worker*, United States Attorney's Office (Feb. 6, 2019). Copy supplied.

Matt Sepic, *Federal Jury Convicts Five on Charges They Operated Huge Sex-Trafficking Ring*, MINN. PUB. RADIO (Dec. 13, 2018). Recording available at <https://www.mprnews.org/story/2018/12/13/federal-jury-convicts-5-on-charges-they-operated-huge-sex-trafficking-ring>.

Press Release, *Itasca County Christmas Tree Thief Sentenced*, United States Attorney's Office (May 19, 2017). Copy supplied.

*General Comments Received in Appreciation of LEAF's work in District 742, for Local Education & Activities Foundation (LEAF) for St. Cloud Area Schools*

District 742 (2017). Copy supplied.

Press Release, *Twin Cities Man Sentenced to 27 Years in Prison for Sex Trafficking of Teenage Girls*, United States Attorney's Office (Oct. 25, 2016). Copy supplied.

Phil Picardi, *Old-fashioned Surveillance Used To Catch Alleged Sex Traffickers*, MINN. PUB. RADIO (Oct. 6, 2016). Recording available at <https://www.mprnews.org/story/2016/10/06/sex-trafficking-ring-indictments-announced>.

Press Release, *Repeat Sex Offender Sentenced to 15 Years in Prison for Receiving Child Pornography*, United States Attorney's Office (July 13, 2016). Copy supplied.

Press Release, *Brooklyn Park Man Sentenced to Ten Years in Prison for Sex Trafficking of a Teenage Girl*, United States Attorney's Office (July 1, 2016). Copy supplied.

Press Release, *Yiwei Zheng Sentenced To Pay \$500,000 Fine for Smuggling Elephant Ivory and Rhinoceros Horns*, United States Attorney's Office (May 9, 2016). Copy supplied.

Pete Kasperowicz, *Strip Club Owners Team Up with Feds To Fight Human Trafficking*, WASH. EXAM'R (Apr. 12, 2016). Copy previously supplied in response to Question 12d.

Press Release, *Law Enforcement, Adult Club Owners Team Up in Minnesota To Educate, Raise Awareness of Human Trafficking*, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (Apr. 11, 2016). Copy supplied.

Press Release, *Child Pornographer Sentenced to 33 1/3 Years in Prison*, United States Attorney's Office (Mar. 10, 2016). Copy supplied.

David Chanen, *Minneapolis Man Receives 45-Year Prison Term for Abusing Infant Girl*, STAR TRIB. (Feb. 26, 2016). Copy supplied.

Stephen Montemayor, *Minnesota Prosecutors Take a New Tack on Prostitution, Human Trafficking*, STAR TRIB. (Feb. 2, 2016). Copy supplied.

Paul Walsh, *25 Years in Prison for St. Paul Man who Sold Teen Girls for Sex on Backpage.com*, STAR TRIB. (Feb. 1, 2016). Copy supplied.

Press Release, *Dontre McHenry Sentenced to 293 Months in Prison for Sex Trafficking Teenage Girls Throughout Minnesota*, United States Attorney's Office (Jan. 26, 2016). Copy supplied.

Stephen Montemayor, *St. Cloud State Professor Pleads Guilty to Trafficking up to \$1.5 Million in Rhino Horn, Ivory*, STAR TRIB. (Jan. 13, 2016). Copy supplied.

Amy Forliti, *University Professor Pleads Guilty to Smuggling Ivory*, ASSOCIATED PRESS, STAR TRIB. (Jan. 13, 2016). Copy supplied.

Press Release, *St. Cloud State University Professor Pleads Guilty to Trafficking in Elephant Ivory and Rhinoceros Horn*, United States Attorney's Office (Jan. 13, 2016). Copy supplied.

Editorial, *Minnesota Leads on Anti-Trafficking Fight*, STAR TRIB. (Dec. 23, 2015). Copy supplied.

Press Release, *Blaine Man Sentenced to 282 Months in Prison for Trafficking 18-year-old Victim*, United States Attorney's Office (Nov. 25, 2015). Copy supplied.

Press Release, *Minnesota Man Convicted by Federal Jury of Producing Pornographic Images of Two Minors*, United States Attorney's Office (Sept. 24, 2015). Copy supplied.

David Chanen, *Trafficking Victim Turns the Tables: Rare Case*, STAR TRIB. (Sept. 23, 2015). Copy supplied.

Press Release, *Two Twin Cities' Restaurateurs Plead Guilty to Hiring Undocumented Workers*, United States Attorney's Office (Mar. 20, 2015). Copy supplied (reprinted in multiple outlets).

Press Release, *Jury Finds Red Lake Man Guilty of Distributing Child Pornography*, United States Attorney's Office (Jan. 13, 2015). Copy supplied.

*Minnesota Mother Attorneys Association, Association Profile*, ATT'Y AT L. MAG. TWIN CITIES (2015). Copy supplied.

Press Release, *Dontre McHenry Pleads Guilty to Sex Trafficking Teenage Girls Throughout Minnesota*, United States Attorney's Office (Oct. 17, 2014). Copy supplied.

Barbara Jones, *State is a Destination for Human Trafficking*, MINN. LAW. (June 26, 2014). Copy supplied.

Roseanne Pereira, *Local Lawyer Documents Torture of Oromo Population*, MINN. PUB. RADIO (Sept. 21, 2007). Recording available at <https://www.mprnews.org/story/2007/09/21/provinzino>.

Art Hughes, *Twin Cities Human Rights Conference Aims for Changes a World*



Away, MINN. PUB. RADIO (July 26, 2006). Recording available at <https://www.mprnews.org/story/2006/07/26/oromorights>.

Molly Millett, *Legal Minds Decided To Put Their Hearts Together*, PIONEER PRESS (St. Paul, Minn.) (Feb. 26, 2006). Copy supplied.

Elizabeth Stauderman, *Law School "Runners" Hope To Beat Harvard to the Beach*, YALE BULL. & CALENDAR (Sept. 21, 2001). Copy supplied.

Nancy Livingston, *Rhodes to Justice: Macalester Senior Gretchen Rohr*, PIONEER PRESS (St. Paul, Minn.) (Dec. 9, 1997). Copy supplied.

Mary Jane Smetanka & Anthony Lonetree, *New Rhodes Scholars Aim To Serve: Three with Local Ties Chosen for Prized Oxford Study Award*, STAR TRIB. (Dec. 9, 1997). Copy supplied.

Don Hamilton, *Lewis & Clark Has Its First Rhodes Scholar*, THE OREGONIAN (Dec. 8, 1997). Copy supplied.

Almanac, *Erik Eskola and Cathy Wurzer's Interview of Rhodes Scholars with Minnesota Connection*, Twin Cities Pub. Television (Dec. 1997). I am unable to locate a copy.

13. **Judicial Office:** State (chronologically) any judicial offices you have held, including positions as an administrative law judge, whether such position was elected or appointed, and a description of the jurisdiction of each such court.

I have not held judicial office.

- a. Approximately how many cases have you presided over that have gone to verdict or judgment? \_\_\_\_\_

- i. Of these cases, approximately what percent were:

jury trials: \_\_\_\_\_ %  
bench trials: \_\_\_\_\_ % [total 100%]

- ii. Of these cases, approximately what percent were:

civil proceedings: \_\_\_\_\_ %  
criminal proceedings: \_\_\_\_\_ % [total 100%]

- b. Provide citations for all opinions you have written, including concurrences and dissents.

- c. For each of the 10 most significant cases over which you presided, provide: (1) a

capsule summary of the nature of the case; (2) the outcome of the case; (3) the name and contact information for counsel who had a significant role in the trial of the case; and (4) the citation of the case (if reported) or the docket number and a copy of the opinion or judgment (if not reported).

- d. For each of the 10 most significant opinions you have written, provide: (1) citations for those decisions that were published; (2) a copy of those decisions that were not published; and (3) the names and contact information for the attorneys who played a significant role in the case.
- e. Provide a list of all cases in which certiorari was requested or granted.
- f. Provide a brief summary of and citations for all of your opinions where your decisions were reversed by a reviewing court or where your judgment was affirmed with significant criticism of your substantive or procedural rulings. If any of the opinions listed were not officially reported, provide copies of the opinions.
- g. Provide a description of the number and percentage of your decisions in which you issued an unpublished opinion and the manner in which those unpublished opinions are filed and/or stored.
- h. Provide citations for significant opinions on federal or state constitutional issues, together with the citation to appellate court rulings on such opinions. If any of the opinions listed were not officially reported, provide copies of the opinions.
- i. Provide citations to all cases in which you sat by designation on a federal court of appeals, including a brief summary of any opinions you authored, whether majority, dissenting, or concurring, and any dissenting opinions you joined.

14. **Recusal:** If you are or have been a judge, identify the basis by which you have assessed the necessity or propriety of recusal (If your court employs an "automatic" recusal system by which you may be recused without your knowledge, please include a general description of that system.) Provide a list of any cases, motions or matters that have come before you in which a litigant or party has requested that you recuse yourself due to an asserted conflict of interest or in which you have recused yourself sua sponte. Identify each such case, and for each provide the following information:

I have not held judicial office.

- a. whether your recusal was requested by a motion or other suggestion by a litigant or a party to the proceeding or by any other person or interested party; or if you recused yourself sua sponte;
- b. a brief description of the asserted conflict of interest or other ground for recusal;

- c. the procedure you followed in determining whether or not to recuse yourself;
- d. your reason for recusing or declining to recuse yourself, including any action taken to remove the real, apparent or asserted conflict of interest or to cure any other ground for recusal.

15. **Public Office, Political Activities and Affiliations:**

- a. List chronologically any public offices you have held, other than judicial offices, including the terms of service and whether such positions were elected or appointed. If appointed, please include the name of the individual who appointed you. Also, state chronologically any unsuccessful candidacies you have had for elective office or unsuccessful nominations for appointed office.

None.

- b. List all memberships and offices held in and services rendered, whether compensated or not, to any political party or election committee. If you have ever held a position or played a role in a political campaign, identify the particulars of the campaign, including the candidate, dates of the campaign, your title and responsibilities.

I have not held any membership or office in any political party or election committee.

On November 4, 2008, I joined a team of lawyers from Robins Kaplan LLP to staff a one-day election clinic on behalf of the Minnesota DFL. We fielded telephone calls and offered legal assistance to eligible voters.

On June 3, 2006, I served as a delegate for the DFL endorsement of our now-U.S. Attorney Andrew M. Luger to be the Hennepin County Attorney, which is a non-partisan office.

16. **Legal Career:** Answer each part separately.

- a. Describe chronologically your law practice and legal experience after graduation from law school including:

- i. whether you served as clerk to a judge, and if so, the name of the judge, the court and the dates of the period you were a clerk;

From 2003 to 2004, I served as a law clerk to the Honorable Diana E. Murphy of the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit.

- ii. whether you practiced alone, and if so, the addresses and dates;

I have not practiced law alone.

- iii. the dates, names and addresses of law firms or offices, companies or governmental agencies with which you have been affiliated, and the nature of your affiliation with each;

2004 – 2006

The Advocates for Human Rights  
330 Second Avenue South, Suite 800  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401  
Wellstone Legal Fellow

2006 – 2010

Robins Kaplan LLP  
800 LaSalle Avenue, Suite 2800  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402  
Litigation Associate

2010 – present

United States Attorney's Office – District of Minnesota  
300 South Fourth Street, Suite 600  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415  
Assistant United States Attorney  
    Project Safe Childhood Coordinator (2012 –2014)  
    Human Trafficking Coordinator (2014 – 2018)  
    Deputy Chief, Major Crimes (2018 – 2022)  
    Deputy Chief, Violent and Major Crimes (2022 – 2023)  
    Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons AUSA (2023 – present)

- iv. whether you served as a mediator or arbitrator in alternative dispute resolution proceedings and, if so, a description of the 10 most significant matters with which you were involved in that capacity.

I have not served as a mediator or arbitrator in alternative dispute resolution proceedings.

b. Describe:

- i. the general character of your law practice and indicate by date when its character has changed over the years.

From 2003 through 2004, I served as a judicial law clerk, assisting with research, writing, and drafting legal opinions.

From 2004 through 2006, I served as the inaugural Wellstone Legal Fellow at The Advocates for Human Rights. I worked on fact-finding

projects identified by the permanent staff at The Advocates for Human Rights. I recruited volunteer participants, and we devised the methodology for the legal projects. Then we conducted a broad range of interviews. We met to discuss the findings and to develop an outline for the reports. The Advocates for Human Rights continued with the projects and published the reports after my one-year fellowship ended, and I had left for private practice.

From 2006 through 2010, I worked at Robins Kaplan LLP as a litigation associate. During my first few years, I principally worked on mass tort, class action, and medical malpractice cases. During my final two years, I principally worked on contract, antitrust, products liability, and general business litigation disputes. Depending on the size of the trial team, I handled a variety of roles. I researched and wrote legal memoranda, handled pretrial discovery matters, took and defended depositions, engaged in mediation, and drafted and argued dispositive motions. As a trial lawyer, I developed expert witness disclosures, prepared and examined witnesses, drafted examination outlines, wrote and argued motions, and prepared jury instructions. While I was at Robins Kaplan LLP, I was on one civil matter and one criminal matter which were tried to verdict.

From 2010 through the present, I have been an Assistant United States Attorney for the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Minnesota. I have always been associated with the Major Crimes Section of the Office. I handle all aspects of criminal investigation and prosecution, including grand jury proceedings, discovery matters, pretrial motion practice, trials, sentencings, and appeals and other post-conviction matters. I have prosecuted a wide variety of federal crimes that increased in complexity over time, including violation of laws related to firearms, civil rights, wildlife laws, cybercrimes, fraud, child exploitation, crimes in Indian Country, and human trafficking. During this time, my work has been entirely criminal.

From 2012 through 2014, I was the office's Project Safe Childhood (PSC) Coordinator. PSC is a nationwide initiative to investigate and prosecute people who sexually exploit children online. In that capacity, I assisted federal and state law enforcement partners with search warrants for electronic communication and premises. I also assisted law enforcement with training and legal updates. I prosecuted numerous PSC cases, including successful jury convictions.

From 2014 through 2018, I was the office's Human Trafficking Coordinator. I brought together federal law enforcement partners—Homeland Security Investigations, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Labor, Department of State, and the Internal Revenue

Service—and our team was selected as an Anti-Trafficking Coordination (ACT) Team by DOJ. In that role, I have prosecuted dozens of sex and labor trafficking cases. I have also trained law enforcement partners in the successful investigation of these cases and have assisted in the development of investigative protocols.

From 2018 through 2023, I was in a leadership role as a deputy chief of the Major Crimes Section and deputy chief of the Violent and Major Crimes Section. In these roles, I mentored and supervised other Assistant United States Attorneys. I reviewed charging instruments and proposed plea agreements. I assisted with the development of annual performance goals and evaluations. I also worked with a range of case agents to intake and assign cases while maintaining an active case load.

Starting at the end of 2023, I became one of five Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons (MMIP) Assistant United States Attorneys nationwide as part of DOJ's MMIP Regional Outreach Program. The Program aids in the prevention and response to missing or murdered Indigenous people through the resolution of MMIP cases where federal jurisdiction exists and through communication, coordination, and collaboration with Tribal, federal, and state governmental and non-governmental partners. I provide support to United States Attorneys' Offices in the Great Lakes Region to address unresolved homicide cases and MMIP-related crimes that are often precursors to MMIP cases. These MMIP-related cases include domestic violence, sexual violence, child physical and sexual abuse, and human trafficking.

- ii. your typical clients and the areas at each period of your legal career, if any, in which you have specialized.

At Robins Kaplan, I represented both corporations and individuals, and my work involved civil litigation and criminal defense.

As an Assistant United States Attorney, I represent the United States in criminal prosecutions at every stage of litigation, from investigation, to trial, to appeal, and through post-conviction proceedings.

- c. Describe the percentage of your practice that has been in litigation and whether you appeared in court frequently, occasionally, or not at all. If the frequency of your appearances in court varied, describe such variance, providing dates.

As an associate at Robins Kaplan LLP from 2006 to 2010, my practice was 100 percent litigation, in both state and federal courts. I appeared in court occasionally to argue motions in both federal and state court, in Minnesota and elsewhere. I helped to try one civil case in state court and one criminal case in federal court.

As an Assistant United States Attorney in District of Minnesota from 2010 to the present, my practice is also 100 percent litigation. I have appeared in court frequently to handle all aspects of criminal litigation.

i. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:

1. federal courts: 95%
2. state courts of record: 5%
3. other courts: 0%
4. administrative agencies: 0%

ii. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:

1. civil proceedings: 10%
2. criminal proceedings: 90%

d. State the number of cases in courts of record, including cases before administrative law judges, you tried to verdict, judgment or final decision (rather than settled), indicating whether you were sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel.

I have tried 16 cases to verdict. An additional case resolved with a guilty plea several days into trial and another resolved with a guilty plea during jury selection. I tried 15 of these 16 cases in the United States District Court for the District of Minnesota. I tried two of the cases solo, eleven of the cases with one other Assistant United States Attorney, and one of the cases with two other Assistant United States Attorneys. Before joining the United States Attorney's Office, I represented a defendant in a criminal case with two partners at Robins Kaplan. I tried one case in Minnesota state court where I was second chair to a partner from Robins Kaplan. I have argued approximately six appeals in the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals.

i. What percentage of these trials were:

1. jury: 100%
2. non-jury: 0%

e. Describe your practice, if any, before the Supreme Court of the United States. Supply four (4) copies of any briefs, amicus or otherwise, and, if applicable, any oral argument transcripts before the Supreme Court in connection with your practice.

I have never practiced before the Supreme Court of the United States.

17. **Litigation:** Describe the ten (10) most significant litigated matters which you personally handled, whether or not you were the attorney of record. Give the citations, if the cases were reported, and the docket number and date if unreported. Give a capsule summary of the substance of each case. Identify the party or parties whom you represented; describe in detail the nature of your participation in the litigation and the final disposition of the

case. Also state as to each case:

- a. the date of representation;
- b. the name of the court and the name of the judge or judges before whom the case was litigated; and
- c. the individual name, addresses, and telephone numbers of co-counsel and of principal counsel for each of the other parties.

1. *United States v. Thompson*, No. 23-CR-211 (Tunheim, J./Brisbois, Mag. J.)

I represented the United States in criminal proceedings against a parent who sexually assaulted his minor child on the Red Lake Indian Reservation. During COVID, the child reported the abuse to the National Suicide Prevention Hotline, which prompted a response from Tribal police. I joined the matter several months before trial to assist a newer Assistant United States Attorney with the case. The case involved extensive pre-trial briefing and litigation on a range of evidentiary issues. During the trial, I argued motions, presented the government's opening argument and rebuttal, and examined witnesses, including the experts. Mr. Thompson was convicted in February 2024 of both counts of production of child pornography. He awaits sentencing. This case complements the MMIP Regional Outreach Program.

Date of representation: 2023 – present

Co-Counsel:

Mary Rivero

United States Attorney's Office, District of Minnesota

300 South Fourth Street, Suite 600

Minneapolis, MN 55415

(612) 664-5600

Opposing Counsel:

Dan Huddleston

Aaron Morrison

Federal Defender's Office, District of Minnesota

300 South Fourth Street, Suite 107

Minneapolis, MN 55415

(612) 664-5858

2. *United States v. Lazzaro et al.*, No. 21-CR-173 (Schiltz, C.J./Schultz, Mag. J.)

I represented the United States in criminal proceedings against two adults who sex trafficked at least five teenage girls. In 2020, a concerned mother observed behavioral changes in her teenage daughter and suspiciously large cash deposits in their shared bank account and reported it to the FBI. The FBI and the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal



Apprehension investigated and brought the case to the United States Attorney's Office. We executed multiple search warrants and charged Mr. Lazzaro as a commercial sex purchaser and Ms. Castro Medina as a recruiter under the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act. The case involved significant pre-trial litigation, including an unsuccessful challenge by Mr. Lazzaro that the statute was void for vagueness. I worked extensively with Ms. Castro Medina, the 18-year-old recruiter who pleaded guilty and testified against Mr. Lazzaro. At the 10-day trial, I argued motions, presented the government's opening statement, and examined multiple witnesses, including several of the minor victims. Mr. Lazzaro was sentenced to 252 months, and Ms. Castro Medina was sentenced to 36 months. Mr. Lazzaro's condominium was ordered forfeited, and the victims received an order for restitution totaling \$415,475. The case is currently on appeal.

Date of representation: 2020 – present

Co-Counsel:

Emily Polachek

Melinda Williams

United States Attorney's Office, District of Minnesota

300 South Fourth Street, Suite 600

Minneapolis, MN 55415

(612) 664-5600

Opposing Counsel:

Daniel Gerds (for Lazzaro)

331 Second Avenue South, Suite 705

Minneapolis, MN 55401

(612) 800-5086

Thomas Beito (for Lazzaro)

310 Fourth Avenue South, Suite 1050

Minneapolis, MN 55415

(612) 255-0207

Ryan Garry (for Castro Medina)

Elizabeth Duel

Ryan Gary LLC

333 South Seventh Street, Suite 3020

Minneapolis, MN 55402

(612) 436-3051

3. *United States v. Mathis, Jr. et al.*, No. 18-CR-18 (Frank, J./Brisbois, Mag. J.), *aff'd*, 992 F.3d 686 (8th Cir. 2021) (Loken, J.)

Mr. Mathis recruited a 15-year-old girl from a juvenile shelter in Duluth, Minnesota in June 2017, and he sold her for commercial sex to Mr. Koech. Mathis physically and

sexually abused the victim, including with a taser, and he monitored her communications with her parents. The trafficking ended when law enforcement found the victim hidden in a bedroom closet where Mr. Mathis was living. I charged Mr. Mathis and Mr. Koech with conspiracy to commit sex trafficking of a minor. The defendants unsuccessfully moved to suppress certain evidence and challenged the sex trafficking statute's mens rea standard as void for vagueness. Mr. Mathis pleaded guilty on the eve of trial, and he was sentenced to 292 months in prison. Mr. Koech proceeded to a six-day jury trial. I briefed and argued pre-trial motions. I presented the opening, closing, and rebuttal. And I examined the government's expert witness, the juvenile victim, a parent, and law enforcement witnesses. Mr. Koech was convicted and sentenced to 130 months in prison. The Eighth Circuit held that the statute was not void for vagueness and that the jury was correctly instructed on the element of interstate nexus. This was the first case in the District that used Congress's newly enacted Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act successfully to prosecute a commercial sex buyer.

Date of representation: 2017 – 2022

Co-Counsel:

Jonathan Holets  
St. Louis County Attorney's Office  
100 North Fifth Avenue West, Room 501  
Duluth, MN 55802  
(218) 726-2323

Opposing Counsel:

Paul Engh (for Mathis)  
200 South 6th Street, Suite 260  
Minneapolis, MN 55402  
(612) 252-1100

Douglas Olson (for Koech) (retired)

4. *United States v. Morris et al.*, No. 17-CR-107 (Frank, J./Leung, Mag. J.), *aff'd*, 35 F.4th 615 (8th Cir. 2022) (Colloton, J.) companion case to *United States v. Intarathong et al.*, No. 16-CR-257 (Frank, J./Leung, Mag. J.)

This case flowed from a several-year, multi-jurisdictional investigation into a sex trafficking organization that coerced hundreds of women from Bangkok, Thailand, to engage in commercial sex acts in various cities across the United States, including Minneapolis, Los Angeles, Chicago, Atlanta, Phoenix, Washington, DC, Las Vegas, Houston, Dallas, Seattle, and Austin. Thirty-six defendants were charged as part of two separate indictments in 2016 and 2017. The charges included conspiracy to commit sex-trafficking, conspiracy to transport persons to engage in prostitution, conspiracy to engage in money laundering, and conspiracy to use a communication facility to promote prostitution. Several defendants also were charged with a substantive count of sex-trafficking.

Thirty-one defendants pleaded guilty, and five went to trial. At trial, I briefed and argued motions, gave the opening statement, and presented the testimony of cooperating defendants, victims, and experts. I also examined the IRS case agent in a four-day presentation of money laundering evidence. We demonstrated the sophisticated ways in which the defendants engaged in promotional, concealment, and international money laundering. We traced tens of millions of dollars the organization sent to Thailand. This was one of the first cases of its kind to demonstrate that excessive bondage debt of upwards of \$60,000 is coercive.

After a six-week trial, the defendants were found guilty on all counts. Mr. Morris was sentenced to 208 months in prison and \$750,000 in restitution. Ms. Unpradit was sentenced to 162 months in prison and \$400,000 in restitution. Ms. Thinram was sentenced to 72 months in prison and \$250,000 in restitution. Ms. Ruttanamongkongul was sentenced to 142 months in prison and \$400,000 in restitution. And Ms. Wanless was sentenced to 144 months in prison and \$250,000 in restitution. The remaining defendants who pleaded guilty were sentenced to a range of time served up to 168 months in prison. The defendants unsuccessfully appealed to the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals, which affirmed the convictions.

Date of representation: 2014 – 2023

Co-Counsel:

Craig Baune

Melinda Williams

United States Attorney's Office, District of Minnesota

300 South Fourth Street, Suite 600

Minneapolis, MN 55415

(612) 664-5600

Opposing Counsel:

Robert Sicoli (for Morris)

Sicoli Law, Ltd.

2136 Ford Parkway, Suite 117

St. Paul, MN 55116

(612) 871-0961

Daniel Gerds (for Unpradit)

331 Second Avenue South, Suite 705

Minneapolis, MN 55401

(612) 800-5086

Daniel Guerrero (for Ruttanamongkongul)

Meshbesh & Spence

1616 Park Avenue

Minneapolis, MN 55404

(612) 930-0216

Paul Engh (for Thinram)  
200 South Sixth Street, Suite 260  
Minneapolis, MN 55402  
(612) 252-1100

Bruce Rivers (for Wanless – trial counsel)  
Rivers Law Firm, P.A.  
701 Fourth Avenue South, Unit 300  
Minneapolis, MN 55415  
(612) 339-3939

Lauren Campoli (for Wanless – post-trial counsel)  
7300 France Avenue South, #405  
Edina, MN 55435  
(612) 810-0060

Timothy Scott (for Taufflieb)  
McKenzie Scott PC  
1350 Columbia Street, Suite 600  
San Diego, CA 92101  
(619) 794-0451

Lee Johnson (for Thipboonngam)  
Johnson & Greenberg PLLP  
5775 Wayzata Boulevard, Suite 700  
St. Louis Park, MN 55416  
(952) 545-1621

Jean Brandl (for Kimmy)  
Office of the Federal Defender  
300 South Fourth Street, Suite 107  
Minneapolis, MN 55415  
(612) 664-5858

Jed Silverman (for Kimmy)  
1221 Studewood  
Houston, TX 77008  
(713) 222-7424

Neal Davis (for Kimmy)  
Neal Davis Law Firm, PLLC  
1545 Heights Boulevard  
Houston, TX 77008  
(713) 227-4444

Michael Schmiede (for Phimkhalee)  
Law Offices of Michael Schmiede  
33 East First Street, Floor 2  
Hinsdale, IL 60521  
(312) 218-8050

Elliot Zinger (for Chaiwirat)  
Elliot R. Zinger & Associates  
2040 North Harlem Avenue  
Elmwood Park, IL 60707  
(312) 782-9464

Correen (Cori) Ferrentino (for Sukprasert)  
Ferrentino Law  
4425 Jamboree Road, Suite 270  
Newport Beach, CA 92660  
(714) 973-2025

Karren Kenney (for Chalernsakulrat)  
Kenney Legal Defense Corporation  
575 Anton Boulevard, Suite 300  
Costa Mesa, CA 92626  
(855) 505-5588

JaneAnne Murray (for Win)  
Murray Law LLC  
310 South Fourth Avenue, Suite 5010  
Minneapolis, MN 55415  
(612) 339-5160

Frederic Bruno (for Yuvasuta)  
Bruno Law, PLLC  
4272 Dahlberg Drive  
Golden Valley, MN 55422  
(763) 545-0834

Gretchen Gurstelle (for Leelarungrayab)  
Ballard Spahr LLP  
2000 IDS Center  
80 South Eighth Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55402  
(612) 371-3537

Anthony Solis (for Guntetong)  
Anthony M. Solis, A Professional Law Corporation

23679 Calabasas Road, Suite 412  
Calabasas, CA 91302  
(213) 489-5880

Eric Rice (for Ghettae)  
Law Office of Eric A Rice, LLC  
1 West Water Street, Suite 275  
St. Paul, MN 55107  
(651) 998-9660

Blaire Dalton (for Mintz)  
Dalton Law, LLC  
53 West Jackson Boulevard, Suite 1550  
Chicago, IL 60604  
(847) 373-4750

Huma Rashid (for Tandon)  
Raymond Wigell  
Law Offices of Raymond Wigell  
20280 Governors Highway, Suite 204  
Olympia Fields, IL 60461  
(708) 481-4800

Kevin Riach (for Alexander)  
The Law Office of Kevin C. Riach  
125 Main Street Southeast, Suite 339  
Minneapolis, MN 55412  
(612) 203-8555

Michael W McDonald (for Patrath) (inactive)  
Attorney at Law  
16670 Franklin Trail Southeast, Suite 250  
Prior Lake, MN 55372  
(952) 447-6006

Robin Wolpert (for Khotpratoom)  
Sapientia Law Group PLLC  
120 South Sixth Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55402  
(612) 756-7100

5. *United States v. Sukhtipyaroge*, No. 17-CR-208 (Wright, J.), *aff'd*, 1 F.4th 603 (8th Cir. 2021) (Stras, J.)

For several years, I supervised our office's Anti-Trafficking Coordination (ACT) Team. That team learned of a young male, A.S.M., who called a human trafficking hotline. The

operator connected A.S.M. with local law enforcement which joined Homeland Security Investigations to investigate Mr. Sukhtipyaroge. They learned that Mr. Sukhtipyaroge had brought A.S.M. to the United States from the Dominican Republic on a fraudulent student visa. He then forced A.S.M. to work long hours in his Thai restaurant and sexually exploited him. Mr. Sukhtipyaroge ultimately pleaded guilty to visa fraud and alien harboring. I handled a contested five-day evidentiary and sentencing hearing, which included testimony from the victim and other government witnesses, as well as cross-examination of defense witnesses. Judge Wilhelmina Wright sentenced Mr. Sukhtipyaroge to an above-the-guidelines 42 months in prison and \$77,694 in restitution. I briefed and successfully argued the case on appeal. The Eighth Circuit held that Mr. Sukhtipyaroge “caused” A.S.M.’s losses through visa fraud, and that the victim’s medical expenses and future wage loss stemming from the sexual abuse were allowable restitution under the Mandatory Victims Restitution Act.

Date of representation: 2017 – 2022

Opposing Counsel:

Frederick Goetz  
Goetz & Eckland P.A.  
615 First Avenue Northeast, Suite 425  
Minneapolis, MN 55413  
(612) 874-1552

6. *United States v. Charles*, No. 16-CR-65 (Erickson, J./Noel, Mag. J.), *aff'd*, 895 F.3d 560 (8th Cir. 2018) (Kelly, J.)

In the summer of 2015, the mother of victim K.M.L. contacted the Anoka County Sheriff because she was concerned that Mr. Charles was recruiting her daughter to engage in prostitution. A detective investigated and found evidence that Mr. Charles was recruiting K.M.L. and other juvenile girls for sex trafficking and to produce sexually explicit videos for him. After extensive pre-trial motions and briefing, I handled the six-day trial on behalf of the government. Mr. Charles was initially pro se, and he cross-examined the four minor victims and the government’s experts himself. He presented four witnesses of his own and then elected to have his stand-by counsel present closing argument. The jury convicted Mr. Charles on two counts of sex trafficking by use of force, threats of force, fraud, or coercion; three counts of sex trafficking of a minor; twelve counts of producing child pornography; two counts of receiving child pornography; and one count of commission of a felony offense involving a minor while required to register as a sex offender. Mr. Charles was sentenced to 432 months in prison. He appealed, and the Eighth Circuit affirmed the convictions and restitution order to victim K.M.L. Importantly, the Eighth Circuit found that Minnesota’s Predatory Offender Registry (POR) is essentially equivalent to a federal sex offender registry, and therefore justified imposition of a mandatory minimum sentence of ten years for failure to register under 18 U.S.C. § 2260A.

Date of representation: 2015 – 2019

Opposing Counsel:

Defendant proceeded pro se

Daniel Gerdts (standby counsel)  
331 Second Avenue South, Suite 705  
Minneapolis, MN 55401  
(612) 800-5086

7. *United States v. Hood*, Nos. 12-CR-236 and 12-CR-237 (Erickson, J.)

Following Hurricane Katrina in 2005, Tulane Professor Hood and his wife and co-defendant, Mrs. Hood, left Louisiana and eventually decided to relocate to Minnesota to take advantage of the health care and educational resources available for their disabled children. The Hoods then applied in early 2006 for programs jointly financed and overseen by the Minnesota Department of Human Services and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Eligibility for such Medicaid benefits was based on the children's disability and the parents' income. Mr. Hood intentionally provided false information about his income in order to qualify for benefits. Working with Social Security Administration (SSA)-OIG, we executed search warrants and reviewed multiple bank records and benefits applications. Despite owning assets worth more than \$11.6 million, Mr. Hood deliberately took more than \$480,000 in benefits from Louisiana, Minnesota, and the federal government, including the Social Security Administration. Upon being served a federal target letter, Mr. Hood pleaded guilty to theft of public money, health care fraud, and mail fraud. He was sentenced to 42 months in prison. Mrs. Hood, the primary caretaker for severely disabled children, pleaded guilty to false statements for use in determining rights to Social Security benefits and mail fraud and was sentenced to 36 months of probation. They were both ordered to pay \$483,313 in restitution and were fined \$500,000.

Date of representation: 2011 – 2013

Opposing Counsel:

Jean Brandl (for both Professor and Mrs. Hood)  
Federal Defender's Office, District of Minnesota  
300 South Fourth Street, Suite 107  
Minneapolis, MN 55415  
(612) 664-5858

8. *United States v. Rucker et al.*, 11-CR-255 (Schiltz J./Boylan, Mag. J.), *aff'd*, 545 F. App'x 567 (8th Cir. 2013) (per curiam)

This case started after a thief broke into an FBI agent's car and stole his duffel bag, which contained his duty weapon, handcuffs, FBI identification, and wallet with credit cards. Soon after the break-in, the credit cards were used at a gas station and a Target store. With quick investigative work, law enforcement identified Mr. Rucker and his girlfriend



as suspects. When law enforcement arrested Mr. Rucker and Ms. Thompson, they recovered multiple credit cards, documents, cell phones, purses, and cash. The duty weapon was found days later in a public park. The government charged Mr. Rucker as an Armed Career Criminal in possession of a firearm, as well as with conspiracy to commit bank fraud and aggravated identity theft. Mr. Rucker raised numerous unsuccessful pre-trial challenges to the evidence. Ms. Thompson pleaded guilty and agreed to cooperate. At trial, Ms. Thompson explained that she and Mr. Rucker broke into multiple vehicles and stole items, including a gun from inside the FBI agent's car. Mr. Rucker sold the gun, and they used various credit cards. I briefed and argued the government's motions, presented the opening statement, and handled multiple witnesses, including the FBI's fingerprint expert and the cooperating defendant. The jury convicted Mr. Rucker on all counts, and the court sentenced him to 204 months in prison. The Eighth Circuit affirmed the convictions and sentence on appeal.

Date of representation: 2011 – 2019

Co-Counsel:

LeeAnn Bell

United States Attorney's Office, District of Minnesota  
300 South Fourth Street, Suite 600  
Minneapolis, MN 55415  
(612) 664-5600

Opposing Counsel:

Jordan Kushner (for Rucker)

Law Office of Jordan S. Kushner  
431 South Seventh Street, Suite 2446  
Minneapolis, MN 55415  
(612) 288-0545

The Honorable Kate M. Menendez (for Thompson – then Assistant FPD)

United States District Court, Courtroom 14W  
300 South Fourth Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55415  
(612) 664-5140

9. *United States v. Mariano et al.*, No. 11-CR-243 (Frank, J.), *aff'd*, 729 F.3d 874 (8th Cir. 2013) (Colloton, J.)

Mr. Mariano and nine co-defendants participated in a series of thefts from mailboxes known as “red flagging.” They broke into curbside mailboxes and then blue collection boxes to collect checks sent by mail. They then altered the checks and used them at various retailers in the Twin Cities area to purchase electronics and other goods, and they also traded checks for illicit drugs. After a lengthy motions hearing, I successfully argued for the government's interests in more than 100 motions. Nine defendants pleaded guilty, but Mr. Mariano went to trial. I sought a superseding indictment to clarify and finalize

ten counts for trial, including aggravated identity theft, theft of mail matter, destruction of letter boxes, bank fraud conspiracy, and bank fraud. At trial, I handled the government's briefing and all but one witness, including several cooperators who testified about the details of the scheme. I also presented the opening statement and closing argument and rebuttal.

The jury found Mr. Mariano guilty of seven counts. The court sentenced Mr. Mariano to 70 months in prison, which included a consecutive term of 24 months for aggravated identity theft. On appeal, Mariano challenged his conviction for identity theft, contending that the district court's jury instructions and the government's presentation of the case constructively amended the indictment. I briefed and argued the case on appeal. The Eighth Circuit affirmed. The remaining nine defendants who pleaded guilty received sentences ranging from time served to 66 months in prison.

Date of representation: 2011 – 2019

Co-Counsel:

James Lackner (retired)

Opposing Counsel:

Daniel Gerdts (for Mariano)  
331 Second Avenue South, Suite 705  
Minneapolis, MN 55401  
(612) 800-5086

Caroline Durham (for S. Vail)  
1072 West Peachtree Street, #7243  
Atlanta, GA 30357  
(612) 272-9111

Paul Rogosheske (for Hahne)  
Rogosheske, Rogosheske & Atkins PLLC  
105 Hardman Court, Suite 110  
St. Paul, MN 55075  
(651) 451-6411

James Behrenbrinker (for Evans)  
Behrenbrinker Law Firm  
412 South Fourth Street, Suite 1050  
Minneapolis, MN 55415  
(612) 294-2605

John Fossum (for Dolan)  
Rice County Attorney  
218 Northwest Third Street  
Faribault, MN 55021

(507) 332-6103

Wolanda Shelton (for A. Vail)  
Shelton Law Offices, LLC  
716 Co Road 10 Northeast, Suite 220  
Blaine, MN 55434  
(612) 221-5622

Kyle White (for Freeman)  
Office of Kyle White  
332 Minnesota Street, Suite W-1610  
St. Paul, MN 55101  
(651) 227-8751

Shannon Elkins (for V. Vail)  
Office of the Federal Defender  
300 South Fourth Street, Suite 107  
Minneapolis, MN 55415  
(612) 664-5858

Kristine Boylan (for Smith)  
Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP  
2200 IDS Center  
80 South Eighth Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55402  
(612) 977-8650

Eric Hawkins (for Dutton)  
Hawkins Law Office, P.A.  
3201 Hennepin Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55408  
(612) 824-5005

10. *Becker v. Mayo Foundation*, 55-CO-01-003453 (Birnbaum, J.), 737 N.W.2d 200 (Minn. 2007) (Anderson, J.).

In this civil matter, I represented Mr. and Mrs. Becker, the adoptive parents of a severely disabled child, Nykkole. Before Nykkole was two months old, she suffered multiple incidents of severe physical abuse at the hands of her biological father, which left her permanently incapacitated. Nykkole was treated on multiple occasions at the Mayo Clinic, including for a spiral fracture of her humerus and other classic signs of child abuse. Despite their status as mandatory reporters, no medical professional reported the abuse. Prior to my time at Robins Kaplan, the Beckers brought a medical malpractice case against the Mayo Clinic. Several counts of negligence had been stricken before the trial based on the Mayo's argument that no private civil cause of action existed for failure to report suspected child abuse. I assisted the Beckers when they appealed the ruling to

the Minnesota Supreme Court. That court reversed, holding that Minnesota's Child Abuse Reporting Act's reporting requirement was admissible to show that a physician who suspects child abuse should report to authorities. Before trial, I worked with a police officer and a child protective services worker to develop trial testimony on how Nykkole would have been protected, if medical professionals had reported their suspicions. I wrote and argued many of the pre-trial motions and presented the expert witness testimony related to damages at trial. Ultimately, the jury found no liability on the part of Mayo, but the precedent remains good law in Minnesota.

Date of representation: 2006 – 2010

Co-counsel:

Chris A. Messerly (retired)

Opposing counsel:

Paul B. Klaas (retired)

William R. Stoeri

Dorsey Whitney LLP

50 South Sixth Street, Suite 1500

Minneapolis, MN 55402

(612) 340-2600

18. **Legal Activities:** Describe the most significant legal activities you have pursued, including significant litigation which did not progress to trial or legal matters that did not involve litigation. Describe fully the nature of your participation in these activities. List any client(s) or organization(s) for whom you performed lobbying activities and describe the lobbying activities you performed on behalf of such client(s) or organizations(s). (Note: As to any facts requested in this question, please omit any information protected by the attorney-client privilege.)

In my capacity as a prosecutor at the United States Department of Justice, I have actively engaged in the mentorship of prosecutors within the District of Minnesota, including Special Assistant United States Attorneys in Indian Country matters. The mentorship involves working on cases from the grand jury investigation and presentation up through trial. I actively engage in moots of opening statements and appellate argument. I have participated in the hiring of paralegals, victim assistant specialists, and Assistant United States Attorneys. I have also assisted the United States Attorney with the preparation of strategic plans in priority areas. I spend a significant amount of time advising other Assistant United States Attorneys and law enforcement personnel on legal and strategy issues. I meet with victims of crime to explain to them the criminal justice system, their rights as a victim, what my role and that of the victim assistant specialist is, and what they can expect in the course of the prosecution. I also do outreach and training to a range of law enforcement partners and broader audiences, including international visitors as part of Department of State-led programs, on topics like sextortion, hate crimes and civil rights violations, Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons, and human trafficking.

I have not registered as a lobbyist or been engaged in any lobbying activities.

19. **Teaching:** What courses have you taught? For each course, state the title, the institution at which you taught the course, the years in which you taught the course, and describe briefly the subject matter of the course and the major topics taught. If you have a syllabus of each course, provide four (4) copies to the committee.

None.

20. **Deferred Income/ Future Benefits:** List the sources, amounts and dates of all anticipated receipts from deferred income arrangements, stock, options, uncompleted contracts and other future benefits which you expect to derive from previous business relationships, professional services, firm memberships, former employers, clients or customers. Describe the arrangements you have made to be compensated in the future for any financial or business interest.

None.

21. **Outside Commitments During Court Service:** Do you have any plans, commitments, or agreements to pursue outside employment, with or without compensation, during your service with the court? If so, explain.

None.

22. **Sources of Income:** List sources and amounts of all income received during the calendar year preceding your nomination and for the current calendar year, including all salaries, fees, dividends, interest, gifts, rents, royalties, licensing fees, honoraria, and other items exceeding \$500 or more (if you prefer to do so, copies of the financial disclosure report, required by the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, may be substituted here).

When my nomination is formally submitted to the Senate, I will file my Financial Disclosure Report and will supplement this Questionnaire with a copy of that Report.

23. **Statement of Net Worth:** Please complete the attached financial net worth statement in detail (add schedules as called for).

See attached Net Worth Statement.

24. **Potential Conflicts of Interest:**

- a. Identify the family members or other persons, parties, categories of litigation, and financial arrangements that are likely to present potential conflicts-of-interest when you first assume the position to which you have been nominated. Explain how you would address any such conflict if it were to arise.

If confirmed, I would strictly follow the Code of Conduct for United States

Judges, the Minnesota Rules of Professional Conduct, and all other applicable rules and ethical canons governing recusal.

I would recuse myself from cases involving or affecting the law firm of Greene Espel PLLP, where my husband is a partner. I would also recuse myself from cases involving any defendant I personally prosecuted while at the United States Attorney's Office or in any litigation in which I have ever played a role. I would evaluate any other real or potential conflict, as well as any relationship that could give rise to that appearance of such a conflict, on a case-by-case basis and determine appropriate action with the advice of parties and their counsel, including by recusing where necessary or appropriate.

- b. Explain how you will resolve any potential conflict of interest, including the procedure you will follow in determining these areas of concern.

If confirmed, I will carefully review and address any real or potential conflicts by reference to 28 U.S.C. § 455, Canon 3 of the Code of Conduct for United States Judges, and any and all other laws, rules, and practices governing such circumstances. I would also consult with other judges as appropriate.

25. **Pro Bono Work**: An ethical consideration under Canon 2 of the American Bar Association's Code of Professional Responsibility calls for "every lawyer, regardless of professional prominence or professional workload, to find some time to participate in serving the disadvantaged." Describe what you have done to fulfill these responsibilities, listing specific instances and the amount of time devoted to each.

While employed as an Assistant United States Attorney, my ability to perform outside legal work, even when performed on a pro bono basis, has been substantially restricted. During my time as an Assistant United States Attorney, however, I have volunteered in the community in several ways: as a mentor to law students at the University of St. Thomas Law School, on the board of several non-profit organizations, and as a volunteer at my children's schools. I have also engaged in trainings sponsored by the Department of State and assisted with the development of sex trafficking and labor trafficking protocols for Minnesota state law enforcement partners.

While employed in private practice at Robins Kaplan LLP, I was engaged in several pro bono matters. I also participated in family law matters through the Children's Law Center and on behalf of employees of the firm or other referrals to the firm. And I represented lawful permanent residents waiting to become U.S. citizens because of unreasonable delays and failure to process naturalization applications. In addition, I continued to assist the Advocates for Human Rights with research and report writing that I had started as their legal fellow.

26. **Selection Process**:

- a. Please describe your experience in the entire judicial selection process, from

beginning to end (including the circumstances which led to your nomination and the interviews in which you participated). Is there a selection commission in your jurisdiction to recommend candidates for nomination to the federal courts? If so, please include that process in your description, as well as whether the commission recommended your nomination. List the dates of all interviews or communications you had with the White House staff or the Justice Department regarding this nomination. Do not include any contacts with Federal Bureau of Investigation personnel concerning your nomination.

On February 28, 2024, I submitted to Senator Amy Klobuchar and Senator Tina Smith a letter of interest to serve in the position of District Judge for the United States District Court for the District of Minnesota. On April 5, 2024, I interviewed with the Judicial Selection Committee established by Senators Klobuchar and Smith to evaluate and recommend candidates for the District of Minnesota. I heard from Senators Klobuchar and Smith on April 17 and April 18, 2024, respectively, and was told that my name was forwarded with several other candidates to the White House Counsel's Office. I interviewed with attorneys from the White House Counsel's Office on April 23, 2024. On May 3, 2024, I was contacted by the White House Counsel's Office and advised that I was being considered for potential nomination. Since that date, I have been in contact with officials from the Office of Legal Policy at the Department of Justice. On June 12, 2024, the President announced his intent to nominate me.

- b. Has anyone involved in the process of selecting you as a judicial nominee discussed with you any currently pending or specific case, legal issue or question in a manner that could reasonably be interpreted as seeking any express or implied assurances concerning your position on such case, issue, or question? If so, explain fully.

No.