

# Alex Vernon

257 St. Rose Ave, Windsor, Ontario, Canada N8S 1X1  
agvernon@gmail.com Tel: (313) 444-9222



*For we are sojourners before Thee, and strangers...1 Chronicles 29:15*

---

*A competent and compassionate advocate aiming to provide meaningful learning experiences for law students. Committed to social justice and service learning. Striving to integrate scholarship with pedagogy, practice and service in the field of human migration law.*

## Employment History

### **Director/Asst. Professor of Law**

University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, Immigration Law Clinic, *Detroit, Michigan*, June 2015 to present

- Teaching clinical immigration class
- Supervising clinical students on immigration cases.
- Coordinating outreach to vulnerable immigrant communities
- Coordinating with organizations providing social services to immigrants
- Representing school at a recruiting events
- Faculty Advisor, Immigration Club, Hispanic Students Association.
- Committee Member, Diversity, and Mission and Identity

### **Acting Director/Visiting Asst. Professor of Law**

Ave Maria School of Law, Asylum and Immigrant Rights Clinic, *Naples, Florida*, August 2011 to June 2015

- Taught clinic class, Supervised students on immigration cases
- Expanded clinic outreach to underserved community
- Created intercession clinic practicum representing detained migrants
- Served as Interim Director of Alumni Affairs, 2012
- Faculty Advisor, Immigration Club, Black Law Students Association.

### **Attorney**

Siegel, Gross & Tou, P.C., *Clawson, Michigan*, November 2008 to August 2011(now of counsel)

Robert M. Birach, P.C., *Detroit, Michigan*, May 2008 to September 2008

Piston & Carpenter, P.C., *Troy, Michigan*, August 2005 to May 2008

- Specialized in Family Immigration, Removal Proceedings, Asylum/Humanitarian Relief, SIJS, VAWA, Private Bills and Prosecutorial Discretion requests
- Handled H1, J, TN, F-1,B-1, B-2, P-3 and other non-immigrant matters
- Argued before Federal District Court, Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals
- Member, American Immigration Lawyers Association
- Board Member, Strategic Partnership. (pro-se court orientation sessions.)
- Volunteer at Most Holy Trinity Legal Clinic, Freedom House
- Member, Windsor-Essex Anti-Trafficking Committee

## **Education**

### **Ave Maria School of Law, *Ann Arbor, Michigan***

- Elected President, Alumni Association, November 2006
- Juris Doctorate, May, 2005

#### **Student Clinical Worker**

Ave Maria Asylum and Immigrant Rights Clinic, *Ann Arbor, Michigan*, 2004-2005

- Represented asylum claimants, VAWA self-petitioners
- Prepared brief to Board of Immigration Appeals

#### **Student Extern**

Freedom House, *Detroit, Michigan*, 2003-2004

- Successfully represented asylum claimants
- Collaborated on brief to Board of Immigration Appeals
- St. Ives award for defense of Catholic moral and social order, May 2005
- President, Human Rights Club, 2004, 2005
- Volunteered at Windsor-Essex Bilingual Legal Clinic, Spring 2004
- Awarded St. Thomas More Academic Scholarship (full tuition)

### **The University of Toronto, St. Michael's College, *Toronto, Canada***

- Honours B.A. in Political Science (Christianity & Culture minor), June, 1998
- Focused on Politics of Developing World
- Volunteer with Peacegames
- Sr. St. John and St. George's College Old Boys entrance scholarships

## **Presentations**

Canadian Association of Refugee Lawyers - Windsor Chapter, Panel Discussion  
"American vs. Canadian Immigration Law", University of Windsor, 2/6/2017

Oakland County Bar Association, Pro-Bono Mentor Match Training, "Visas for Crime Victims", 1/27/2017

Detroit Mercy Faculty of Law, "Know Your Rights Panel", University of Detroit Mercy main campus, 1/19/2017

"Sanctuary Teach in", Panel Discussion, Department of History, University of Michigan, 1/11/2017

"Immigration Law as Vocation", Ave Maria Fall Fest, Ann Arbor, MI, 11/19/2016

Detroit Mercy Law, Dean's Advisory Board Presentation by new faculty, 10/22/2016

"Asylum and Refugee Law, with Acid Survivor Nurjahan Khatun", Detroit Mercy Law, 1/6/2016 Albion College, Albion, MI, 10/13/2016

University of Detroit Mercy, Mission Micro-grant presentation, 09/22/2016

National Slavery and Human Trafficking Awareness Month Seminar presentation:  
“Working with Victims of Crime”, Presentation to Law Enforcement Agencies, Homeland Security Investigations, Detroit, MI 1/28/2016

“DHS Deferred Action Programs”, Presentation to Mexican Consulate-Detroit’s “Labor Week” program, 9/3/2015

**Research and Publications:**

(In Progress) Coercive Population Control and Asylum Claims

**Professional Organizations**

American Immigration Lawyers Association

-Michigan, Florida, Canada Chapters.

Canadian Association of Refugee Lawyers

National Bar Association

**Admissions**

State Bar of Michigan

Federal Court, E.D. of Michigan

Federal Court, W.D. of Michigan

**Community Service**

Windsor Soccer Club- Coach

Michigan Immigrant Rights Center-Member

Freedom House-volunteer attorney

Windsor-Essex Anti Trafficking Committee (WEFIGHT)

Justicia for Migrant Workers-volunteer

Detroit Mercy Ad Hoc Sanctuary Committee

**Languages**

French, fluent

Spanish, reading and listening