

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Pepperdine University School of Law, Malibu, CA
Caruso Family Faculty Fellow, August 2022 – Present

Pepperdine University School of Law, Malibu, CA
Adjunct Professor – Federal Income Taxation, Fall 2021 and Spring 2022

- Prepare curriculum, lectures, examinations, and PowerPoints to effectively teach students and measure their knowledge about taxation of individuals and business entities. The course examines the individual nonbusiness taxpayer, characteristics of income, inclusions and exclusions, personal deductions, and credits, sales and other dispositions of property, capital gains and losses. It also covers the gross income and deductions of the business taxpayer, including expenses and losses incurred in business or profit seeking activities, bad debts and worthless securities, depreciation, amortization, and other business-related items.

EDUCATION

Northwestern Pritzker School of Law, Chicago, IL
L.L.M in Taxation, May 2018

- Northwestern Pritzker Law Tax Program Merit Scholarship
- EY's Empower You Graduate Women's Leadership Conference, *Selected to attend a conference designed to lead, inspire and motivate female Tax LLM students looking to launch careers in consulting*
- **Fall 2017:** Taxation of Property Transactions, Corporate Taxation, Partnership Taxation, International Taxation, State and Local Tax, and Executive Compensation and Employee Benefits, Accounting Seminar, and Tax Research Seminar
- **Spring 2018:** Advanced Property Taxation, Advanced International Corporate Problems, International Partnerships, Controlled Foreign Corporations, Advanced Partnership Taxation, Tax Aspects of Private Equity Transactions, and Tax Excel Modeling Seminar

Pepperdine University School of Law, Malibu, CA
Juris Doctorate, May 2017

- **Scholarships:** Pepperdine University School of Law Dean's Excellence Scholarship, 2014 American Bar Association Legal Opportunity Scholarship, 2017 California Bar Foundation 3L Diversity Scholarship
- National Black Law Student Association, *Treasurer (2015) and Mentor*
- **Tax Coursework:** Federal Income Tax, Tax Policy (2016), Federal Estate and Gift Tax, International Tax, and Tax Policy (2017), Low-Taxpayer Clinic Seminar

Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, CA
Bachelor of Arts-Political Science, May 2013

- Department Honors in Political Science, National Political Honor Society; National Honor Society of Collegiate Scholars; Deans List
- Inaugural McNair Scholar, *14 students were selected as the inaugural class to prepare undergraduate students for doctoral studies through involvement in research and other scholarly activities*
- UCLA Law Fellow, *Consisted of six Saturday Academies that included academic enrichment, career development and mentoring activities, which are designed to help prepare participants gain admission to, and succeed in, law school.*
- Human Trafficking Prosecutions: A Dynamic Global Picture, *Understanding the factors that contribute to successful prosecution of human trafficking and using this to derive strategies and solutions to combat human trafficking is crucial around the globe.*

- 5th Annual Undergraduate Research Symposiums, *10 students were selected to present at two research symposiums. I prepared a visual presentation and presented on my thesis about human trafficking prosecutions.*

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

KPMG Inc., Los Angeles, CA

International Tax Senior Associate, October 2020 – July 2022

International Tax Associate, October 2018 – September 2019; January 2020 – September 2020

- Advise corporations and partnerships on complicated domestic and international tax law matters
- Determine tax planning strategies using complex tax models to address global tax reform and accounting principles
- Advise United States (“US”) persons conducting business abroad and foreign persons conducting business in the US on all aspects of international tax (corporate, partnership, private equity, reporting requirements, filing requirements, etc.)
- Advise clients on income tax treaty planning opportunities arising from inbound and outbound cross-border investing and trading activities
- Draft tax opinions, memoranda, structure presentations, and Excel models
- Prepare and review financial statements and compliance work product for multinational enterprises
- Assist KPMG audit teams with reviewing a company’s financial reporting of tax implications arising from its global operations and transactions
- **Additional Roles:** Mentor other associates and Transition Coach *Tax Controversy Associate*, September 2019 – December 2019
- Assisted clients with Internal Revenue Service (“IRS”) examinations and appeals, including Notices of Proposed Adjustment, Information Document Requests, and 30-Day letters by communicating with the IRS And preparing proper documentation
- Researched and drafted tax memoranda relating to Foreign Investment in Real Estate Property Tax Act of 1980 and Internal Revenue Code (“IRC”) Section 338(g) elections
- Drafted Appeals and Protests briefs for clients under audit for foreign earned income and foreign tax credits

Edelman, Inc., Chicago, IL

International Tax Intern, May 2018 – September 2018

- Computed Earnings and Profits for 70+ controlled foreign corporations for the repatriation under IRC Section 965
- Researched and drafted a brief to substantiate the company’s foreign tax credit position
- Analyzed various IRS Revenue Procedures related to IRC Section 965 and summarized the impacts for senior management
- Managed four interns by teaching highly technical tax concepts and delegating and monitoring progress of projects

Pepperdine Low Income Taxpayer Clinic, Los Angeles, CA

Law Clerk, January 2016 – November 2016; January 2017 – May 2018

- Assisted Pepperdine professor with the creation of a tax clinic that represents low-income taxpayers in audits, appeals, and collection matters with the agency.
- Created intake form and questionnaire for prospective clients, legal disclaimers, and flyer for clinic services
- Researched and presented on penalty abatements and wage garnishments
- Educated clients on future actions to take to be in compliance with the IRS
- Submitted identify theft affidavits to the IRS and California Franchise Tax Board (“CTB”) on client’s behalf
- Assisted client with 1040 audit to prove filing status and Earned Income Tax Credit eligibility
- Interviewed clients and assisted peers in the clinic with their cases
- Completed two successful Offer in Compromises for clients
- Completed clients state and federal taxes on ATX Professional Tax Software for Accountants
- Prepared case plans for all clients using a client-centered approach

Bismark Tax Inc., Los Angeles, CA

Law Clerk, January 2017 – April 2017

- Represented clients in audits with the IRS, FTB, and the California State Board of Equalization to provide advice and recommendations on how to settle debt
- Secured Currently Non-Collectible Status for multiple clients owing significant sums to the IRS
- Conducted compliance calls on behalf of clients to the IRS and FTB
- Ordered wage and income transcripts and account transcripts from the IRS on clients' behalf

The Law Offices of Judith L. Wood, Los Angeles, CA

Law Clerk, May 2015 – August 2015; August 2016 – September 2016; August 2015 – November 2015

- Assessed clients' files and researched the immigration statutes to determine the best form of relief to seek on behalf of the clients
- Researched and drafted an Opening Brief for the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals for an asylum and convention against torture case
- Researched and drafted Ninth Circuit Bill of Costs and Motion for Attorney Fees
- Drafted a successful brief allowing a client to apply for asylum after a year due to exceptional circumstances
- Drafted and completed a successful brief for a client in removal proceedings, motions to reopen for asylum cases, and applications for asylum
- Interviewed clients, prepared declarations and witness lists

Claypool Law Firm, Los Angeles, CA

Law Clerk, May 2016 – August 2016

- Drafted Order to Show Cause in response to police department's failure to produce subpoenaed documents in a child abuse case
- Wrote special interrogatories and request for production of documents in a sexual abuse case involving a massage parlor defendant; prepared responses for request for admission in same case
- Wrote special interrogatories and request for production of documents for a negligence case against a hotel
- Observed depositions in a negligence lawsuit between school district and transportation company

Pepperdine Legal Aid Clinic, Los Angeles, CA

Student Intern, January 2016 – May 2016

- Provided legal services to homeless clients on Skid Row in downtown Los Angeles, including examining criminal histories to determine if expungement is appropriate and performing basic tax assistance
- Wrote a trial brief for a client requesting full legal custody of child
- Interviewed clients for visitation, custody, and naturalization cases

Pepperdine Special Education Advocacy Clinic, Malibu, CA

Student Intern, August 2015 – December 2015

- Drafted memorandum in support of student receiving appropriate accommodations, such as additional time on tests and access to a one-on-one learning aide
- Interviewed clients and drafted timelines of relevant events as part of case preparation

Empowertech, Los Angeles, CA

Tutor, September 2010 – May 2013

- Provided people with physical and developmental disabilities with education and training to lead independent and productive lives utilizing assistive technology
- Conceptualized, drafted, and finalized student curriculum
- Assisted and advised students in the completion of curriculum, individualized job search plans, and college applications
- Taught students to use the internet and create email address and social media accounts
- Organized, updated, and improved filing system that included students' confidential information

- Analyzed scheduling issues, created solutions, and achieved supervisor approval

PANELS

- Careers in Tax Law Panel, Organizer and Facilitator (2021)
- Meet and Greet with Dean Postlewaite from Northwestern Tax LL.M Program, Organizer and Facilitator (2021)
- Black Law Students Association - The Power in Being Black, Panelist (2021)
- Pepperdine Caruso Law Black Alumni Open Conversation With Dean Caron: Alumni, Panelist (2020)
- Pepperdine Caruso Law Black Alumni Open Conversation With Dean Caron: Students, Panelist (2020)
- Sisters of Gabriela Awakening – International Women’s Day, Presenter (2013)

TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

- **Teaching:** Federal income tax for individuals and business entities
- **Research Interests:** International tax, generational wealth, social justice, economic justice, religion, human trafficking, finances, investing, and alternative investment vehicles

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

- Director, Social Justice Ministry – Normandie Church of Christ (2021)
- Mission Statement – We are dedicated to being active participants in the furtherance of justice through education, empowerment, and advocacy
- Vision Statement – To be a social vehicle for change as it relates to equity, access, diversity, participation, and human rights for the current generation and for generations to come.
- Podcast Creator and Host, Redbirds with Deanna Shantel (2022)
- Mission Statement – A new podcast that focuses on highlighting black businesses and discussing generational wealth. Redbirds is a platform that allows you to share your brilliant vision, builds community support for that vision, and continues to build longevity.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Pepperdine Deans Council, Student Life Committee Member
- American Bar Association Tax Section, Member

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Member of the State Bar of California

