YAHAIRA Y. QUEZADA, Esq.

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LICENSES / CERTIFICATIONS

- Texas State Bar, 2007
- Illinois State Bar, 2015
- United States District Court Western District of Texas, 2010
- United States District Court Southern District of Texas, 2013

WORK EXPERIENCE

246TH FAMILY DISTRICT COURT
Associate Judge 1/ 2019-present
• Oversee and adjudicate litigation related to family law, including but not limited to custody disputes, child support, divorce, annulment, division of property and debts, adoptions, child welfare and termination of parental rights, enforcement of Court orders, protective orders.

QUEZADA LAW GROUP, PLLC
Managing Attorney 1/ 2011-12/2018
• Represent and advocate for individuals in litigation matters related to criminal, immigration, civil and family law.

CITY OF HOUSTON MUNICIPAL COURTS
Adjudication Hearing Officer 07/2015-7/2016
• Conducted hearings, reviewed evidence and adjudicated cases for vehicle boots and other parking violations within the City of Houston.

HARRIS COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
Assistant District Attorney 07/ 2011- 07/ 2013
• Represented the State of Texas in the prosecution of criminal offenses and advocacy of victim's rights within Harris County.

HENDLER LAW, P.C.
Associate Attorney 09/2009- 01/2011
• Represented approximately 3,000 clients in Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala and Panama, as part of a class action, toxic tort suit.

TRAVIS COUNTY JUVENILE PUBLIC DEFENDER
Contract Attorney 04/2009- 09/2009
• Represented and advocated for juveniles ages 7 to 16 charged with criminal offenses.

WALKER BRIGHT, PC
Attorney 11/2007- 04/2009
• Represented and counseled corporations, government entities and individuals in civil litigation matters.

INTERNSHIPS / LAW STUDENT WORK EXPERIENCE

JUDGE LAMAR MCCORKLE, 133RD CIVIL DISTRICT COURT
Law Clerk & Legal Intern Supervisor 12/2006 – 11/2007
• Researched case law, evaluated cases, and provided advise to the Honorable Judge on legal issues submitted to the court
• Drafted legal and policy memoranda, and assisted the judge in pre-trial conferences.
• Supervised legal interns.

THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW
Research Assistant to Associate Dean Colon 08/2006 – 06/2007

• Researched case law and drafted sections of legal articles. (*Latinos, Terrorism & United States Immigration Policy*, HNBA Journal of Law & Policy, Vol.1, Issue 1 at 39 (Summer 2008); *Familia e Imigracion: What Happened to Family Unity?*, The Florida Journal of International Law, Vol. 19, Issue 2 at 419 (2007).

THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW
Immigration Clinic Student Attorney 01/2007- 06/2007

• Represented and counseled individuals on immigration matters.
• Researched and drafted legal memorandum regarding immigration issues.

COANE & ASSOCIATES
Law Clerk 12/2005- 06/2006

• Researched and drafted legal memoranda on immigration matters related to student visas, labor certification requirements, immigrant investor statutes, and other statutes.
• Drafted and completed immigration packages for student visas, family petitions, labor certification, naturalizations, adjustment of status cases and asylum petitions.

EDUCATION

MANUSSO MEDIATION TRAINING & ALTERNATE DISPUTE RESOLUTION
Mediator, 2016

• Completed 40 hours in basic mediation training in compliance with the Alternative Dispute Resolution Procedures Act §154.052, and satisfying the standards of the Texas Mediators Training Roundtable, Texas Association of Mediators, Texas Mediator Credentialing Association.
• Completed 30 hours of advanced mediation training in the fields of family dynamics and violence, ethics, theory, practice consideration, cultural diversity, and advanced mediation skills, in compliance with the Alternative Dispute Resolution Procedures Act §154.052, and satisfying the standards of the Texas Mediators Training Roundtable, Texas Association of Mediators, Texas Mediator Credentialing Association.

THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW
Juris Doctor, 2007

• Thurgood Marshall Law Review, Business Editor • Research Assistant to Associate Dean

THE CITY COLLEGE OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
Bachelor of Arts English, Cum Laude Honors, 2003

• S.E.E.K. Honor Program • Chi Alpha Epsilon Honor Society

SPECIAL SKILLS

- Advanced fluency in written and oral Spanish
- Extensive experience in litigation matters
- Trial practice in Criminal, Immigration, Civil, and Family courts

PUBLICATIONS

Yahaira Quezada co-authored an award winning booklet published by the Austin Young Lawyers Association. The guide is aimed at helping individuals succeed following a criminal conviction. It can be found at: http://www.austinreentry.com/reentryguide.html