

EXPERIENCE

FEDERATION OF SOUTHERN COOPERATIVES/LAND ASSISTANCE FUND

Director of Land Retention & Advocacy, March 2021 – Present

- Manage and direct Federation Legal Fellows and legal interns in providing land retention legal services for the membership and communities served by the largest and oldest cooperatively owned organization whose membership includes Black farmers, landowners and cooperatives
- Lead state, regional and Federal advocacy initiatives on a variety of issues affecting rural, Black communities
- Manage land retention research, mediation services and relevant litigation on behalf of the membership and their related rural communities
- Host the Federation Conversation Podcast to help listeners better understand and support the membership and staff

PROGRESSIVE INSURANCE, Maitland, FL

PIP Litigation Senior Representative, September 2016 – March 2021

- Manage PIP litigation by evaluating coverage investigations, conducting comprehensive analysis of medical bill handling, and determining most effective resolution plan, which sometimes included negotiating strategic settlements or directing house counsel and/or outside counsel in implementing defense strategy.

BLACK BELT JUSTICE CENTER, Washington, DC (working remotely in Orlando, FL)

Deputy Director, November 2015 – Present

- Provide legal representation in various areas of the law, including tax foreclosure defense and commercial contracts.

ROADTRAIN TRANSPORT LLC, Orlando, FL

Managing Member, July 2014 – January 2016

- Directed the acquisition of assets and expansion of services for family-owned transportation company.
- Conducted the filing of all relevant regulatory, tax and legal documents.
- Managed all aspects of corporate finances, including procuring contracts, managing billing and accounting, running payroll and overseeing all financial accounts.

LAND LOSS PREVENTION PROJECT, Durham, NC

Program Specialist Attorney, July 2012 – May 2014

Skadden Fellow Attorney, September 2008 – August 2010

- Provided legal representation in various areas of the law, including estate planning, civil rights and foreclosure defense.
- Led non-profit law firm's strategic planning process, coordinated board and stakeholder meetings and drafted white paper on recommendations for transforming firm's service-delivery and financial model.
- Co-managed economic development, drafted grant applications for federal government, national foundations, and local charities, coordinated fundraising events, and managed fundraising staff.

RURAL COALITION, Washington, DC

Staff Attorney, December 2011 – May 2012

- Coordinated national outreach campaign to educate potential claimants on their legal rights under multiple class action discrimination lawsuits and the corresponding claims resolution processes.

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN LEGAL CENTER, Los Angeles, CA

Community-based Program Coordinator, October 2010 – September 2011

- Designed and directed leadership development training programs for local government agencies and community groups to foster cross-cultural collaboration across race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, and religious differences.

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA SCHOOL OF LAW, Charlottesville, VA

J.D., May 2008

BROWN UNIVERSITY, Providence, RI

B.A., May 2005, Community Health, *Magna Cum Laude*

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- *Membership:* North Carolina Bar (2008 - current), Farmers Legal Action Group Board, and Southern Rural Development Center Board, & NCBA CLUSA – Cooperative Economics Council