

YVETTE PENA LOPES

Yvettepena628@gmail.com

EXPERIENCE

Blue Green Alliance

Deputy Director, March 2012-Current

Senior Director for Policy and Government Affairs, March 2009- June 2012

Develop and oversee the overall strategic plan for the organization together with the Executive Director. Responsible for the coordination of the BlueGreen Alliance's Board and Steering Committee which consists of union and environmental presidents and leaders. Hire and manage the legislative and policy staff. Oversee all of BGA's advocacy and policy work. Responsible for approval of external communications. Represent and speak on behalf of the organization at high-level conferences in the US and abroad on climate change, infrastructure, auto and transportation policy, worker's rights, economic development and green jobs.

International Brotherhood of Teamsters

Legislative Representative, May 2005-March 2009

Responsible for the advocacy to Congress and relevant agencies on trade, immigration, human rights, ports, green jobs, and Social Security among other policy areas on behalf of the Teamsters 1.4 million members. Represented the Teamsters in international union conferences and WTO Doha negotiations.

Formulated trade policies for not only the Teamsters, but also for Change to Win. Actively participated on various coalitions on trade and immigration, and worked closely with international labor rights, environmental, and human rights organizations. Represent the Teamsters among Latino and civil rights organizations.

Senator Christopher J. Dodd (D-CT), Washington, DC

Legislative Assistant, November 2001-May 2005

Assessed legislation and advised the Senator on votes and policy decisions. Responsible for the issue areas of trade, taxes, Social Security, pensions, small business, immigration, technology, and Latino outreach. Wrote floor speeches, remarks and questions for Committee hearings and mark-ups for the Senator. Assisted in organizing events in the state and prepared the Senator for events and meetings with constituents, Chambers, businesses, and organizations. Drafted legislation and amendments for introduction by the Senator, and negotiated passage with congressional offices.

U.S. Congressman Silvestre Reyes (D-TX), Washington, DC

Press Secretary/Legislative Aide, February 2000-November 2001

Responsible for the coordination and management of all communication activities and media contacts for the Congressman and the Congressional Hispanic Caucus. Served as the formal spokesperson for the Congressman. Also responsible for writing speeches, meeting with constituents, and advising the Congressman on legislation pertaining to business and economic development.

Baltimore City Office of the Public Defender, Baltimore MD

Law Clerk for the Felony Trial Division, March 1999-June 1999

Assisted public defenders with case preparation. Conducted legal research, drafted motions filed in the Circuit Court, interviewed clients, attended hearings and trials, assisted attorneys in investigating cases, and prepared and organized evidence for trial.

United States Trade Representatives, Washington, DC

Law Clerk for the Asia Pacific & APEC Division, September 1998-December 1998

Researched and prepared memoranda on nontariff barriers between various Asian nations and the United States. Assisted in the organizing and drafting of provisions and procedures for APEC (Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation) regional trade agreement. Attended inter-governmental meetings regarding filing United States petitions to the WTO against other nations.

Conservation International, Washington, DC

Law Clerk for Director of Conservation Finance, May 1998-August 1998

Drafted bioprospecting contracts between governments of different countries, research institutions, and biotechnology companies. Prepared a memo on tax options for a trust fund being established in Suriname. Researched various trust fund mechanisms. Researched bioprospecting policy in the Andean Pact.

University of Maryland School of Law Environmental Law Clinic, Baltimore, MD

Student Attorney, September 1997-May 1998

Served as legal counsel to low-income group raising environmental justice challenges. Represented a family exposed to lead paint poisoning. Served as legal counsel to Maryland State Senator on environmental committee. Duties included legal research on Pfiesteria problem for the Governor's Commission, and drafted environmental enforcement legislation introduced in the State Senate.

University of Maryland School of Law, Professor Robert Percival, Baltimore, MD

Research Assistant, August 1997-May 1998

Researched domestic and international environmental laws. Assisted Professor with preparation of paper presented at international environmental Congress in Chile. Helped prepare course material for seminar on Comparative Environmental Law and Politics. Edited law review articles for the Professor. Helped update environmental law casebook and with preparation of 1998 supplement.

EDUCATION

University of Maryland School of Law, Baltimore, Maryland

Juris Doctor, May 1999 with certificate of concentration in Environmental Law.

Activities: International Law Society
Maryland Environmental Law Society
President, Latino/a Law Student's Association
Jessup International Moot Court

Honors: University of Maryland School of Law Public Service Award
Maryland Public Interest Grant recipient

Southwestern University School of Law, Los Angeles, California

Summer Abroad Program: Buenos Aires, Argentina, June 1997-August 1997

University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland

Bachelor of Arts--Double Major in English and Latin American Literature, May 1995

Honors: Dean's List 1994-1995, Member of Sigma Delta Pi Honor Society, House of Delegates Scholarship Recipient