

Curriculum Vitae for Aaron Reichlin-Melnick

EDUCATION

Georgetown University Law Center, Washington, DC

Juris Doctorate, cum laude

May 2014

Activities: Journal of National Security Law & Policy (Editor-in-Chief), Barristers' Council (Trial Advocacy Division; 2013 Greenhalgh Competition Assistant Director, 2014 Fordham Kelly Competition Winner), Legal Research and Writing Law Fellow, Center for Applied Legal Studies (Asylum Clinic), Public Interest Fellow, Pro Bono Pledge Honoree.

Brandeis University, Waltham, MA

Bachelor of Arts in Politics and in East Asian Studies

May 2009

Activities: Mock Trial Association (Vice President, 2008-2009, Coach 2009-2011)

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

American Immigration Council, Washington, DC

2018-Present

Policy Counsel, 2018-2022, Senior Policy Counsel 2022, Policy Director 2022-Present

Lead the Council's legislative and administrative advocacy. Work with policymakers, coalition advocates, and the media to push for policies that promote a more fair and just immigration system. Keep track of a blizzard of immigration policy changes and serve as an expert for the media and the public to help understand the impact of changes. Travel to the border to observe and respond to the impact of those policies, including in 2018 during the family separation crisis and in 2019 to document the Remain in Mexico policy. Use Twitter to connect with the media and the public to break down shifts in immigration law and policy, including analyzing immigration-related data. Draft and edit fact sheets and reports for the public and for policymakers that explain the immigration system and immigration policies. Write articles for the Council's blog on current events and op-Eds for other media organizations. Present at seminars and conferences on immigration policy and represent the organization in working groups.

American Immigration Council, Washington, DC

2016-2018

Staff Attorney

Worked on impact litigation and transparency work as part of the Council's legal team, dedicated to addressing due process issues in the immigration system. Co-counseled in multiple cases aiming to protect immigrants' rights and under FOIA, including the drafting of federal court complaints, motions, and appeals, as well as the review and analysis of documents gained through litigation. Gathered affidavits from class members and witnesses in litigation protecting the rights of migrants at the border. Drafted three practice advisories for immigration lawyers, on FOIA, continuances, and administrative closure. Participated in FOIA litigation against DHS and the review of documents obtained through FOIA. Presented at seminars and conferences on immigration law and represented the organization in working groups.

The Legal Aid Society / Immigrant Justice Corps, New York, NY

2014-Present

As one of twenty-five Justice Fellows selected in the first year of The Immigrant Justice Corps, was assigned to the Immigration Law Unit of The Legal Aid Society. Represented both detained and non-detained clients from the beginning of a removal defense case through to a final hearing in front of an immigration judge. Conducted extensive legal research and writing through motions practice. Gained extensive knowledge of immigration court practice.

Office of the Federal Public Defender, Greenbelt, MD

Law Clerk

Summer 2013

Worked on research and writing assignments across the entire spectrum of criminal practice. Wrote interoffice memoranda, a trial motion to suppress, a post-trial sentencing memorandum, an opening appellate brief for the Fourth Circuit, a reply brief addressing a novel application of the Speedy Trial Act, and a cert petition to the Supreme Court.

State of Maryland Office of the Public Defender / Charles County

Law Clerk

Summer 2012

Visited the jail to interview defendants, conducted legal research, and assisted in trial preparation through investigation, review of discovery, and motions practice. Observed trials from jury selection through closing arguments.