

JOANN M. SAHL
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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

October 2008 – Present

University of Akron School of Law
Clinical Professor of Law, 2021
C. Blake McDowell Professor of Law, 2020
Associate Clinical Professor of Law, 2014
Assistant Director, Legal Clinic, 2008
Assistant Clinical Professor of Law, 2008-2014

- Clinics Taught

Reentry Clinics

Clemency Project and Ohio Governor's Expedited Pardon Project.

Certificate of Qualification for Employment (CQE)

Expungement/Sealing

Human Trafficking

Reentry Clinic Recognition

2022 Catholic Commission of Summit County 2022 Bishop Pilla
Leadership Award

2015 AALS Innovative and Outstanding Program
(<http://www.aals.org/home/innovative-and-other-outstanding-programs/>)

2014 National Jurist Magazine, Top 15 Innovative Clinic
(<http://www.nationaljurist.com/content/most-innovative-clinics>)

Civil Practice Clinic.

Civil Practice Clinic Recognition

2010 Community Legal Aid Volunteer Law Firm of the Year

- Other Courses Taught

Appellate Practice and Procedure

- Community and Pro Bono Public Service Coordinator
- Site Supervisor, Law and Leadership Institute (2009-2015)

March 1999 -
October 2008

**Staff Attorney, Housing Unit
Community Legal Aid Services, Inc.**

Major Projects:

Akron Municipal Court Project: Worked collaboratively with Akron Municipal Court judges and personnel to establish a bi-weekly clinic directed to attendees sued for credit card debt or eviction.

Clemency Project: Began a project in an eight-county region to assist low-income clients with seeking a pardon from the governor of Ohio.

Financial Information and Legal Education (FILE): Developed a financial literacy PowerPoint and presentation aimed at low-income people who faced impediments to self-sufficiency. Sought and achieved a grant from the city of Akron to support the program.

Social Welfare Practitioner Training: Organized and presented landlord-tenant training for all social welfare practitioners in an eight-county region.

October 1996-
August 1998

**Staff Attorney, Housing Unit
The Legal Aid Society of Columbus**

October 1995-
October 1996

Contract Work
Denver, Colorado

August 1993-
May 1995

**Chief Appellate Counsel
Death Penalty Section
Ohio Public Defender Commission**

October 1992-
August 1993

**Supervisor
Death Penalty Section
Ohio Public Defender Commission**

March 1990 -
October 1992

**Chief Appellate Counsel
Death Penalty Section
Ohio Public Defender Commission**

November 1986 -
March 1990

**Assistant State Public Defender
Ohio Public Defender Commission**

September 1986 -
December 1986

**Adjunct Legal Writing Professor
University of Akron School of Law**

NOTABLE CASES

- UNIVERSITY OF AKRON SCHOOL OF LAW

State v. Christopher Cain, 2024-Ohio-2969
In Re R.L.B., 2018-Ohio-3660
State v. Boykin, 138 Ohio St.3d 97
(2013)

- COMMUNITY LEGAL AID SERVICES, INC.

Coker v. Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority
Summit App. No. 20350, (July 5, 2001)

- OHIO PUBLIC DEFENDER COMMISSION

United States Supreme Court

Successfully briefed and argued *Ohio v. Huertas*
498 U.S. 336 (1991) - resulted in the State's appeal
being dismissed as improvidently allowed.

Ohio Supreme Court

State v. Jeffrey Lundgren, 73 Ohio St. 3d 474
(1995)
State v. Derrick Evans, 63 Ohio St. 3d 231 (1992)
State v. Von Clark Davis, 63 Ohio St. 3d 44 (1992)

State v. Reginald Jells, 53 Ohio St. 3d 22 (1990)
State v. Ediberto Huertas, 51 Ohio St. 3d 22
(1990), *certiorari granted* 498 U.S. 807 (1990),
certiorari dismissed 498 U.S. 336 (1991)
State v. Arthur Tyler, 50 Ohio St. 3d 24 (1990)
State v. Joseph Murphy, 49 Ohio St. 3d 293 (1990)
State v. David Brewer, 48 Ohio St. 3d 50 (1990)

Other Reported Decisions

State v. Clifford Williams, 73 Ohio St. 3d 153
(1995)
State v. Jose Loza, 71 Ohio St. 3d 61 (1994)
State v. Charles Lorraine, 66 Ohio St. 3d 414
(1993)
State v. Joseph Murphy, 65 Ohio St. 3d 554 (1992)
State v. William Wickline, 50 Ohio St. 3d 114
(1990)
State v. Rhett DePew, 38 Ohio St. 3d 275 (1989)

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

August 1983 - The University of Akron School of Law
June 1986 Degree: Juris Doctor (1986)

September 1979 - The Ohio State University
June 1983 Degree: Bachelor of Arts

SUBJECTS TAUGHT

Civil Practice Clinic
Reentry Clinic
Appellate Practice Clinic
Appellate Practice and Procedure
Social Justice Lawyering Clinic
Clinical Seminar I (Externships)
Basic Legal Communications (Adjunct)
Intermediate Legal Communications (Adjunct)

PUBLICATIONS

*Encouraging “Healing” for Home Health Aides by Employing Those with Criminal
Convictions - Balancing Risk with Rehabilitation*

Criminal Law Bulletin, Vol. 56, No.3, 2020, p. 405

Ohio's Certificate of Qualification: Four Years Later, Ohio Lawyer Magazine, September/October 2017, p. 26

Available

https://issuu.com/ohiostatebarassociation/docs/ol_sep-oct_web

Can We Forgive Those Who Batter? Proposing an End to the Collateral Consequences of Civil Domestic Violence Cases, 100 MARQUETTE LAW REVIEW 527 (2016).

Battling Collateral Consequences: The Long Road to Redemption

Criminal Law Bulletin, Vol. 49, No. 3, 2013, p. 383

Not Eligible for Expungement? Executive Clemency May Be an Option

Law You Can Use Column

Ohio State Bar Association

Law You Can Use: *Understanding How Criminal Records Are Sealed*

Ohio State Bar Association

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

April 2026

Moderator, Fireside Chat

Beyond the Sentence, Expanding Pathways to Post-Conviction Relief

University of Akron Law Review Symposium

October 2024

Reentry Remedies

Akron STAR Program

U.S. District Court, Northern District of Ohio

August 2024

Human Trafficking: Ohio's Remedy

International Visitor Leadership Program

U.S. State Department

Global Ties

April 2024

Collateral Consequences in Law School Pedagogy
(Panel)

Relief in the Making: The Policy, Implementation and Impact of Rights Restoration Law Symposium

March 2024

Ohio Remedies to Assist Those with Criminal Convictions

Akron Bar Association CLE

December 2023	<i>Ohio Remedies to Assist Those with Criminal Convictions</i> Disabled Veteran Outreach Training Program Training Office of Workforce Development
July 2023	<i>Easing the Labor Shortage: Hiring the Reentry Population</i> Summit County Ohio Means Jobs Stark County Human Resource Association <i>Remedies to Help Those with Criminal Convictions: Sealing's, CQEs and Pardons</i> Summit on Making Northeast Ohio Communities Safer

PODCASTS

How to clean your record after court?
Akron Mirror Podcast
<https://open.spotify.com/episode/4pHaylk8EXibjvAVr6OTDx>.

All In Community podcast (Update)
Ohio Governor's Expedited Pardon Project
<https://www.westhioumc.org/conference/podcasts>

MAJOR PROJECTS

- November 2019 to Present:
Ohio Expedited Pardon Project (<https://www.ohioexpeditedpardon.org/>)
- June 2013 to Present:
Monthly Free Reentry Clinic
- October 2019 to Present:
Reentry Clinic Collaboration with Akron Municipal Court RISE Court
- October 2019 to April 2020:
Tenant Education Project
Akron Municipal Court

- 2016-18:
National Juvenile Reentry Assistance Program
- 2015:
Statewide CQE Training Project (Project funded by a grant from Ohio State Bar Foundation)
Housing Summit: Rethinking Reentry (Summit of Ohio Public Housing Authorities)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Akron Bar Association
Former Member, Board of Trustees
Committee Memberships: Common Pleas, Municipal and Appellate Courts, and Access to Justice

Akron Bar Foundation
Former member of Board of Governors and Board secretary

Ohio State Bar Association

Former member and chair, Ohio Supreme Court Rule 20 Commission on the Appointment of Counsel for Indigent Defendants in Capital Cases

SCHOOL OF LAW ACTIVITIES

Academic and Disciplinary Committee
Community Services Committee
Self-Study Committee
Appointments Committee
Advancement Council

UNIVERSITY ACTIVITIES

Internal Review Board

AWARDS

2023 Association of American Law Schools Pro Bono Honor Roll

2023 University of Akron EX[L] Award – Excellence in Campus-Community Collaboration

2022 Association of American Law Schools Pro Bono Honor Roll

2022 Akron Bar Association Professionalism Award

2019 University of Akron Law Alumni Award

2018 Law and Leadership Institute Award

2018 Thomas G. Byers Memorial Award, Outstanding Faculty Practical Publication

2015 Akron Bar Association Liberty Bell Award

2014 University of Akron Law Alumni Association Faculty Practical Publication Award

MEDIA COVERAGE (Upon request)