



KAREN ZAVORA

EDUCATION

Mediation Training

- Forty Hour Basic Mediation Training, Crowley Mediation (2017)
- Forty Hour Dependency Mediation Certification Training, Nevada Dependency Mediation Program (2018)
- Advanced Child Custody and Divorce Mediation Training, Carson City, NV (2018)
- Nevada Dispute Resolution Coalition, De-Escalation Training with Doug Noll (2019)

Juris Doctor, *summa cum laude*, Seattle University School of Law, 2005

- Class Rank: 7/347
- Dean's List, 2002-2003, 2003-2004, 2004-2005
- Article Editor, *Seattle Journal of Social Justice*, 2004-2005 / Staff Member 2003-2004
- Cali Excellence Award, Constitutional Law (Section B)
- Moot Court: Administrative Law Competition, Reasonable Doubt Competition

Bachelor of Arts, Whitman College, May 2002

- B.A. in Sociology (with honors), Minor in Education

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Co-Founder, Sierra Mediation (Present)

- Co-founded mediation firm in Northern Nevada to provide mediation services throughout the Tahoe Basin and Reno. Mediate private mediations and serve as mediator for the Nevada Juvenile Dependency Mediation Program, Second Judicial District Court Custody Mediation Program, First Judicial District Mediation Panel. Appointed by Nevada Supreme Court to Foreclosure Mediation Panel.

Board of Directors, Child Assault Prevention Program (May 2017 to Present)

- Board member for local non-profit providing children in Northern Nevada schools with assault and bullying prevention education.

Mediator, Neighborhood Mediation Center (June 2017 to June 2018)

- Volunteer mediator for local non-profit mediation center.

Program Attorney, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (August 2015 to March 2017)

- Drafted policy papers and provided technical assistance to organizations on issues related to domestic violence and its presentation in child protection and child custody cases. Worked with state courts to improve state-responses to domestic violence. Drafted and edited publications related to domestic violence, child protection and custody.

Directing Attorney, Senior Law Project (Nevada Legal Services) (December 2014 to November 2015)

- Co-directed the Washoe County Senior Law Project. Represented seniors in elder abuse and neglect, nursing home neglect and discharge, estate planning, evictions, and consumer cases. Oversaw grant reporting and compliance, created outreaches, supervised Senior Law Project staff, attended board meetings.

Senior Attorney, Nevada Legal Services (June to December 2014)

- Represented clients in matters of civil poverty law.



Senior Policy Analyst, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (August 2013 – June 2014)

- Wrote policy papers and provided technical assistance to organizations on issues related to domestic violence and its presentation in child protection and child custody cases. Organized and attended national meetings on domestic violence related topics.

Child Advocate Attorney, Washoe Legal Services, Reno, NV (July 2008 to August 2011)

- Provided legal representation to abused and neglected children in the foster care system.

Staff Attorney, Nevada Legal Services, Inc., Carson City, NV (September 2007 to July 2008)

- Represented low-income clients with legal issues in the areas of private landlord tenant law, federal subsidized housing and fair housing, social security, and unemployment cases.

Judicial Law Clerk, Justice Susan Owens, Washington Supreme Court (September 2006 to September 2007)

- Drafted prehearing memoranda, majority, concurring, and dissenting opinions on complex questions of Washington law.

Judicial Law Clerk, Judge John Iroz, Sixth Judicial Dist. Ct., Winnemucca, NV (August 2005 to August 2006)

- Researched case and statutory law and drafted orders in both civil and criminal cases. Oversaw post-conviction writs of habeas corpus/mandamus. Worked with adult drug court.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- Licensed to practice law in California and Washington (inactive). Previously licensed to practice law in Nevada under legal services membership rule.
- Member, Nevada Dispute Resolution Coalition

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

- Faculty, *Mediating Dependency Cases Involving Domestic Violence*, an eight hour training for Nevada State Juvenile Dependency Mediators (May 2018).
- Domestic Violence in the Dependency System: A Series About Professional Roles, Limits, & Opportunities (November 2015). Available at <https://www.rcdvpc.org/resources/resource/the-role-of-attorneys-gals-and-judges-in-dependency-cases-with-domestic-violence-victims-part-3.html>.
- Bohannon, T., Mangiaracina, M., Sicafuse, L., and Zavora, K. (2014). *Reasonable Efforts in Child Abuse and Neglect Cases that Involve Domestic Violence*. Technical Assistance Bulletin. Reno, NV: National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. Available at <https://www.rcdvpc.org/resources/resource/reasonable-efforts-in-child-abuse-and-neglect-cases-that-involve-domestic-violence.html>.