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Rushi Shah

Education

May 2024 Harvard Law School, J.D. (in progress)

Sept. 2021 Princeton University, M.A. Computer Science

May 2020 University of Texas at Austin, B.S. Computer Science & B.S. Mathematics (Turing Scholar)

May 2016 Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology (TJHSST)

Work Experience

Summer Alaska Public Defender: Criminal Division, Legal Intern, Anchorage, AK

2023 • Will zealously represent clients throughout their trials and appeals

Summer Legal Aid Society of NY: Prisoners' Rights Project, Legal Intern, New York City, NY

2022 • Drafted an originalist memo on how the drafters of the New York state constitution's cruel and unusual punishment provision rejected the practice of solitary confinement around 1846; memo supported an ongoing lawsuit based on the new Humane Alternatives to Long Term (HALT) Solitary Confinement legislation

- Drafted a procedural memo on using Fed. Rule of Civ. Proc. 60(b)(5) to extend the court-ordered monitorship of educational services provided in NY city jails like Rikers in light of violations during COVID-19
- Drafted an urgent memo during a lockdown at Great Meadows Correctional Facility on violations of minimum mail, shower, and meal requirements for inmates mandated by the NY Codes, Rules, and Regulations
- Advocated for four clients on their mistreatment in state prisons; their issues included prescription medication, reasonable accommodations for blindness, epileptic seizure consequences, and LGBTQ+ safety concerns

Summer New Mexico Public Defender: Felony Trial Division, Legal Intern, Albuquerque, NM

2021 • Worked under 11 attorneys for 19 clients on research/writing, direct client work, trial prep, and doc review

- Drafted a motion to suppress, a memo on Miranda waiver validity while intoxicated, and a memo on a double jeopardy challenge to firearm enhancements; cite checked, proofread, and edited other pieces
- Assisted heavily in preparation for jury trial of one client accused of murder (found not guilty on all counts)
- Reviewed police lapel videos, client criminal histories, evidence, depositions, and other discovery documents

2020-2021 Princeton Center for Information Technology Policy, Research Assistant, Princeton, NJ

• Quantitatively measured spread of viral far-right extremist content across multiple online platforms

Activities

2023 Ames Moot Court Competition, Semifinalist, Top 4 of 53 teams

2022-2023 Harvard Defenders, Student Attorney, Represented three clients in show-cause hearings

2022-2023 Harvard South Asian Law Students Association (SALSA), VP of Community Engagement

2023-2024 The Appellate Project, Mentee, Mentored by Athul Aacharya and Haley Licha

Journals and Publications

Fall 2023 Harvard National Security Journal, Volume 14, "Central Bank Digital Currencies", Subciter

Spring 2022 Harvard Journal of Law and Gender, Volume 45, "Eliminating 'Built-In Headwinds'", Subciter

Jan. 2021 Defund the Police After the Jan. 6th Coup Attempt, The Daily Princetonian, Rushi Shah

March 2020 TX Felon Disenfranchisement Enables Institutional Racism, The Daily Texan, Rushi Shah

Selected Coursework

Spring 2023 Evidence, Harvard Law School, Professor Rubin

Fall 2022 Administrative Law, Harvard Law School, Professor Freeman

Fall 2022 Criminal Procedure: Investigations, Harvard Law School, Professor Crespo