

ALEXA K. PEREZ

Associate Professor of Law
Drake University Law School
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Drake University Law School, Des Moines, IA

Associate Professor of Law July 2026–Present
Assistant Professor of Law July 2023–July 2026

Honors: 2026 Leland Forrest Outstanding Professor of the Year (selected by Class of 2026);
Order of the Barristers (selected by Moot Court Board for service to Moot Court
Teams)

Courses: Evidence, Civil Procedure

Service: Faculty Appointments Committee 2023–2024; 2026–Present
Admissions Committee 2025–2026
Curriculum Committee 2024–2025
Judicial Clerkship Committee 2023–Present
Moot Court Faculty Advisor 2025–Present
La Alianza Faculty Advisor 2024–Present
C. Edwin Moore Inn of Court Faculty Liaison 2023–Present
Iowa Sentencing Project 2026–Present

EDUCATION

The University of Chicago Law School, Chicago, IL

Juris Doctor June 2017

Honors: Pro Bono Award of Excellence (most pro bono hours in class)

Activities: Young Center for Immigrant Children’s Rights Clinic; Kirkland & Ellis Corporate
Lab; Latino Law Student Association

University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

Bachelor of Arts in English (minor in Linguistics), *summa cum laude* December 2013

Honors: *Phi Beta Kappa*; *Sigma Tau Delta*; Hauptman Gold Medal (outstanding senior
award); Dean’s List; President’s Honor Roll; Lipsky Award (Dept. of English
Scholarship); Florida Bright Futures Scholarship; Hispanic Scholarship Fund
Scholarship

Thesis: *Cuban Exile History and Marielito Deviance*

Research: *Examining Code-Switching Performance Theories: Copula Choice in Spanish Among
Cuban Heritage Speakers* (research underlying a chapter in *Cuban Spanish
Dialectology: Variation, Contact, and Change* (Alejandro Cuza ed., Georgetown
University Press 2017))

PUBLICATIONS

Law Review Articles

[*A Critical Analysis of Rap Shield Laws*](#), 110 CORNELL L. REV. 1427 (2026)

- Presented at Vanderbilt Law School Evidence Summer Workshop (2024); University of Minnesota Law School Women in Law Teaching Works-in-Progress Workshop (2024)
- Featured on [Excited Utterance Podcast](#); [Race, Racism, and the Law](#); [Law and Humanities Blog](#)

[*Cross-Enforcing the Plain Smell Doctrine*](#), 101 WASH. L. REV. 581 (2026)

- Presented at University of Kentucky College of Law Developing Ideas Conference (2025); AALS Criminal Law Works-in-Progress Workshop
- Featured on [Wahl on Law Podcast](#)

Works in Progress

Sexual Propensity Evidence at the Founding

- Presented or accepted for presentation at Vanderbilt Law School Evidence Summer Workshop (2026); Minnesota Women in Law Teaching Works-in-Progress Workshop (2026); SEALS New Scholars Program (2026); AALS Annual Meeting (2027)

Practitioner and Shorter Works

[*The Deepfake Defense: Iowa Courts and the Authentication of AI-Generated Evidence*](#), IOWA LAWYER MAGAZINE (Oct. 1, 2026)

[*Navigating Discovery Risks When Using AI Tools in Legal Practice*](#), IOWA LAWYER MAGAZINE (Mar. 1, 2026)

[*Admitting AI-Generated Evidence: Proposed Federal Rule of Evidence 707*](#), IOWA LAWYER MAGAZINE (Dec. 1, 2025)

[*Understanding the December 2024 Amendments to the Federal Rules of Evidence*](#), IOWA LAWYER MAGAZINE (Oct. 1, 2025)

[*The Black Lives Matter Movement's Implications for Shareholder Derivative Litigation*](#), AMLAW LITIG. DAILY (Oct. 28, 2020) (with co-authors)

- Cited in Angela N. Aneiros, *The Unlikely Pressure for Accountability: The Insurance Industry's Role in Social Change*, 27 TEX. J. C.L. & C.R. 139 (2022)

[*Buyer's Remorse or Material Adverse Effect? A New Wave of Litigation in the COVID-19 World*](#), AMLAW LITIG. DAILY (May 28, 2020) (with co-authors)

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Scholarly Presentations and Workshops

Sexual Propensity Evidence at the Founding, Association of American Law Schools (AALS) Annual Meeting (Jan. 2027) (accepted)

Sexual Propensity Evidence at the Founding, Southeastern Association of Law Schools (SEALS) Annual Conference, New Scholars Workshop: Evidence (July 2026)

Reliability Creep in the Age of AI, Southeastern Association of Law Schools (SEALS) Annual Conference, New Scholars Workshop: Your Next Article (July 2026)

Sexual Propensity Evidence at the Founding, University of Minnesota Law School, Women in Law Teaching Works-in-Progress Workshop (July 2026)

Sexual Propensity Evidence at the Founding, Vanderbilt Law School, Evidence Summer Workshop (May 2026)

Cross-Enforcing the Plain Smell Doctrine, University of Kentucky College of Law, Developing Ideas Conference (May 2025)

A Critical Analysis of Rap Shield Laws, University of Minnesota Law School, Women in Law Teaching Works-in-Progress Workshop (June 2024)

A Critical Analysis of Rap Shield Laws, Vanderbilt Law School, Evidence Summer Workshop (May 2024)

Invited Talks and CLE Presentations

Discharge Your Doubts: AI Ethics and Evidence for Bankruptcy Professionals, American Bankruptcy Institute, Midwest Annual Conference (Oct. 22, 2026)

Evidence Law's AI Problem, Lincoln Inn of Court (CLE) (Oct. 5, 2026)

Admissibility of AI-Generated Evidence, Iowa Court of Appeals, Annual Judicial Retreat (May 2026)

December 2024 Updates to the Federal Rules of Evidence, Iowa State Bar Association Annual Meeting (CLE) (June 2025)

December 2024 Updates to the Federal Rules of Evidence, Federal Criminal Practice Seminar (CLE) (June 2025)

Rules of Evidence in Delinquency Adjudication Trials, Iowa Juvenile Court Delinquency Education Day (CLE) (June 2025)

A Critical Analysis of Rap Shield Laws, C. Edwin Moore Inn of Court (CLE) (Nov. 2024)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Iowa, Des Moines, IA
Special Assistant United States Attorney 2022–2023

Sidley Austin LLP, Chicago, IL
Managing Associate, Litigation 2020–2022
Associate, Litigation 2017–2019
Summer Associate 2016

Awards: Federal Bar Association's Award for Excellence in Pro Bono Service; Sidley Diversity & Inclusion Scholarship

Service: Associate Diversity Council; Women of Color Initiative Leader; Sidley 1L Diversity Mentorship Program; University of Chicago Recruiting Team

United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, Chicago, IL
Judicial Clerk for the Honorable Edmond Chang 2019–2020
Judicial Intern 2015

Chicago Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights, Chicago, IL
Public Interest Law Initiative (PILI) Fellow 2017

MEDIA

[Episode 157: Alexa Perez, A Critical Analysis of Rap Shield Laws](#), *Excited Utterance Podcast*
(Oct. 14, 2024)
Quoted in [Using AI for Court? Iowa Lawyers Warn It Could Leave Secrets Exposed](#), *Des Moines Register* (Mar. 11, 2026)

PROFESSIONAL AND PUBLIC SERVICE

National Conference of Bar Examiners (NCBE), Evidence Drafting Committee, San Antonio, TX
Invited Guest October 2026

Iowa Board of Corrections, Des Moines, IA
Board Member 2023–Present

C. Edwin Moore Inn of Court, Des Moines, IA
Master; Faculty Liaison 2023–Present

Iowa State Bar Association, Des Moines, IA
Member 2026–Present
AI Taskforce Member 2026–Present

Polk County Bar Association, Des Moines, IA
Member 2024–Present

The American Bar Association’s Judicial Internship Opportunity Program (JIOP), Chicago, IL
Regional Leader 2020–2022
Alumni Mentor 2017–2021

The University of Chicago’s Latino Law Student Association, Chicago, IL
Alumni Mentor 2017–2021

Mujeres Latinas en Acción, Chicago, IL
Young Professionals Advisory Council 2020–2021

Chicago Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights, Chicago, IL
Election Protection Program Call Center Captain 2017–2020

BAR AND COURT ADMISSIONS

Illinois (2017); Iowa (2024)
U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Seventh and Eighth Circuits; U.S. District Courts for the Northern District of Illinois and the Southern District of Iowa

LANGUAGES

Spanish (native; fluent in reading, writing, and speaking)