

NIMISH R. GANATRA

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

JACKSON COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE, JACKSON, MI

Assistant Prosecuting Attorney (September 2010 – Present)

Circuit Court Trial Unit

- Handle felony trial docket, to date taking 18 cases to jury trial.
- Notable cases include *People v. Woodard* (Felony Murder dead-baby prosecution) and *People v. Mohead/Stevens* (Felony Murder cold case involving the execution of a drug dealer).
- Handled oral argument before Michigan Court of Appeals.
- Handle all manner of evidentiary, motion, and sentencing hearings, including research and writing of legal briefs.
- Train new attorneys on handling felony cases.

WORCESTER COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, WORCESTER, MA

Assistant District Attorney (June 2009 – August 2010)

Supervisor - Domestic Violence Unit

- Directly supervised four attorneys assigned to the DV Unit; assigned cases to attorneys and trained attorneys on trial preparation and advocacy.
- Prosecuted Attempted Murder felony assault cases in Superior Court.
- Presented felony assault cases to the Grand Jury.
- Handled misdemeanor DV jury trials in District Court.
- Oversaw the creation and implementation of policies and procedures for prosecution of DV cases.
- Managed the implementation of database use for tracking statistics in all DV cases.
- Met with community groups and law enforcement to coordinate response on DV issues.

WASHTENAW COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE, ANN ARBOR, MI

Assistant Prosecuting Attorney (January 2001 – May 2009)

Circuit Court Trial Unit (November 2005 – May 2009)

- Handled felony trial docket, taking cases to jury trial. Notable trials include *People v. Frye* (Second Degree Murder conviction), *People v. Franklin* (Manslaughter conviction), and *People v. Dixon* (Delivery of Heroin conviction).
- Handled all manner of evidentiary, motion, and sentencing hearings, including research and writing of legal briefs

Preliminary Exam Unit (July 2004-October 2005)

- Handled probable cause hearings on felony cases, binding over into circuit court all manner of felony offenses.

Domestic Violence Trial Unit (May 2001 – August 2002)

- Handled trial docket for all domestic violence cases on specialized district court docket, taking domestic assault cases to jury trial.

District Court Trial Unit (January - May 2001/August 2002 - June 2004)

- Handled misdemeanor trial docket, taking cases to jury trial including offenses of Stalking, Aggravated Assault, and OWI.

ACLU OF MICHIGAN, DETROIT, MI

Legal Intern (August 1999 – June 2000)

- Supervised archival research team assisting with brief on affirmative action litigation involving the University of Michigan (UM). The ACLU and NAACP/LDF were granted intervening status in the cases of *Grazt v. Bollinger* and *Grutter v. Bollinger*, which originated in the federal district court in Detroit and were eventually argued before the U.S. Supreme Court.
- The research conducted by the team was used in the briefs filed by the ACLU and NAACP/LDF attorneys in the UM cases.

CALHOUN COUNTY PROSECUTOR’S OFFICE, BATTLE CREEK, MI

Prosecuting Intern – PAAM Program (June 1999 – August 1999)

District Court Trial Unit

- Handled misdemeanor docket including jury trials, bench trials, motion hearings and pretrial conferences.

HONORABLE ANNA DIGGS TAYLOR, UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE, EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN, DETROIT, MI

Judicial Intern (May 1998 – August 1998)

- Researched and drafted opinions on habeas corpus petitions.
- Researched and wrote bench memos on pending civil and criminal cases.

EDUCATION

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL, DETROIT, MI

Juris Doctor, May 2000

- *The Journal of Law in Society*, Editor-in-Chief
- Moot Court

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, ANN ARBOR

Bachelor of Arts, Political Science, April 1997

PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN – ADMITTED NOVEMBER 2000

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS – ADMITTED MARCH 2009

SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS

The Cultural Dynamic in Domestic Violence: Understanding the Additional Burdens Battered Immigrant Women of Color Face in the United States, 2 J.L. SOC’Y 109 (2001).

AWARDS

. YWCA/DAYBREAK OF CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS

Great Guy Award (October 25, 2010) – Recognizing the work in leading the Worcester District Attorney’s Domestic Violence Unit and prosecuting domestic violence cases in the Worcester county courts.

ACTIVITIES

COORDINATED COMMUNITY RESPONSE NETWORK AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Board Member (June 2009 – August 2010)

District Attorney representative on multi-agency network dealing with Domestic Violence issues in the Greater Worcester, MA area.

15TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT SOBRIETY COURT PLANNING COMMITTEE, ANN ARBOR, MI

Member – Planning Committee (November 2002 – August 2004)

Prosecuting Attorney representative on planning committee responsible for creation of a specialized court docket which provides intensive probation supervision and treatment for repeat OWI offenders.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN LAW SCHOOL

Judge - Mock Trial (October 2006 – Present)

Serve as trial judge on criminal cases presented by 3L students in the Law School Clinical Law Program during the Fall and Winter semesters. Offer feedback to students on presenting and defending criminal cases at trial.

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL

Judge - Mock Trial (May 2005 – May 2008)

Served as mock trial judge on criminal cases presented by 3L students in the Law School Trial Advocacy class during the Winter semester. Offered feedback to students on presenting and defending criminal cases at trial.

Lecturer, Trial Advocacy Program (Fall 2006)

Lectured to law students in the trial advocacy program on presenting direct examination in a jury trial.

Advisory Board Member, The Journal of Law in Society (June 2002 – June 2005)

Served as a member of the alumni advisory board to this Law School scholarly journal.

Judge - Moot Court (April 2002 – April 2004)

Served as judge on appellate cases argued by 1L students in the Law School Legal Writing class taught during the Winter semester.

TRAINING

NATIONAL DISTRICT ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION

- Prosecuting Homicide Cases (November 2006)
- Trial Advocacy II (May 2007)

PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN

- Prosecuting DUI Homicide Cases (May 2006)
- Prosecuting Rape and Sexual Assault Cases (August 2004)
- Advanced Cross Examination (March 2004)
- Advanced OWI Prosecution (August 2003)
- OWI Prosecution (October 2002)

MASSACHUSETTS DISTRICT ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION

- Prosecuting Domestic Violence Cases (October 2009)