

Lafakeria S. Reuter

Rockford, IL 61104 · Lafav09@gmail.com

SUMMARY

Hardworking, reliable and highly organized attorney with 13+ years of legal experience in the public/government sector. Demonstrates mature judgment and leadership qualities while effectively supervising attorneys and administrative staff and advising various offices, departments, boards and committees.

EDUCATION & CREDENTIALS

University of Illinois Chicago School of Law (formerly The John Marshall Law School) Chicago, IL

Juris Doctor, June 2012

- *Achievements*: 2011–2012 Frederick Douglass Moot Court team; Octo-finalist in the 2011 Herzog Moot Court Competition

University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign Champaign, IL

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Communication, May 2009

Bar Admissions:

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit (August 2025); Arizona State Bar (January 2021)

U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois (April 2014); Illinois State Bar (November 2012)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Winnebago County State's Attorney's Office Rockford, IL

Chief of Civil Bureau, February 2021 – present

- Manage civil litigation matters and represent Winnebago County, its elected and appointed officials, department heads and employees in state and federal court and administrative proceedings
- Draft and review ordinances, resolutions, contracts/agreements for the County
- Negotiate collective bargaining agreements and process matters involving bargaining unit employees
- Consult and advise the Winnebago County Board, elected and appointed officials, department heads and employees on various legal matters such as employment law, labor matters, zoning, elections, and Freedom of Information Act
- Attend public meetings of the County Board to provide guidance on legal issues, Open Meetings Act and parliamentary procedure

City of Rockford, Department of Law Rockford, IL

Assistant City Attorney, March 2014 – February 2021

- Prosecuted city ordinance violations (property/neighborhood standards, zoning and impound) through administrative hearings and litigated civil matters in state court
- Initiated liquor and tobacco license disciplinary proceedings
- Conducted legal research and drafted pleadings, discovery and briefs for civil matters on behalf of the City
- Drafted and reviewed ordinances/resolutions, committee reports, development agreements, and contracts
- Consulted and advised the Rockford City Council Code & Regulation and Planning & Development committees, Zoning Board of Appeals, Liquor and Tobacco Advisory Board, and various City departments on legal matters

City of Chicago, Department of Law – Collections, Ownership and Administrative Litigation Division Chicago, IL

Attorney Law Clerk, November 2012 – February 2014 · *Law Clerk*, August 2012 – October 2012

- Prosecuted streets and sanitation or police related municipal code violation cases
- Interacted with client departments and City prosecutors regarding litigation strategies
- Conducted legal research and drafted complaints, memoranda/pleadings relating to collections and property ownership matters
- Lead attorney law clerk for all Department of Health referrals in preparation for prosecution
- Mentored, trained and conducted performance evaluations of new law clerk

Law Office of the Cook County Public Defender

Chicago, IL

711 Law Clerk, August 2011 – March 2012 [Juvenile Justice Division]

- Conducted arraignment hearings and assisted attorneys in the preparation and defense of clients
- Researched applicable case law and drafted motions to suppress

Law Clerk, June 2011 – August 2011 [Legal Resources Division]

- Assisted attorneys with post-conviction appeals by examining and analyzing past transcripts and records
- Performed legal research and drafted motions to withdraw as counsel

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE/CERTIFICATIONS

- **Regional Access & Mobilization Project (RAMP)**
Board Member, July 2021 – June 2025; Board President, June 2025 – present
- **George M. Pullman Educational Foundation**
Volunteer for Pullman Scholar Alumni Selection Committee, May 2013 – present
- **Winnebago County Bar Association**
Board of Directors, June 2021 – June 2024
- **17th Judicial Circuit Court- Lawyer to Lawyer Mentoring Program**
Mentor, January 2020 – December 2021
- **Rockford Chamber of Commerce Leadership Alliance**
Participant, 2018 – 2019
- **Rockford Chamber of Commerce Leadership Rockford**
Participant, September 2014 – May 2015
- **IL Local Government Lawyers Association**
Trained Administrative Hearing Officer, 2015
- **Center for Conflict Resolution-Chicago**
Certified Mediator, 2011