

DePaul University
Asylum & Immigration Clinic

Erin Cobb

Partner, Kreizelman Burton & Associates, LLC

*Clinic Participation:
2004-2005*

*Graduated:
2006*

Erin grew up in the Midwest, the daughter and granddaughter of immigrants. After completing her Bachelor's degree, she moved abroad to teach English as a Second Language. She returned to the U.S. and began law school with the sole intent of working with immigrants. Erin has now practiced immigration law exclusively for the last 15 years, representing immigrants at the local USCIS Office, all the way up to various Courts of Appeals across the nation.

What do you remember most about your time in the Clinic?

Long, long, long hours with my Clinic partner, Melissa Untereker, researching our client's case, researching the law, and writing and re-writing our brief.

What lessons from the clinic do you still use today or have used in your professional career?

The clinic taught me how to be a client-centered lawyer, and not a day goes by that I don't use the lessons I learned there: how to conduct client interviews, to draft affidavits in the client's voice, to communicate with the client as the case progresses, to take into account the client's culture and trauma, to take and keep thorough notes, and more.

How did your involvement with the clinic help you connect with other professionals in the field?

One of the partners at my firm knew Sioban molded great lawyers. He called her when they were looking for a new attorney and I was looking for a job at the same time. Voila! I am now partner at that same firm 15 years later. In addition, learning another attorney is an alum of the Clinic is an instant connection.

What would you tell current or future DePaul law students about the clinic?

If you want to be an immigration lawyer, or really, any kind of lawyer with a focus on individual clients, no class will prepare you for the practice of law as well as the Clinic.

Is there a message you would like to share with your fellow Clinic alums, faculty, or staff?

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Is there anything else you would like to share about your clinic experience?

Thank you, Sioban, for such great instruction and for your mentoring over the years!