

DePaul University  
*Asylum & Immigration Clinic*

# Alix Strunk

*Asylum and Immigration Law Clinic,  
Staff Attorney, 2019*

*Alix Strunk is an immigration attorney, living and practicing in Chicago. She has practiced in both private practice and nonprofits, including at Legal Aid Chicago and the DePaul Asylum and Immigration Law Clinic. Alix was named a Rising Star in Immigration by Super Lawyers Magazine four years in a row.*

*Her practice has focused on removal defense, family-based immigration and asylum. Alix graduated summa cum laude and Order of the Coif from DePaul University College of Law (2011). While in law school, she was a student in the Asylum and Immigration Law Clinic, where she worked on the case of a young man from Eritrea, who was detained as an unaccompanied minor, working with him to eventually win his case for asylum from the Asylum Office and terminate his removal proceedings. She worked with unaccompanied immigrant children and adult asylum seekers through the Clinic's Spring Break Border Project in Harlingen Texas as a student and later as a supervisory attorney. Alix was the Acquisitions Editor for DePaul's Journal for Social Justice, president of the Society for Asylum and Immigration Law, and an active member of the Center for Public Interest Law Committee. After graduating, Alix supervised the Clinic's U visa summer project with law and undergraduate students.*



*Clinic Participation:  
2009-2010  
Graduated:  
2011*

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

I learned how much work it takes to be a true advocate for your client: researching and preparing all possible forms of relief (we had so many alternate grounds of relief in our asylum brief) and taking the time to understand and work on the ancillary issues that have a huge impact on the client's life and case (battling with ICE to successfully prevent transfer of our client out of children's to adult's detention; listening and supporting our client navigate frustrations with his detention facility and later foster care).

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

Client-centered lawyering

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

The clinic and SAIL (mentored by the Clinic staff) provided opportunities to interact and network with Clinic alumni and other immigration practitioners in Chicago.

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

Clinical work is an essential part of your learning at law school. If you are interested in immigration/ asylum, definitely take either the semester or year long AILC clinics. But even if you have your sights set elsewhere, these clinics will help you become a better and more client-centered attorney regardless of your practice area.