

Johanna Kwasniewski

712 Bancroft Road, Suite 106, Walnut Creek, CA 94598
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Tel: 510-214-6414
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Employment

Law Offices of Johanna M. Kwasniewski Aug 2011 - Present

Walnut Creek, CA

Founding board member and current Secretary of Contra Costa Juvenile Advocates (CCJA).

Contract attorney providing representation to parents and children in dependency matters starting in March 2015 in Contra Costa County. Currently maintaining a caseload of 55 clients, approximately half of which are minors or non-minor dependents. Additionally providing representation to children in family law matters in Alameda County on a contract basis.

Mediator for more than 60 cases in civil harassment, small claims, and unlawful detainer matters in Contra Costa County. Volunteer discovery facilitator for Contra Costa County. Board member for ADR Section of Contra Costa Bar Association.

Prior to July 2015, practiced law in the areas of family, dependency, police misconduct, and landlord/tenant.

Law Offices of Caelo T. Marroquin Jan 2011 – Aug 2011

Associate - Oakland, CA

Law Offices of Jeremy D. Blank Aug 2009 - Sept 2010

Associate – San Francisco, CA

Wallraff & Associates Aug 2009 – Dec 2009

Post Graduate Law Clerk - Santa Cruz, CA

Office of the Public Defender, Contra Costa County June 2008 – Aug 2008

Law Clerk – Martinez, CA

California Appellate Project Sept 2007 – Dec 2007

Law Clerk – San Francisco, CA

La Raza Centro Legal June 2007 – Aug 2007

Summer Intern – San Francisco, CA

Education

Golden Gate University, Juris Doctorate, May 2009

Law and Leadership Program, Fellow, Fall 2008 – Spring 2009

Witkin Award for Constitutional Law, Fall 2008

Teaching Assistant, Torts, Fall 2008

University of California, Santa Cruz, Bachelor of Arts, Classical Studies with Honors, June 2006

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Training and Additional Community Experience

May 2023 - 20 Hour Arbitration Training, Bar Association of San Francisco, ADR Services
October 2021 - "Uh Huh", "I Know", and "IDC" - Interviewing Kids, MCLE, co-presenter
March 2020 - Mediation Skills 40 Hour Training, Steven Rosenberg
2010, 2013, 2017, 2018 - Annual Appellate Seminar, California Appellate Defense Counsel
2010, 2016, 2017, 2018 - Juvenile Dependency Practice Seminar, California Public Defenders Association
2012 - 2017 - Lawyers in the Library Volunteer, Alameda County Bar Association
2015 - Trial Advocacy for the Child Welfare Lawyer, Juvenile Law Society
2013 - Mediation Skills 40 Hour Training, Congress of Neutrals
2012 - Pro Bono Leadership Award, Bay Area Legal Aid, Alameda County

Publications

November 2022 "In re Caden C.: The Supreme Court Recognizes No Parent is Perfect" (co-authored with Amanda Sherwood) [Contra Costa Lawyer Magazine](#)
March 2019 "A Safe Place to Talk – New Law Requires Support Services for Transgender Youth in Foster Care" [Contra Costa Lawyer Magazine](#)
April 2016 "What you Need to Know about Expanded Dependent Parent Protections in Juvenile Proceedings" [Contra Costa Lawyer Magazine](#)

Bar Admission

December 31, 2009 California State Bar #268474

Other Certifications

November 2022: American Canoe Association Level 2 Stand up Paddle Instructor Certification
October 2021: American Canoe Association Level 1 Stand Up Paddle (SUP) and SUP Yoga Instructor Certification
May 2020: 200-Hour Yoga Teacher Training, Square One Yoga

Community Involvement

August 2023 - Present: Board Member, Alternative Dispute Resolution Section, Contra Costa Bar Association
June 2021 - Present: Membership Coordinator and Board Member, Ohana Paddle Club, Alameda, CA
March 2020 - Present: Volunteer Mediator for Congress of Neutrals, Contra Costa County Superior Court