**Samuel T. Brandao**

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Louisiana Bar Roll Number 34456

EXPERIENCE

Tulane Civil Rights and Federal Practice Clinic

*Director and Clinical Associate Professor of Law* (’24 – present)

*Clinical Assistant Professor of Law* (’21 – ’23)

*Clinic Instructor* (’16 – ‘21)

* The Clinic represents indigent people pursuing civil rights claims in federal court. We define civil rights broadly but focus on police and other official misconduct, prison conditions, fair housing, and employment discrimination cases.
* As one of two faculty supervisors, each year I help nine to twelve students perform over 250 hours each of billable work in client matters.
* Because our students are first chair in all matters, the faculty supervisors must support the student attorneys as they learn to engage in case planning and problem solving. We provide extensive preparation and feedback for every step in every case, typically reviewing 3-10 drafts of written work product and conducting multiple moots before oral advocacy opportunities.
* Clinic students have had the opportunity and responsibility to: draft pleadings and appellate briefs, interview clients and witnesses, propound and respond to written discovery, draft and argue motions including dispositive motions, conduct and defend over 30 depositions, negotiate settlements, secure parole for four elderly prisoners, present oral argument once to a state appellate court and on three occasions to a federal appellate court, draft and file two petitions for certiorari at the United States Supreme Court, and prepare for two imminent trials.
* The corequisite seminar covers pretrial litigation skills from the client interview through jury selection.

Selected cases:

* *Nanette Blanchard-Daigle v. Shane Geers, et al.* – No. 18-51022 (CA5). The Court appointed the Clinic to represent the estate of Lyle Blanchard, a 58-year-old unarmed Navy veteran shot to death in his driveway during a traffic stop. Student attorneys drafted the principal and reply briefs and presented oral argument. Student attorneys also drafted a petition seeking rehearing and another seeking certiorari.
* *Gregory Tucker v. Shreveport, et al.* – No. 21-569 (SCOTUS); No. 19-30247 (CA5); No. 17-1485 (WDLA). The Fifth Circuit appointed the Clinic to represent Mr. Tucker, an unarmed Black motorist whom four Shreveport police officers beat for over a minute during a traffic stop for a broken taillight. Student attorneys drafted the principal and reply briefs and presented oral argument. When the Fifth Circuit panel [ruled 2-1](https://www.ca5.uscourts.gov/opinions/pub/19/19-30247-CV0.pdf) against Mr. Tucker, Student attorneys also drafted a petition for rehearing and then one seeking certiorari. Although that petition was denied, Justice Sotomayor [wrote separately](https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/21pdf/21-569_2dq3.pdf) “to note that the Fifth Circuit’s reversal of the District Court’s detailed order denying qualified immunity appears highly questionable for the reasons set forth by Judge Higginson’s thorough dissenting opinion.” The Clinic represented Mr. Tucker on remand: student attorneys prepared for trial and negotiated a favorable settlement.
* *Jonathan Burkle v. Anthony Patrick, et al.* – No. 20-50221 (CA5); No. 18-141 (WDTX). The Fifth Circuit appointed the clinic to present Mr. Burkle, whom guards locked in a hot, cramped shower cell over a July weekend in Texas without food or water, and who had filed a Section 1983 suit pro se and then briefed his appeal to the Fifth Circuit after the trial court dismissed his claims in a summary judgment citing qualified immunity. Student attorneys filed a supplement principal brief, and I drafted a reply brief. The following year, two student attorneys presented oral argument.

Committee Service: *Clinical Hiring* (2024-2025)

*Assessments*, chair (2023-2024)

*Intellectual Life* (2022-2023)

*Academic Affairs* (2021-2022)

*Faculty Handbook Revisions* (2020-2021)

*Assessments* (2018-2020)

*Career Development* (2017-2018)

Student Service: Honor Board, Faculty Advisor (2017 – present)

University Service: Faculty Principal, College Scholars (2021 – present): lead a cohort of 10-12 second-year students in monthly discussions related to racial justice

Residential Faculty Mentor (2019-2021): one of three faculty leaders responsible for mentoring and intellectual engagement in a first-year dorm

Southeast Louisiana Legal Services *Skadden Fellow and Staff Attorney, Housing Unit*

2014-2016

* The Skadden Fellowship is a highly competitive public interest fellowship that provides funding for two years. The Fellow’s salary and benefits are fully funded by the Skadden Foundation, which also provides training and a valuable network of public interest lawyers. The host organization provides supervision, mentoring, and office space and technology.
* My project focused on housing discrimination cases brought on behalf of people with disabilities. I filed cases in state and federal courts involving direct discrimination and failure to make reasonable accommodations, including a successful application for a temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction that led to a permanent injunction against a parish housing authority. I successfully defended more than a dozen evictions in local courts.

United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit *Law Clerk*

Circuit Judge Jacques L. Wiener, Jr.

2013-2014

* As one of two elbow clerks, I drafted bench memos and opinions in consultation with the Circuit Judge. Notable matters include: a signed opinion remanding a matter for new trial and ordering reassignment of the trial judge; a close affirmance of a trial court’s assessment of dangerousness; and an application of the *Colorado River* abstention doctrine.

United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana *Law Clerk*

District Judge Eldon E. Fallon

2012-2013

* Judge Fallon had employed three law clerks for several years—one assigned to even cases, one to odd, and one to MDLs including the Chinese Drywall litigation. I took over for the odd clerk and for the MDL clerk.
* I attended all conferences, trials, and hearings, consulting with the judge before and after each. I prepared bench memos, draft opinions, and trial documents including bench books and jury charges and verdict forms.
* During my year, the Chinese Drywall MDL proceeded along two tracks because some defendants agreed to a settlement while others resisted service under the Hague convention.
* Other notable matters included several jury trials, including a multi-day civil trial involving contracts for construction of oil barges and a multi-day arson trial resulting in a conviction and life sentence.

Barrasso Usdin Kupperman Freeman & Sarver, L.L.C. *Summer Associate*

Fishman Haygood Phelps Walmsley Willis & Swanson, L.L.P.

Summer 2011

* Drafted research memos and motions in commercial and insurance matters.

United States Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District of Louisiana *Summer Intern*

Summer 2010

* Drafted opposition memos to § 2255 petitions and one appellate brief

Education

Tulane University Law School

Juris Doctor, *summa cum laude*, 2012

John Minor Wisdom Award

Order of the Coif

Student Attorney, Civil Litigation Clinic

* Presented oral argument before the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit in a case challenging Louisiana’s funding of public defenders by means of a reverse contingent fee—indigent defendants were required to pay a fee to their attorneys only if they were convicted or pleaded guilty. I presented our equal protection argument; my fellow student attorneys addressed *Younger* abstention and our rebuttal.
* Conducted initial client interviews and investigation in an employment discrimination case brought by a female sheriff’s deputy alleging harassment and a hostile work environment.

Environmental Law Certificate

Articles Editor, *Tulane Law Review*, Volume 86 (2011-2012)

Yale University

B.A. in English, 2003

Publications

*Supreme Court Preview* and

*Supreme Court Update*, Federal Bar Association Civil Rights Insider, Fall and Spring issues, Fall 2017 – present

Comment: *Louisiana’s* Mono Lake: *The Public Trust Doctrine and* *Oil Company Liability for Louisiana’s Vanishing Wetlands*, *Tulane Law Review*, Volume 86, Fall 2011

Selected Presentations

*Supreme Court Update*, Southern Poverty Law Center Annual Legal Retreat – New Orleans, LA, September 28, 2023

*Civil Rights Cases and Law School Clinics*, Henry P. Julien, II Law Scholars Program – New Orleans, LA, July 25, 2023 and July 23, 2024

*Beyond the Headlines: Key SCOTUS Civil Rights Decisions from the 2022-23 Term*, Federal Bar Association – virtual, July 12, 2023 and July 24, 2024

*Fair Housing Litigation in New Orleans*, New Orleans Bar Association – New Orleans, LA, April 25, 2023

*When Schools Call the Police on Kids with Disabilities*, Tulane Research, Innovation, and Creativity Summit – New Orleans, LA, March 2, 2023

*Civil Rights Cases and Law School Clinics*, Henry P. Julien, II Law Scholars Program – New Orleans, LA, July 27, 2022

*Beyond the Headlines: Key SCOTUS Civil Rights Decisions from the 2021-22 Term*, Federal Bar Association – virtual, July 13, 2022

*Section 1983: Qualified Immunity and Other Obstacles to Civil Rights Enforcement*, American Association of Law Schools Clinical Conference – virtual, May 10, 2022

*Works in Progress Group #7 Housing*, American Association of Law Schools Clinical Conference – virtual, May 12, 2022

Moderator, *Displacing Humans: Criminal Law Enforcement, Education, Digital Gaming, and Automation of the Legal Profession*, 2019 Gordon Gamm Comparative Law and Justice Symposium: The Implications of Artificial Intelligence for a Just Society – New Orleans, Louisiana, November 8, 2019

*Algorithm and Blues: Big Data, Artificial Intelligence, and the End of Civil Rights*, Junior/Senior Faculty Conference – New Orleans, Louisiana, November 1-2, 2019

*Engaging with the Media: Priorities & Pitfalls among Clinical Practice Fields*; and WIP discussant: *Unleashing Section 504’s Hidden Powers to Protect Students with Disabilities* by Claire Raj, University of South Carolina School of Law; Southern Clinical Conference – New Orleans, Louisiana, October 11-12, 2019

*Health, Disabilities, and Veterans Law*, *Clinical Law Review* Writers’ Workshop, New York University School of Law – New York, New York, September 21, 2019

*Artificial Intelligence: Implications for the Civil Rights of People with Disabilities*,New Scholars Workshop: Immigration and Civil Rights, Southeastern Association of Law Schools – Boca Raton, Florida, July 31, 2019

*Overspecialized and Underprepared*, American Association of Law Schools Clinical Conference – San Francisco, California, May 5, 2019

Award

Skadden Foundation Writing Stipend (2019)

Current Community Engagement

Board Member, Capoeira & Brazilian Cultural Arts Center, Inc.

Organist, Salem Church

Past Volunteer and Other Experience

America Reads Program, New Haven, CT: *Tutor* and *Supervisor* (1999-2001).

Town Green Special Services, New Haven, CT: *Project Manager* (2001-2002).

Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra, New Orleans: *Development Associate* (2003-2004). Academy of the Sacred Heart, New Orleans: *English Teacher* and *Theater Program Director* (2004-2007).

Alliance for Affordable Energy, New Orleans: *Volunteer*.

Court-Appointed Special Advocates, New Orleans: *Volunteer*.

Campaign to Elect Barack Obama, Kansas City: *Out-of-state Volunteer Coordinator*.

Start the Adventure in Reading (STAIR), New Orleans: *Volunteer* and *Site Manager*.