

## **SALVADOR J. LOPEZ**

### **PROFESSIONAL LEGAL EXPERIENCE**

#### **Robson & Lopez LLC, Chicago, IL**

*Principal Partner/Managing Attorney*, October 2012 – Present,

- Prosecuting state and federal lawsuits against banks and defending consumers from banks.
- Litigating jury trials, bench trials, and motion practice in complex financing cases.
- Representing homeowners in property tax appeals before the County and State.
- Writing and editing legal briefs and memorandum on complicated legal topics.
- Community Know Your Rights presentations on Consumer Law, Bankruptcy, and Property Tax.
- Admitted to practice in Illinois, Federal District Trial Court for the Northern District of Illinois, and Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Illinois.

#### **City of Chicago Dept. of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection, MLDC, Chicago, IL**

*Senior Hearings Commissioner (Independent Contractor)*, July 2018 – Present

- Judge in City discipline cases against liquor, tobacco, and other licensed businesses.
- Research on Chicago municipal code and state law to write legal opinions and recommendations.

#### **Legal Aid Chicago (f/k/a Legal Assistance Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago), Chicago, IL**

*Staff Attorney*, August 2009 – October 2012

- Represented low income clients, senior citizens, veterans, and persons with disabilities in housing, discrimination, bankruptcy, and consumer fraud cases in state and federal court.
- Supervised the Veterans Task Force, which provided legal representation and education to Vets.
- Provided trainings to community partners and legal aid organizations on various legal topics.

#### **Nash Disability Law, Chicago, IL**

*Hearings Attorney*, January 2009 – September 2009

- Represented persons with disabilities in hearings before the Social Security Administration.

#### **Office of the Cook County Public Defender, Cook County, Chicago, Illinois**

*711 Law Clerk*, August 2007 – December 2008

- Tried seven bench and two jury trials under Illinois Supreme Court Rule 711.
- Represented low income criminal defendants in misdemeanor and felony cases.
- Drafted and argued motions to suppress illegal evidence in felony and murder cases.

#### **Federal Defenders of San Diego, District Court, Southern District of California, San Diego, California**

*Legal Intern*, May 2008 – August 2008

- Researched and drafted briefs on Criminal, Immigration, Constitutional, and Sentencing law.
- Interviewed clients, client families, and witnesses in both Spanish and English.

#### **Access to Justice, Chicago-Kent College of Law, Chicago, Illinois**

*Editorial Board*, August 2007 – December 2008

- Wrote and translated user interface copy for use by pro se litigants on Illinois Legal Aid Online.

#### **Equip for Equality, Persons with Disabilities Advocacy Project, Chicago, Illinois**

*Legal Intern*, May 2007 – August 2007

- Represented children with disabilities in Education Plan Hearings under the IDEA and ADA.
- Advocated for parents of children with disabilities from historically disadvantaged communities.

### **PROFESSIONAL NON-LEGAL EXPERIENCE**

#### **United States Navy, Fighter/Attack Squadron 27**

*Avionics Tech/Petty Officer 2nd Class*, July 1999 – August 2003

- Associates degree equivalent in Electronics, Radar, and Weapons Systems.
- Deployments during Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.
- Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal for Distinguished and Meritorious Service.
- Recipient of G.I. Bill and Illinois Veterans' Grant, providing funding for college and law school.

#### **Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, Chicago, IL**

*Real Estate Administrative and Disciplinary Board*, Governor Appointed Board Member, 2012-2016

- Deliberated to approve, modify, or deny hearing officers' disciplinary recommendations.
- Led conferences with real estate licensees to attempt settlement of open complaints.

## **COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP & ADVOCACY**

**H.O.W. United**, Homeowners and Residents of the West Side – United Center

*Active Member*, December 2017 – Present

- Collaboration with neighbors on community events and neighborhood initiatives.
- Deliberate, discuss, and vote on whether to support or oppose projects affecting the community.
- Presented to and counseled neighbors on the Cook County property tax appeals process.

**SEIU Local 1 & Participating Employers Health & Pension Trust**, Legal and Training Fund

*Volunteer Presenter*, June 2025 – Present

- Giving presentations for union membership on bankruptcy and consumer law topics.

**CAPS Beat Meetings**, Chicago Police Department, 12<sup>th</sup> District, October 2012 - Present

- Regularly attend and participate in meetings as a concerned community member.

**Illinois DCFS Foster Care System**

*Licensed Foster Parent*, October 2020 – January 2025

- Provided foster care for five beautiful, amazing children.

**Chicago Volunteer Legal Services**, Chicago, IL

*Pro Bono Attorney*, October 2012 – Present

- Represent low income clients on pro bono basis.
- Collaborate in giving Know Your Rights presentations for community partners.
- Presentations for pro se litigants and new attorneys on Bankruptcy and Consumer Law basics.

**Legal Aid Chicago / Chicago Bar Foundation**, Chicago, IL

*Volunteer Attorney*, October 2012 – October 2024

- Regular volunteer at Federal Court House Pro Se Bankruptcy Advice Desk.
- Regular presenter at trainings for prospective new volunteer attorneys.
- Supervise new volunteer attorneys during initial training in volunteer and pro bono work.

**Illinois Legal Aid Online, Website Advisory Council**

*Council Member*, August 2011 – December 2019

- Deliberated and decided what legal content should be published to the public on ILAO website.

**Worker's Center for Racial Justice**, New Orleans, Louisiana

*Community Organizer*, March 2007 and January 2008

- Interviewed and educated day laborers and assisted in collaborative labor efforts.

**Chicago Internet Project**, Chicago, IL

*Intern*, 2004 – 2006

- Attended police CAPS beat meetings to interview community residents and administer surveys on the use of technology in community alternative policing strategies.

## **EDUCATION**

**Chicago-Kent College of Law**, Chicago, Illinois

*Juris Doctor*, December 2008; *Admitted to Illinois Bar* – May 2009

- *CALI Excellence for the Future Award* for Intensive Trial Advocacy
- Kent Justice Foundation, *Liaison*, 2007 – 2008
- Equal Justice America Fellow Award Recipient, *Summer 2007*

**University of Illinois at Chicago**, Chicago, Illinois

*Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice*, December 2006

- Magna Cum Laude with College Honors

## **AWARDS**

**Edward J. Lewis II Pro Bono Service Award**, Chicago Bar Foundation, 2017

**Pro Bono Volunteer of the Year**, Chicago Volunteer Legal Services, 2013

**Outstanding Pro Bono Service Award**, Chicago-Kent College of Law, 2012

**Navy and Marine Core Commendation Medal**, United States Navy, 2003

## **LANGUAGES**

Spanish

- *fluent / native* – spoken and written.