

Sean David Levinson

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Levinson Law Firm PLLC

Austin, TX

January 2015-present

Practice Overview

Statewide boutique practice focused on representation of individuals before the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles. Represents clients who are both eligible for release under Parole or Mandatory Supervision and those who are accused of violating terms of release. Conducts pre-incarceration counseling for clients and their families.

Responsibilities

- Conducts interviews with client at their jail or prison assignment.
- Interviews family, friends, employers, and other interested parties regarding client's case.
- Coordinates with trial counsel assorted parole considerations in advance of trial/plea.
- Drafts biographical briefs for submission to the Parole Board.
- Appears and presents cases before the Parole Board.
- Collaborates with expert witnesses in drafting of client psychological and risk evaluations

Law Office of the Cook County Public Defender

Chicago, IL

July 2003-December 2014

Practice Overview

Responsible for cases from arraignment through trial and post-trial motions. Leader of litigation team responsible for formulating trial strategy, determining appropriate pre-trial motions and areas of investigation. Experience in all phases of misdemeanor and felony trials.

Knight, Hoppe, Kurnik, & Knight

Des Plaines, IL

November 2002-June 2003

Practice Overview

General litigation practice with experience in premises liability defense for large insurance carriers. Responsible for attending court conferences, participating in depositions, and drafting motions.

Responsibilities

- Preparing for trials, including drafting briefs, arguing motions, interviewing expert witnesses.
- Researching and drafting motions, including dispositive motions such as motions to dismiss, motions to suppress evidence, and motions for directed verdict.
- Analyzing adverse expert reports and opinions and formulating responses.
- Analyzing strength/weakness of cases, developing defensive theories, and implementing strategies of defense.
- Working closely with litigation team to formulate defenses and trial strategy.
- Training new attorneys and law clerks.
- Negotiating successful resolution of cases in settlement conferences.
- Working closely with clients regarding case status, trial techniques and strategies, and potential defenses.

Selected Accomplishments

- Successfully represented 100's of clients in parole review and revocation hearings.
- Tried 100's of cases in jury & bench trials, and over 500 substantive pre-trial motions.
- Conducted direct and cross-examination of over 50 expert witnesses.

BAR ADMISSIONS:

Texas, New York, & Illinois
Western District, Texas
Northern District, Illinois
Northern District, Indiana

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS:

Comal County Criminal Defense Lawyers Association

Parole Revocation Hearings: There's No Glamour in Going Back to the Slammer March 2020
Everything You've Ever Wanted to Know About Parole* (But Were Afraid to Ask) February 2020

Del Rio Association of Federal Attorneys

I Got 99 Problems but Parole Ain't One February 2020

Navarro County Bar Association

ABC's and 123's of Parole Law January 2020

Austin Criminal Defense Lawyers Association

Parole Revocation Hearings: Education to Avoid Revocation November 2019

Panhandle Criminal Defense Lawyers Association

Parole Revocation Hearings. Back in the Slammer: The Parole Revocation Hammer May 2019
Prison, Parole & the Panhandle April 2019

Williamson County Bar Association

Pardon Me – Let's Talk Parole. March 2019

Williamson County Criminal Defense Lawyers Association

What Criminal Defense Attorneys Need to Know About Parole Revocation Hearings April 2018
Parole Issues in Texas August 2017

Austin Criminal Defense Lawyers Association

What Criminal Defense Attorneys Need to Know About Parole January 2018

Corpus Christi Bar Association

Revocation Hearing Basics October 2017
Parole Issues in Texas September 2017

Illinois Institute of Continuing Legal Education

Coached small group workshop on Direct/Cross Examination and Opening/Closing Arguments, <i>Surviving Your First Jury Trial</i>	May 2012
Served as a juror in mock criminal trial, <i>DUI Advocacy Academy</i>	March 2012
Criminal Defense Pre-Trial Motions, <i>Defending Criminal Cases Seminar</i>	October 2011
Strategies and Defenses in Actual Physical Control cases, <i>Actual Physical Control Issues (APC) in DWI/DUI cases</i> (video recording)	December 2010
Creative Uses for Discovery Subpoenas & Pretrial Motions to Suppress, <i>5 Key Aspects to Defending a Narcotics Charge Seminar</i>	April 2010
Served as moderator, <i>Successful Defense of DUI/DWI and Summary Suspension Cases</i>	July 2006

Illinois Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers

Strategies and Defenses in APC Cases, <i>Winning: Blows, Stops & Whistles Traffic Law Seminar</i>	May 2011
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Cook County Public Defender Nutshell Training Programs

Criminal Defense Pre-Trial Motions	September 2012
Narcotics Caselaw Updates	September 2011
Using 911 and Law Enforcement Automated Data Systems (LEADS) in DWI/DUI trials	September 2010
Using 911 and Law Enforcement Automated Data Systems (LEADS) in DWI/DUI trials	September 2009
Issues in Defending DUI/DWI cases	March 2008

SPECIAL SKILLS:

Con conversationally fluent in Spanish.

LEADERSHIP POSITIONS:

Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association

Member-Board of Directors	2020-present
Member-Parole & Corrections Subcommittee	2019-present

EDUCATION:

Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law/Yeshiva University New York, NY 2002
LL.M.

Northern Illinois University DeKalb, IL 2001
J.D.

- Graduate Research Assistant for College of Law Professor Jeffrey Brown
- Graduate Research Assistant for College of Business-Finance Department

Arizona State University Tempe, AZ 1998

B.S. Business Management

B.A. Broadcasting-Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Telecommunication

- Alpha Lambda Delta-Freshman National Honor Society
- Alpha Epsilon Pi Fraternity