

Maleaha L. Brown

1303 San Jacinto St., Houston, Texas 77002

mbrown@stcl.edu | (713) 646-2968

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE:

South Texas College of Law Houston, Houston, TX

Assistant Professor of Law, August 2026 – present

Courses: Family Law; Professional Responsibility

Service: Faculty Scholarship Committee (2026 – present); Presumptively Renewable Contract Committee (2026 – present); Grades and Calendar Committee (2026 – present)

University of Houston Law Center, Houston, TX

Clinical Associate Professor, August 2024 – August 2026

Courses: Family Law; Lawyering Skills and Strategies I and II; Legal Methods

Service: Admissions Committee (2025 – 2026); Student Affairs Committee (2025 – 2026); Outcomes, Assessments, Strategies, and Planning Committee (2024 – 2026); Opportunity and Community Committee (2024 – 2025)

Southwestern Law School, Los Angeles, CA

Adjunct Professor of Law, August 2025 - present

Courses: Family Law (asynchronous online)

Associate Professor of Legal Analysis, Writing, and Skills, June 2021 – July 2024

Courses: Family Law; Legal Analysis, Writing, and Skills I and II

Service: Family and Dependency Law Society, Faculty Advisor (2022 – 2024); Black Law Students' Association, Faculty Advisor (2021 - 2024); Title IX Committee (2022 – 2024); Honor Code Committee (2021 – 2024); Strategic Planning Taskforce (2022 – 2023); Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Taskforce (2021 – 2023); Admissions Committee (2021 – 2022)

EDUCATION:

Howard University School of Law, Washington, D.C.

J.D. and Family Law Certificate, May 2016

Journal: Senior Editor, *Howard Human and Civil Rights Law Review*

Baylor University, Waco, TX

B.A. in Sociology, May 2013

Minors: Child and Family Studies; Spanish

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PUBLICATIONS:

Articles

Access Denied: Examining the Family Legal System's Response to Coercive Control (work in progress)

The Unfair Choice: A Call for Reasonable Accommodations for Pregnant Workers, 1 HOW. HUM. & CIV. RTS. L. REV. 133–55 (2016-2017).

- Pauline Murray Prize for the Best Student Note, HOWARD HUMAN AND CIVIL RIGHTS LAW REVIEW (2016)

When Pros Become Cons: Ending the NFL's History of Domestic Violence Leniency, 50 FAM. L.Q. 193–212 (Spring 2016).

- Howard Schwab Essay Contest, Third Place, American Bar Association - Section of Family Law (2015)

Shorter Pieces

Identifying and Remediating Non-Assaultive Domestic Violence in Family Law Cases, 47 FAM. ADVOC. 10 (Fall 2024), https://www.americanbar.org/groups/family_law/resources/family-advocate/2024-fall/identifying-remediating-non-assaultive-domestic-violence-cases.

The Many Looks of Physical Custody: A Parenting Plan for Every Situation, FAM. ADVOC. (May 10, 2021), https://www.americanbar.org/groups/family_law/publications/family-advocate/2021/spring/the-many-looks-physical-custody-parenting-plan-every-situation/.

De-Weaponizing the Courts: Attorney's Fees may Help Deter Litigation Abuse against Domestic Violence Survivors (October 29, 2019), https://www.americanbar.org/groups/family_law/committees/domestic-violence/litigation-abuse/.

PRESENTATIONS:

Building the Pipeline: Leadership, Legacy, and Access to the Profession, June 11, 2026 (State Bar of Texas, Annual Meeting)

Coercive Control: Navigating Cases of Non-Physical Abuse in Family Court, March 25, 2026 (American Bar Association)

Protecting People and Pets from Domestic Violence, October 22, 2025 (American Bar Association and American Veterinary Medical Association)

Coercive Control: Addressing Non-Assaultive Abuse in Family Law Matters, August 19, 2025 (State Bar of New Mexico – Third Judicial District, Lunch and Learn CLE)

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Coercive Control: Identifying and Addressing Non-Assaultive Abuse in Family Law Matters, May 14, 2025 (Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia, Spring Family Court Judicial Education Conference)

Coercive Control: Litigating Non-Physical Abuse and Child Custody, Sept. 27, 2024 (American Bar Association – Section of Family Law, Fall CLE Conference)

Persuasive Legal Writing Skills for Effective Gender-Based Violence Advocacy, May 23, 2024 (American Bar Association – Commission on Domestic and Sexual Violence, Legal Writing Skills Series)

Effective Legal Writing Skills for Gender-Based Violence Advocacy, April 25, 2024 (American Bar Association – Commission on Domestic and Sexual Violence, Legal Writing Skills Series)

Litigating Coercive Control: Using Non-Physical Abuse to Explain a Pattern of Power and Control, Nov. 3, 2022 (Oklahoma Bar Association – Family Law Section, Annual Meeting)

Recent Developments in Domestic Violence Law: Using Non-Physical Abuse to Explain a Pattern of Power and Control, Oct. 14, 2022 (American Bar Association – Section of Family Law, Fall 2022 CLE Conference)

Moderator, Litigating Custody on a Shoestring Budget: Winning Custody without Losing an Arm and a Leg, Sept. 26, 2019 (American Bar Association – Section of Family Law, Fall CLE Conference)

Protecting Survivors' Privacy and Confidentiality, June 20, 2018 (Legal Alliance for Survivors of Abuse, Annual Conference)

Protecting Survivors' Privacy and Confidentiality, June 16, 2017 (Legal Alliance for Survivors of Abuse, Annual Conference)

MEDIA APPEARANCES:

Quoted in *A Wisconsin Man Strangled His Wife to Death Because She 'Rambled' at Him*, A&E Crime + Investigation, February 10, 2026, <https://www.aetv.com/articles/gordon-laakso-murdered-wife-mary-laakso-rambled>.

Guest Host of ABA Civil Rights and Social Justice Section's Chair Chat on Coerced Debt and Economic Abuse, October 9, 2025, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W1cxm2l8Hgl>.

Quoted in *Protect Domestic Violence Survivors by Protecting Their Pets*, ABA House Says, ABA Journal, February 3, 2025, <https://www.abajournal.com/web/article/2025ABAMidyear-504-pets-domestic-violence>.

Quoted in *'Paper Abuse:' How Family Courts Feed Coercive Control*, Law360, July 21, 2023, <https://www.law360.com/access-to-justice/articles/1702029/-paper-abuse-how-family-courts-feed-coercive-control>.

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Guest Speaker of Topping the Curve Podcast, September 8, 2022,
<https://open.spotify.com/episode/0BxvnU7NosHAZUNAz5EdjK>.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws
ABA Advisor, Family Law Mediation Study Committee (February 2026 – present)

State Bar of Texas
Advisory Member, Professionalism and Civility Committee (June 2026 – present)
Member, LeadershipSBOT (2025 – 2026)

American Inns of Court
Academic Master, Burta Rhoads Raborn Family Law Chapter (2025 – 2026)
Academic Master, Southwestern Law School Chapter (2023 – 2024)

American Bar Association, Commission on Domestic and Sexual Violence
Chair (2024 – present)
Commissioner (2023 – present)

American Bar Association, Section of Family Law
Council (August 2026 – present)
Editorial Board Member, FAMILY LAW QUARTERLY (2023 – present)
Member, Continuing Legal Education Committee (2021 – 2023)
Chair, Domestic Violence Committee (2020 – 2021)
Vice-Chair, Program Support Fund (2019 – 2022)
Fellow, Diversity Committee (2018 – 2020)

First District Appellate Project
Board Member (2022 – 2026)

Ms. JD, Board of Directors
Immediate Past Chair (2022 – 2023)
Chair (2020 – 2021)
Member (2017 – 2021)

HONORS AND AWARDS:

Limitless List Honor, Ms. JD (2024)

Excellence in Service Award, American Bar Association - Section of Family Law (2021)

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PRACTICE EXPERIENCE:

Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA

Staff Attorney, May 2019 – April 2021

Managed a caseload of family law and immigration matters in Los Angeles county. Provided high quality, trauma-informed counsel to low-income survivors of domestic violence. Trained and supervised law student interns in family law and immigration case work. Provided quarterly training to shelter volunteers on civil legal remedies for survivors. Built and maintained relationships with local law enforcement agencies, legal services organizations, and social service providers.

Texas RioGrande Legal Aid, Inc., Corpus Christi, TX

Staff Attorney, August 2016 – April 2019

Represented low-income survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault in family law and other civil litigation matters throughout eleven South Texas counties. Cultivated strong client relationships, developed case strategy, drafted pleadings, conducted discovery and trial preparation, and advocated in hearings, negotiations, and mediations. Collaborated on a multidisciplinary team of social workers, counselors, and community partners. Trained shelter management and staff on civil legal issues related to survivors.

Howard University School of Law, Child Welfare and Family Justice Clinic, Washington, D.C.

Student Attorney, August 2015 – April 2016

Managed cases in the child abuse and neglect system in the Family Court Division of the District of Columbia Superior Court. Served as first chair in an adoption trial. Drafted pleadings, discovery, and post-adoption contact agreements.

BAR ADMISSION:

State Bar of Texas, Bar No. 24100995

Updated August 2026