

Laura Hernandez, J.D.

Professor of Law / Chair, Baylor Law School's Diversity Committee at Baylor University

Waco, TX, US

Expert litigator, focusing on immigration law, insurance law, Civil Rights Actions, and separation of Church and State

Biography

Laura A. Hernández joined the faculty of Baylor Law School in 2008 following 11 years as a litigator. She teaches Immigration Law, Insurance Law, Civil Rights Actions, Poverty Law and Separation of Church and State. Prior to Baylor Law School, Professor Hernández practiced law at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, L.L.P. in Los Angeles, Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer, & Feld, L.L.P., in San Antonio, and Bickel & Brewer, L.L.P. in Dallas. Her clients included publicly held Fortune 100 companies involved in the oil and gas, entertainment and insurance industries. Professor Hernández attended Stanford University, where she graduated with a B.A. in Economics and a B.A. in Communications. She attended law school at Southern Methodist University. Among many other honors at SMU, she was named the Sarah T. Hughes Law Scholar for the Class of 1996, a full scholarship awarded by the Dallas Bar Foundation. Professor Hernández's legal scholarship to date has focused on issues facing recent immigrants to the United States. She has written for numerous publications, including the Cornell Journal of Law and Policy, the Stanford Journal of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, Te Duke Forum for Law and Social Change, the Texas Hispanic Journal of Law and Policy, and the Southern California Review of Law and Social Justice. Professor Hernández has also contributed to newspaper publications such as the National Law Journal and the Waco Tribune-Herald. Most recently, she contributed a chapter to the book *Controversies in Equal Protection Cases in America*, joining other notable constitutional scholars like Erwin Chemerinsky, Francisco Valdes, and Ian Haney López. Professor Hernández enjoys coaching a number of Baylor Law moot court teams. Since 2012, her teams have won three national championships, six best brief awards, and five speaker awards. Professor Hernández is also the founder of the Baylor Law Immigration Clinic. To date, students volunteering at the clinic have assisted approximately 300 Waco area residents with their immigration needs.

Industry Expertise

Legal Services, Education/Learning, Research, International Affairs, Writing and Editing

Areas of Expertise

Immigration Law, Insurance Law, Civil Rights Actions, Separation of Church and State, DACA, Baylor Law Immigration Clinic

Education

Southern Methodist University School of Law

J.D. Sarah T. Hughes Law Scholar

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