

Rebecca Simkins Nowak (P54787)

Career History

University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, Detroit, Michigan, 2016-present. Current role: Professor of Practice & Assistant Dean Experiential Education, Dialogue Fellow

Manage compliance and operations of thirteen law clinics and externship program and provide training related to same; coordinate opportunities and train first year law students for community outreach mini legal clinics; research, writing, and management of various grants; serve on law school curriculum committee, and several other university committees. Manage volunteer and for-credit travel clinics for under-served communities, including native American tribes, including handling expungement hearings. Supervisor of clinic administrative staff and work study students. Manage various special projects.

Madonna University, Livonia, Michigan, Adjunct Faculty, Paralegal Program, courses include Law Office Management and Law Office Technology. 2019-present.

Just Us, LLC, Grosse Pointe, Michigan, 3 years, Human Resource Consultant/Program Representative, HR investigations for a large Automotive company.

Quicken Loans, Inc. Detroit, Michigan, 3.5 years, Senior Labor and Employment counsel to Quicken Loans, Inc. and family of companies. Duties included internal investigations, managing litigation, responding to state and federal discrimination and administrative charges and inquiries, along with risk analysis, business guidance and best practice training and advice to company leaders and human resource teams. Designed and conducted leader and the law training throughout family of companies to more than 800 managers located in six states.

Michigan State College of Law (previously Detroit College of Law), East Lansing, and Detroit campuses. Adjunct Faculty, 12 years. Designed and taught Law Practice Management,

Cooley Law School, Auburn Hills, and Lansing campuses. Adjunct Faculty, 3 years, Designed and taught Law Practice Management.

Barris, Sott, Denn & Driker, PLLC, Detroit, Michigan. 8 years. Labor, employment and commercial litigator before state and federal courts and agencies handling discrimination, wage and hour and other employment related claims. Drafted and reviewed employment and commercial contracts. Designed and conducted legal training for Tech Town businesses.

Van Sulichem & Associates, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, 3 years, Labor and employment associate.

Simkins & Simkins, Northville, Michigan, 6 years, Executive Director and managing attorney at plaintiff's personal injury traumatic brain injury firm.

Hale and Dorr, Boston, Massachusetts, 3 years, Director of Paralegal Services

Ropes & Gray, Boston, Massachusetts, 4 years, Litigation Manager supervising 70+ paralegals

Boston University Paralegal Program, Adjunct Faculty, 2 years. Taught "Introduction to Law" to students seeking a B.A. in paralegal studies.

Selected Professional Activities and Awards

Chair, Law Practice Management & Legal Administrators Section, State Bar of Michigan, 2008, 2015-2016, 2024-present

2025 University of Detroit Mercy *Agere Ex Missione* Award

2021 University of Detroit Mercy Commitment to Excellence Award

2012 Michigan Lawyers' Weekly Leader and the Law Award

2009-2016, Board Member, Matric Theatre, Detroit, Michigan

2011-2012, Representative, State Bar of Michigan Representative Assembly

2011-2013, Member, State Bar of Michigan Leadership Liaison Advisory Committee

2006-2011, Appointee, State Bar of Michigan, Character & Fitness Committee

2006, Volunteer Attorney of the Year, Community Legal Resources

2005, Volunteer Attorney of the Quarter, Community Legal Resources

Selected Speaking Engagements & Selected Articles

2026 (upcoming) Invited Speaker, National Armenian Pre-Law Conference, Armenian Bar Association, "Introduction to Law School."

2025, Speaker, New England Clinical Conference, "The Travel Clinic: Taking it on the Road."

2023, 2024, 2025 - Speaker, Opioid Summit, Mount Pleasant, Michigan, Topic: Adult Expungements presented to medical and addiction professionals.

2015, Michigan Community Resources/Community Legal Resources, "Employment Law Manual for Non-Profits."

2014, Speaker, National Business Institute, "Discrimination and Harassment, "Employee Discipline and Termination" and "Workplace Behavior and Privacy Issues."

2014, Michigan Lawyers Weekly, "Private practice to in-house: what the transition looks like."

2013, Co-panelist with Gail Cobur, former director of Detroit Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Michigan Society of Human Resource Management, How to Investigate and Respond to a Civil Rights Charge."

2009, Michigan Bar Journal, "Time Invested Up Front in the Hiring Process Will Save Time Later."

2006, 2007, 2008 - Speaker, Breakfast with the Bar, How to Hire Support Staff

2006 Speaker, Institute of Continuing Education, 3rd Annual Solo & Small Firm Institute, "Substantive Law and Law Practice Management: Top 10 Mistakes Employers Make - Even Lawyers and Law Firms.