

SARAH MOURER

Sarah A. Mourer, Assistant Professor of Clinical Legal Education, received her B.S. from the University of Florida with honors and her J.D. cum laude from the University of Miami. Upon graduation, she practiced criminal defense as a trial attorney for eleven years with the Dade County Public Defender's Office. She tried over 75 trials as lead counsel including capital sexual battery, sanity, juvenile, and all levels of homicide. She founded and directs the University of Miami Innocence Project which was accepted as part of the National Innocence Network. It is the only law school innocence project in Florida to be accepted as part of the national network. Professor Mourer also founded and directs the Miami Capital Defense Project where students along with Professor Mourer and community capital attorneys litigate death penalty cases. The Capital Defense Project works in collaboration with the Florida Capital Resource Center to assist capital defense attorneys provide effective and ethical representation to those facing the death penalty. Recently, the Capital Defense Project gained recognition after two students along with Terence Lenamon (Director of Florida Capital Resource Center), David Markus, and Professor Mourer as co-counsel obtained a life sentence jury recommendation for Grady Nelson after a 6 week sentencing hearing. The case was highly publicized in part due to the violent nature of the crime. She teaches in the University of Miami Clinical Placement Program and the University of Miami Externship Program, and teaches Substantive Criminal Law. She is an instructor and lecturer for the National Institute of Trial Advocacy, and coaches the University of Miami's School of Law Mock Trial Team. Professor Mourer is a frequent speaker on topics ranging from trial advocacy and clinical teaching, to the Fourth Amendment and wrongful convictions. Professor Mourer recently published articles ranging from suggestive eyewitness identification, federal habeas corpus to battered mothers and family law. Recently, Professor Mourer was the Interim Director of the nationally acclaimed University of Miami School of Law Litigation Skills Program for one year.