

# WELCOME OUR 2023 DIVERSITY LEGAL WRITING INTERNS

on 02/22/2023



We officially welcome our 2023 Diversity Legal Writing Interns who have joined us in our Denver, Las Vegas, Phoenix, and Tucson offices.

## PHOENIX OFFICE

Kathryn Walker

Law School: Arizona State University, Sandra Day O'Connor School of Law

Undergraduate: The University of Central Oklahoma, B.A. Applied

Liberal Arts, History Minor

Lewis Roca Phoenix Legal Phoenix, Arizona but spent Planning, Inc., selling and her company, she began appointed volunteers to neglect. This Volunteer gave her limited authority, within advocacy work, specifically within the juvenile justice system, but she isn't limiting herself to one practice. Walker said, "I think I'll know *when I know* what practice I'm meant to be in."



Writing Intern, Kathryn Walker. She was born and raised in some time in Oklahoma running her company, Health Benefits serving employee benefits. After losing the joy she once had in volunteering for CASA; a program that mobilizes court-provide advocacy for children who have experienced abuse or work inspired her to go to law school, her volunteering position and she wanted to do more for the youth in need. Her passion is

Outside of Law School, Kathryn is a certified yoga instructor with 24 years of experience teaching yoga, meditation, breathwork, and more.

## LAS VEGAS OFFICE

Monique Rodriguez

Law School: Boyd School of Law – University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Undergraduate: University of Oklahoma, B.A. in History with a Social Studies Education Minor, B.A. in Anthropology



Boyd School of Law Professional Development Intern, Monique Rodriguez. Monique is a Las Vegas native who attended the University of Oklahoma for a dual degree in History with a Social Studies Education minor and Anthropology. After graduating, she started working for non-profits & youth advocate programs. These programs introduced her to the workings of the court and inspired her to go to law school, for she wanted to become a better advocate for the kids. Monique chose Lewis Roca because of how welcoming everyone was. She stated, “Lewis Roca made me feel the most welcome out of all of the

Law Firms I visited”. She also loved that Lewis Roca does a great amount of pro bono work. Monique said, “no matter what area of law I go into, I know I want to be heavily involved in Pro Bono work.” This DE&I Internship is important to her because “it’s important to for everyone to see people who look like them in positions of power.”

When Monique isn’t studying, she loves playing board games, watching horror movies, and attending anime conventions.

### *DENVER OFFICE*

Melissa McElroy

Law School: University of Colorado

Undergraduate: East Tennessee State University, B.A., Political Science

Lewis Roca Michael D. Nosler Scholarship Intern, Melissa McElroy. Tennessee and received her undergraduate degree from East Tennessee Political Science. She taught English in Germany as part of a Fulbright year before moving to Chicago to work in non-profits. After her work in while, Melissa moved to Colorado to attend Law school. The University office introduced her to this internship at Lewis Roca. She stated, great reputation, and that’s what drove me to apply”. This DE&I especially important to Melissa because she is an LGBTQ+ Woman in the legal field. She stated, “My generation is certainly one of the first generations of female attorneys and LGBTQ+ attorneys that can be out.” She is interested in many practices and looks forward to receiving everyone’s projects at the firm.



Melissa is from State University in program for one non-profits for a of Colorado’s career “Lewis Roca has a Internship is

For fun, Melissa enjoys cooking, baking, and ice skating.

### *TUCSON OFFICE*

## Sinnai Avila

Law School: University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law

Undergraduate: University of California, San Diego

Lewis Roca Tucson AMBA Diversity Writing Intern, Angeles, California, and currently resides in Tucson, was exposed to many environmental injustices, environmental law and instilled her passion for rights. Her father, a member of the Maya Q'anjob'al striving for change while facing many dangers, Sinnai stated, "everything I do is not just for myself, Lewis Roca because it provides the opportunity for her to elevate her writing skills while being a part of a firm that is making a difference. Sinnai said that "a law firm that has a program highlighting diversity is one that aligns with my interests and background" and "with a team of diverse lawyers focused on Indigenous People's rights and environmental issues, Lewis Roca provides the resources and knowledge to assist me in accomplishing my goals as an advocate for my community."



Sinnai Avila. Sinnai is from Los Arizona. Growing up in California, she which spearheaded her interest in advocating for Indigenous Peoples' Nation in Guatemala and an activist inspired her to pursue her law degree. but for future generations." She chose

Outside of activism and practicing law, Sinnai loves to whale-watch, go on hikes, and spend time with her partner and Shiba Inu puppy.

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It takes talent, tenacity, and a thirst for knowledge to become an exceptional lawyer. Lewis Roca can help you develop all three of these traits. As a summer associate or legal intern, you'll benefit from a wide range of mentoring, networking, and learning opportunities that will lay the groundwork for a successful career.