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Securities Arbitration Clinic Featured on Channel 7, Eyewitness News

On December 3, 2008, the Securities Arbitration Clinic was featured on Channel 7, Eyewitness News, in a story highlighting the Clinic’s work with the greater New York City community. Professor Howard S. Meyers and Clinic students Robert Zecher (3L) and Magdalena Kadziolka (3L) were interviewed. Last semester, the Clinic fielded numerous inquiries concerning alleged stockbroker misconduct. The Clinic has offered legal representation to several aggrieved investors and is in the process of drafting complaints to be filed with the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA).

Students of the Safe Passage Project Make a Difference through Volunteerism

On Friday, February 13, 2009, Safe Passage volunteers Zarina Syed (3L), Luz Restrepo (2L), and Jennifer Anzardo (2L) joined Adjunct Professor Lindsay Curcio and presented a special immigrant juvenile status training to attorneys at the law firm of Kaye Scholer LLP.

In January and February, Safe Passage volunteers Edit Shkreli (1L), Samuel Newbold (1L), Rosanna Vinas (1L), Matthew Pizzo (1L), Paul Perez (3L), Seng Yan Sin (1L), and Yevgeniya Gorbacheva (1L) helped attorneys perform intake interviews at immigration clinics sponsored by the Association of the Bar of the City of New York and Justice for Our Neighbors.

Interested in Enrolling for a Fall ’09/Spring ’10 Clinic, Externship, or Workshop?

ALE: Application period for Limited Enrollment courses

If you are interested in applying for a clinic, externship, or workshop (for fall ’09/spring ’10), look for applications on the Portal, which will be available starting March 10. Also, please be sure to attend our Lawyering Skills Center Open House on March 10 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the Wellington Conference Center (C Building, 5th Floor). Refreshments will be served.

To find out more about clinics/externships please contact the Lawyering Skills Center at 212.431.2179.
Urban Law Clinic Students Successfully Negotiate Settlements for Impaired Students

Urban Law Clinic students Katherine Greenier (2L) and Joanna Reihing (3L) successfully negotiated a resolution agreement with the New York City Department of Education (DOE) securing compensatory services and exploration of new physical therapy techniques for their client, David. David, a 7-year-old boy diagnosed with autism began receiving home-based Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) therapy while attending preschool. Home ABA therapy services are critical for David’s educational progress—they help him transfer skills he learns at school to his home environment and enable him to meet his educational goals at school. When David entered kindergarten, the DOE resisted continuing ABA home therapy on his Individualized Education Program (IEP).

David’s mother requested a hearing to challenge the refusal, and secured ABA home services for the 2006–07 school year. She was again met with resistance when requesting home ABA therapy for the 2007–08 school year, but persuaded the DOE to provide the service for David during negotiation. David’s mother, however, did not receive authorization for payment of a home ABA provider until three months after the resolution session, meaning David missed many crucial hours of ABA therapy. Additionally, she requested in a 2006 IEP meeting that David’s physical therapist focus on developing his gross motor skills. However, currently these goals are not yet met, and David shows little or no progress in the physical therapy goals outlined on his IEP.

Katherine and Joanna filed an impartial hearing request, requesting that the DOE provide compensatory services for the time missed in ABA therapy. They also sought sensory-based physical therapy services for David for him to meet the goals of his IEP and retain and progress in learning the basic skills at his developmental level. In the resolution session prior to the impartial hearing, Katherine and Joanna convinced the DOE to provide authorization for payment of an outside provider for all ABA sessions David had not received. The DOE also agreed to explore new sensory-based physical therapy techniques, to incorporate into David’s current physical therapy sessions.

Katherine and Joanna also represented Nijm, an 11-year-old boy diagnosed with autism and moderate mental retardation. Nijm, at first misdiagnosed in his early elementary school years, was placed in a variety of inappropriate classroom settings that were unable to meet his educational needs, until June of 2007 when the DOE recommended that Nijm be placed in a 6:1:1 class in District 75 in a 12-month program. The school year began in July, but the DOE did not provide placement in a school until mid-October, during which time Nijm was not only without related services mandated by his IEP to address his educational needs, but he did not receive any classroom program. In this current school year, Nijm’s school failed to provide all related services required by his IEP, denying him an appropriate education under the law. Katherine and Joanna filed an impartial hearing request seeking compensatory services for the time Nijm did not receive a placement or related services. They also requested one-on-one academic assistance for Nijm in order to ensure that he does not regress in skills. In negotiations prior to the impartial hearing, Katherine and Joanna persuaded the DOE to provide authorization for payment for an outside provider for all related services missed. The DOE also agreed to provide a one-on-one tutor for Nijm for the remainder of the school year.