

Felix A. Giron

Maywood, IL - felixalexgiron@gmail.com - (708) 971-4151

EDUCATION

University of Illinois Chicago School of Law, Chicago, IL

Juris Doctor Candidate

May 2028

Awards: Illinois Legislative Latino Caucus Foundation Scholarship Award

University of Illinois Chicago (UIC), Chicago, IL

Bachelor of Arts in Criminology, Law and Justice with Minor in Political Science, Summa Cum Laude

May 2023

Awards: Criminology, Law and Justice - Departmental High Distinction; Student Leadership Award; Internship Award; Urban Public Policy Fellowship Brick Scholar Award; LARES Kaplan Award; LAS Dean's List (4/4 semesters)

Triton College, River Grove, IL

Associate of Arts, Emphasis on Criminal Justice Administration

May 2021

Awards: President's List, Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society, Society for Collegiate Leadership and Achievement

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

Illinois House of Representatives, 77th District Office - State Representative Norma Hernandez, Melrose Park, IL

Senior Advisor; Chief of Staff; District Director; Policy & Casework Manager; Constituent Outreach Associate; Intern,

June 2023 – Present

- Managed approximately \$200,000 in yearly budget while managing general operations and direction for the district office with ongoing projects for the team.
- Managed payroll schedule, full scheduling, hiring, training, and performance review of full-time and contractual employees/ interns. Maintained inventory, budgeting, building operations, and tunnel maintenance for office operations.
- Manage language development, negotiations, and legal research for bill priorities; facilitate bill-tracking support for the legislative agenda. Manage and resolve constituent casework for both Spanish and English speakers from the community; supervise and manage colleagues who help with casework procedures and legal research.
- Merged and established a partnership between the UIC Urban Public Policy Fellowship program and the 77th District Office to host fellows as their official funded internship site for all future academic years.
- Collaborate with Congressman "Chuy" Garcia, Congresswoman Delia Ramirez, and other state and local offices to organize and lead planned community events to aid constituents and gather policy recommendations.
- Formulated and developed a think tank for students from across the district to convene and engage civically; selected to facilitate discussions and serve as the point person for engagement and mentoring within youth programs.

Enlace Chicago, Legal Clinic, Chicago, IL

Volunteer Paralegal

August 2024 – Present

- Work closely with immigration attorneys to prepare packets for new migrant arrivals seeking asylum.
- Gather packets that contain and reflect the applicant stories, supporting documents, and I-589 applications.
- Guide using translation services for Spanish-speaking asylum seekers.

Melrose Park Department of Homeland Security and Department of Public Safety, Melrose Park, IL

Volunteer Lieutenant

June 2015 – May 2022

- Responded and collaborated with law enforcement and fire services in community emergencies and events.
- Coordinated communications, IT, Honor Guard, bike, and shift teams for large-scale and in-house events.
- Supervised staff working emergencies, enforced perimeter security, and conducted local traffic management.

Awards/Accomplishments

- Volunteer Service Award - President's Council on Service and Civic Participation (2015 – 2020)
- Member of the Year Award - Village of Melrose Park Homeland Security and Public Safety (2018)
- Village of Melrose Park Homeland Security and Public Safety Chief Award (2017)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Chicago Justice Project, Chicago, IL

Intern

August 2022 – May 2023

- Studied and researched the Clery Act of various universities to determine crime reporting, victim support, and consequences for offenders; prepared summary reports of key findings for publishers of the organization.
- Gathered data, updated web pages, coordinated and wrote social media content to support a variety of research topics that spanned the criminal justice field.

University of Illinois Chicago, Institute for Policy and Civic Engagement, Chicago, IL

Co-op Aide - Urban Public Policy Fellow

August 2022 – May 2023

- Conducted research on factors that create Latino gang affiliation. Ran a two-semester-long study in researching and analyzing various policies to generate policy recommendations for legislators.

- Presented research findings at the Illinois Latino Council on Higher Education (ILACHE) Conference at Malcolm X and the Urban Public Policy Fellowship (UPPF) Research Symposium at UIC.
- Research published in the UIC University Library database on 2024-10-01.

RESEARCH PROJECTS/PUBLICATION

- UIC: *Policy Initiatives to Reduce Crime: Maywood, Illinois* May 2023
- Independent study, research paper.
- UIC: *Urban Initiatives to Help Prevent Latino Street Gang Affiliation* May 2023
- Symposium, poster board.
 - Giron, Felix; K. Hoereth, Joseph. "Urban Initiatives to Help Prevent Latino Street Gang Affiliation". 2 Oct. 2024. Web.
- UIC: *What Creates Latino Gang Affiliation* November 2022
- Midterm class project, poster board.
- Proviso Mathematics and Science Academy: *Natural Watersheds Effect on Grass Through Rain* May 2018
- Symposium, poster board.

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

UIC Alumni: Unidad, Chicago, IL

- Core Group Member* July 2024 – Present
- Convene once a month to strategize outreach events for UIC Latine alumni community members.
 - Plan and attend events from core group for UIC alumni community members.
 - Consult salient conversation for member recruitment and mentorship opportunities for current Latine students.

University of Illinois Chicago, Undergraduate Student Government, Chicago, IL

- Director of Campus Safety Commission* December 2022 – May 2023
- Led the effort to permanently increase the number of hours the campus Night Ride program is available to the community; collaborated with Chancellor Coronado, UIC Transportation, and campus police to introduce the pilot; featured in the UIC Today publication on 2023-4-24.
 - Coordinated and led a student commission formed to advocate initiatives for the campus safety of students and the UIC community.
 - Drafted, presented and amended policy updates and resolutions to the government student body.
 - Met with University administrators, campus leaders, and students to discuss solutions to campus safety issues regarding campus shootings, the Night Ride program and mental health services.

Lions Sacred Heart Taekwondo School, Melrose Park, IL

- Volunteer Instructor* November 2017 – March 2020
- Led training and communicated bilingually for at-risk youth ages 6 – 15.
 - Prepared students to compete in local competitions, conducted tests to promote students to the next level.

POLITICAL AND GOVERNMENT CONSULTING EXPERIENCE

Elect Norma Hernandez, Melrose Park, IL

- Field Operations Coordinator* August 2023 – Present
- Attend meetings with local community stakeholders and other candidates to discuss approaches to the campaign.
 - Develop and implement strategies to recruit and train volunteers for poll watching and canvassing.
 - Compile lists of potential voters through research of private and public records databases; coordinate and develop turfs for door-to-door outreach in assigned neighborhoods.
 - Educate volunteers on the candidate's platform and policies for voters; provide training on registration requirements and absentee ballots.

Proviso Young Democrats, Chuy for Chicago, Maywood People's Choice Party, Melrose Park Vision Party, Cook County, IL

- Volunteer Member* August 2015 – Present
- Attend meetings with local community members to discuss issues relevant to their campaign.
 - Conduct door-to-door outreach in assigned neighborhoods and educate potential supporters on the candidate's platform and policies.
 - Trained to poll watch and collect voter results for campaign platforms.
 - Explain voting procedures to prospective voters, including registration requirements and absentee ballots.

Cook County Government, Cook County, IL

- Election Judge* June/November 2019 – 2022
- Monitored polling machines, distributed ballots, and registered voters.
 - Guided Spanish-speaking voters.

INDEPENDENT POLICY STRATEGY & CONSULTING SERVICES

Giron Strategies, Cook County, IL

- Provided free consulting to local 501c4 Political Organizations

Democratic Party of Proviso: *Proviso Latino Community Engagement Plan*

August 2024

- Researched, and formulated pitch to the local democratic party co-chairs to engage a historically underrepresented community.

Elect Norma Hernandez: *Meet & Greet / Venga a Conocer*

October 2023

- Developed, coordinated, and led a local community fundraiser for State Representative candidate, Norma Hernandez, at Evolución Nutrición.

Proviso 209 United: *Healthy Body, Healthy Minds: Meet the Candidates for D209 School Board*

March 2023

- Developed, coordinated, and led a local community fundraiser for School District 209 candidate board members at Evolución Nutrición.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Affordable Snow Removal Services, Cook County, IL

Owner/ Manager

November 2020 – April 2021

- Communicated efficiently with commercial and residential customers.
- Developed, managed, and led a team, and marketed its services.

NONPROFIT 501c3 EXPERIENCE

North American Institute for Mexican Advancement, Melrose Park, IL

Community Business Liaison

January 2015- Present

- Developed, coordinated, and led an expedition of multiple individuals from various midwestern cities to rally in Washington DC.
- Raised, collected, and managed funds from various local business sponsors for the event.
- Coordinated transportation, drafted legal disclaimers, and conducted outreach for the Chicago western suburbs.
- Played a key role in the recent executive order by President Biden to expand work permits; met and communicated with other major nonprofit and government leaders.
- Served as point person for local business outreach in planned gatherings and events.
- Participated in events for the improvement of Latino economic commerce and Mexican-American business development.

Center for Integration and Development, Melrose Park, IL

Volunteer

January 2015 – Present

- Coordinate and lead groups of youth community members to attend live sports events to further their engagement and integration.
- Aid in programs that help with certificates, training, and reduction of barriers for the local Latino community.
- Participate and volunteer in planned community events to ensure engagement opportunities for community members (soccer camps, health fairs, etc.).
- Collaborate with Federal (501c3) organizations to improve the lifestyle of immigrants from Jalisco, Mexico now residing in the United States.

Latin American Recruitment and Educational Services, Chicago, IL

Volunteer

August 2021 – Present

- Worked with a think tank to help engage government leaders at the state level to increase funding of academic programs. Lobbied the same leaders and brought about dialogue for this plan.
- Participate in research and mentorship programs that help aid Latinos in Higher Education.
- Serve on panel for *Family Day* at *UIC* to explain the program and benefits of the organization.

Black Men United, Chicago, IL

Volunteer

August 2022 – May 2023

- Participated in a multitude of planned community giveaways throughout predominantly black and underrepresented communities in the city of Chicago.
- Connected with elected officials across the city level to learn best engagement at predominantly black neighborhoods.

SKILLS AND CERTIFICATES

Spanish (Fluent); Python Functional Programming; Black Belt in Taekwondo.