

**Rachel Perales**

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**EDUCATION**

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**DePaul University College of Law, Chicago, IL**

Juris Doctor '27

GPA: 3.493/4.000

- Dean's Scholarship Recipient
- **Co-Founder of the Decarceration Collective at DePaul Law**
- Social Media Coordinator for Latin Law Student Association

**DePaul University College of Liberal Arts, Chicago, IL**

Honors Criminology Bachelor of Arts

GPA: 3.947/4.000 May 2025 (Summa Cum Laude)

- Dean's List: Autumn 2021-Spring 2024
- Valedictorian of the Criminology Department
- Outstanding Senior Award of the Criminology Department
- Presidential Scholarship Recipient
- Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences 2024 Presenter

**WORK**

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**MacArthur Foundation, Chicago, IL**

*Criminal Justice Intern*, June 2025-August 2025

- Developed city-wide interviews with Generation Z Criminal Justice interns to create a piece focused on Gen Z carrying the torch in the Criminal Justice Reform field.
- Assisted with grant applications from many organizations and gave personal input on the decision-making process.

**Parole Illinois, Chicago, IL**

*Legislative Researcher and Volunteer Organizer*, June 2024-Present

- Research on parole policies in Illinois, and communicating the work through National Conferences.
- Organizing volunteers to participate in roll calls to gather support for the organization's bills and participation in non-profit organization events.
- Facilitate weekly mobilizing meetings to update volunteers on organizational goals and gather progress reports, enhancing team cohesion and project alignment through structured agendas.

**Inside Out/Think Tank, Joliet, IL**

*Think Tank Participant* August 2023-Present

- Engaged in collaborative research projects with incarcerated individuals from diverse backgrounds, gaining valuable insight into different perspectives and enhancing cross-cultural communication skills.
- Adapted to the rules and procedures at Stateville prison and challenges presented within the program, such as a lack of clear communication, showcasing routine flexibility.

**DePaul University Housing, Chicago, IL**

*Resident Advisor* August 2022-2025

- Administered duties such as filing detailed digital Incident Reports and following up with the Resident Director to set up a conduct meeting for resolution.