

## LENA SHAPIRO

University of Illinois College of Law  
504 E. Pennsylvania Avenue, Room 241  
Champaign, Illinois 61820  
(217) 333-4333 (Direct); (217) 244-9494 (Clinic)  
[Shapiro7@illinois.edu](mailto:Shapiro7@illinois.edu)

### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

---

#### University of Illinois College of Law

Champaign, IL

*Clinical Assistant Professor; Director, First Amendment Clinic*, January 2023 – Present

- Design and develop all aspects of the First Amendment Clinic, where students represent clients to advance the freedoms of speech, press and assembly.
- Deliver comprehensive classroom instruction on First Amendment law aimed at honing students' litigation skills and fostering a deep understanding of constitutional principles.
- Provide individualized oversight and mentorship to students through regular supervisory meetings, developing their skills and strategies for quality legal representation while ensuring professional growth.
- Conduct extensive policy research, spearhead resource development initiatives, and engage in community outreach and education efforts to raise awareness of First Amendment issues and promote civic discourse on related topics.

### LEGAL EXPERIENCE

---

#### Chapman Spingola, LLP

Chicago, IL

*Senior Litigation Associate*, April 2021 – January 2023

- Counsel business and individual clients primarily in the areas of complex commercial, intellectual property, and technology-related litigation, including from pre-litigation strategy and counseling through trial and appeal. Additional experience includes matters involving the CFAA, ITSA, CAN-SPAM, BIPA, TCPA and the UVTA.
- Supervise junior associates in case management tasks including written discovery (including electronic discovery), legal research, and motion practice.
- Take a lead role on briefing motions and handling related oral arguments in all stages of litigation, ranging from discovery disputes to summary judgment.

#### Swanson, Martin & Bell, LLP

Chicago, IL

*Litigation Associate*, September 2015 – March 2021; *Summer Associate*, 2014

- Counseled and represented clients in litigation on a variety of issues including tortious interference, shareholder disputes, corporate formation and breach of contract. Additional experience in consumer fraud, deceptive trade practices, consumer class actions, and entertainment and media litigation and transactional matters.
- First- and second-chaired over 15 trials to verdict in both federal and state, civil and criminal courts.
- Conducted and defended over 150 depositions, including company employees and experts.

- Other litigation experience included preparing and responding to written discovery, drafting pleadings, working with experts on reports, drafting and arguing dispositive motions as well as motions *in limine*, participating in pre-trial mediations.

## EDUCATION

---

**University of Illinois College of Law** Champaign, IL  
 Juris Doctor, *Magna Cum Laude*, May 2015

*Honors:* Honors, Legal Writing and Analysis  
 Nominee, Paul Lisnek Trial Advocacy Excellence & Ethics Award  
 CALI Excellence for the Future Award, Federal Civil Rights Clinic  
 Winner of the Frederick Green Honorary Round, Moot Court

*Activities:* Moot Court – Chief Justice, National Team competitor, Editor  
 Federal Civil Rights Clinic – Provisionally admitted to the Central District of Illinois to represent *pro se* litigants in §1983 lawsuits; First-chaired two trials to verdict; achieved a successful outcome for a client after mediation  
 Illinois Trial Team (undergraduate mock trial) – Head Coach

*Clerkships/ Internships:* Circuit Court of Cook County, Criminal Division, *Law Clerk to Hon. Paul P. Biebel, Jr.*, May 2013 – August 2013  
 Federal Public Defender, Central District of Illinois, *Law Clerk*, September 2013 – May 2014

**University of Illinois, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences** Champaign, IL  
 Bachelor of Arts, Economics and Political Science, May 2012

## LANGUAGE SKILLS

---

- Russian (reading, writing, conversational; native speaker – born in Kiev, Ukraine)

## ADMISSIONS

---

- Illinois
- United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
- United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois (Member of the Trial Bar)
- United States District Court for the Central District of Illinois
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan

## MEMBERSHIPS, AFFILIATIONS & AWARDS

---

- Super Lawyers, Illinois Rising Star: Constitutional Law
- Best Lawyers of America: Ones to Watch
- American Bar Association, Forum on Communications Law
- Chicago Bar Association, Judicial Evaluation Committee