

Craig Mastantuono, J.D.

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LEGAL

Mastantuono Coffee & Thomas SC, Milwaukee / Waukesha, WI

Attorney and Managing Partner, April 1999 – present

Manage a legal services firm specializing in criminal defense and crisis management. Represent individual and business clients in criminal justice cases and investigations. Client-based and problem-solving focus on litigation and negotiation to create positive outcomes to difficult situations.

Office of the State of Wisconsin Public Defender, Waukesha, WI

Assistant Public Defender, Trial Division, September 1992 – March 1999

Provided legal representation to indigent defendants in criminal felony and misdemeanor cases. Prepared all aspects of each case, including investigation, research, motions, plea negotiation, pre-trial hearings, trial, and sentencing. Co-founded local drug case practice unit.

Cook County Public Defender's Office, Chicago, IL

Student Law Clerk, Felony Trial Division, September 1991 – May 1992

Law student clerk for assistant public defenders assigned to felony trial courts. Drafted research memoranda, appeared on the record in court hearings and trials, and aided client management.

Rallo & Tepper Law Firm, Chicago, IL

Student Law Clerk, May 1991 – August 1991

Assisted civil litigation attorneys. Drafted memoranda, pleadings, and briefs and assisted at trials.

EDUCATION

DePaul University College of Law

Juris Doctor, May 1992

DePaul Business Law Journal: Writing Staff

Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition: Trial Team

Research Assistant: Professor Rodney J. Blackman, Constitutional Law

Loyola University of Chicago

Bachelor of Business Administration: Marketing, *cum laude*. Minor: Sociology, May 1989

University Housing Department Resident Assistant – 3 years

Loyola University Rome Center Campus for Liberal Arts, abroad study 1986-87

TEACHING

Marquette University Law School - Adjunct Professor of Law, 2014 - present

Instruct 3L students in Criminal Practice course with MULS Professor Daniel Blinka.

Carroll University, Waukesha, WI – Adjunct Instructor, Department of Sociology, 1995 - 2006

Instructed Criminal Law & Procedure courses for upper class students majoring in Criminal Justice.

Marquette University Law School Center for Continuing Legal Studies

Faculty, Annual Conference on Criminal Law, 2004 - 2022

Lecture: annual summary of Criminal Law Procedure cases from Wisconsin Appellate Courts.

State of Wisconsin Public Defender (SPD) Trial Skills Academy Faculty Member, 2001 – 2005, 2015 - 2017

Instructor at SPD program providing trial attorneys with intensive simulation and feedback.

APPOINTMENTS

Wisconsin Judicial Selection Advisory Committee / WI Gov. Tony Evers

Committee Member, 2019 – present

Appointed by Governor Tony Evers to the committee responsible for interviewing and recommending candidates to the governor for appointment to Wisconsin Circuit and Appellate Court vacancies.

Port Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI

Board of Harbor Commissioners, 2006 - present

Appointed by Milwaukee Mayor to the seven-member governing board with authority on all business leasing, policy, budget and strategic operational decisions for the Port of Milwaukee.

Racial Equity, Justice and Accountability Community Stakeholder Committee, Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett

Appointed by Mayor Barrett to work group to consider justice challenges and reforms following the 2020 homicide of George Floyd and resulting community protests and debate.

Evers-elect Transition Team Advisory Council on Public Safety and Criminal Justice Reform

Council Member 2018 - 2019

Participated in discussion and strategic recommendations on key public safety and criminal justice policy priorities for consideration by WI Governor-elect Tony Evers Administration.

Milwaukee County Circuit Court, Milwaukee, WI

Supplemental Court Commissioner, Br. 18 Judge Pedro Colón 2011 – 2023.

SELECTED ARTICLES

- Craig Mastantuono, *Baron Walker Did His Time and Reformed. Wisconsin Kept Him Locked Up Anyway*, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Ideas Lab Sunday Section, Nov. 4, 2018 (discussion of petition for release in a high-profile post-conviction case and mass incarceration and criminal justice reform in Wisconsin).
- Craig Mastantuono & Rebecca Coffee, *SOS: Defendants' Right to Counsel*, Wisconsin Lawyer, August 2012 (WI Supreme Court case *State v. Forbush* and state/federal constitutional interplay of accused's right to counsel in criminal proceedings).
- Craig Mastantuono, *Commission Needed to Reform Juvenile Law*, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Crossroads Section, May 18, 2003 (defense perspective on juvenile competency issues in high-profile Milwaukee case and call for commission to reform juvenile law).
- Craig Mastantuono, *Hey Judge, Am I Movin' You Yet?*, Wisconsin Opinions, June 28, 2000; July 5, 2000 (two-part series on motion practice in criminal cases).
- Craig Mastantuono & Barbara Gorman, *Criminal Sentencings*, Wisconsin Opinions, January 18, 2000 (defense strategies for sentencing hearing in criminal cases).

Selected LECTURES / PANEL DISCUSSIONS

- *Working Together to Achieve Justice: The Good, The Bad & The Ugly – Post-Pandemic Plea Negotiations. Panel Moderator*, Milwaukee Bar Association, Criminal Law Section, Milwaukee WI, 2024

- *El Training: Milwaukee Early Interventions in Criminal Cases - Diversions, DPAs & Treatment Courts - Panel Member*, MKE State Public Defender Office, Milwaukee WI, 2024.
- *Wisconsin Supreme Court Election '23: What's at Stake for WI Voters?* – Panel Member, MKE Turner Hall, Milwaukee WI, 2023.
- *Forensic Interviews in Child Sex Assault Cases*, National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (NACDL) Fall Seminar, Defending Child Sex Assault Cases, Las Vegas NV 2022 (presented with Atty. Rebecca Coffee).
- *COVID-19 and Criminal Courts, Protecting Due Process and Ethics Obligations in a Health Crisis*, Wisconsin Justinian Lawyers Association Seminar in the Sand, Las Vegas NV 2021.
- *Violent Crime & Incarceration – Panel Moderator*, MKE Turner Hall Confronting Mass Incarceration Committee, Milwaukee WI, 2020.
- *Sentence Adjustment – Panel Member*, WI Judicial Conference Annual Training, Elkhart Lake WI, 2019.
- *Improving Bench Diversity – Panel Moderator*, WI Affinity Bar Associations, Milwaukee WI, 2019.
- *Criminal Justice Reform – Panel Moderator*, American Constitution Society, Milwaukee WI, 2019.
- *Criminal Practitioner Perspectives – Panel Member*, WI Judicial Conference Criminal Law and Sentencing Seminar, Appleton WI, 2019.
- *Cross Examination of the Forensic Interviewer*, National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (NACDL) Fall Seminar, Defending Child Sex Assault Cases, Las Vegas NV 2018 (presented with Atty. Rebecca Coffee).
- *Evidence & Ethics*, Wisconsin Justinian Lawyers Association Seminar in the Sand, Las Vegas NV 2017, 2018.
- *The Path to the Truth: Defending With Persuasion & Storytelling*, Wisconsin Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (WACDL) Spring Seminar, Lake Geneva WI 2016.
- *Use of Defense Experts in Sex Assault Cases*, Wisconsin Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (WACDL) Fall Seminar, Oconomowoc WI 2016 (presented with Atty. Rebecca Coffee).
- *Motion Practice*, Wisconsin State Public Defender Conference, Milwaukee WI, 2013.
- *My Case Stinks, Or Does It? Confronting "Other Acts" Evidence*, National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (NACDL) Fall Seminar, Defending Child Sex Assault Cases, Savannah GA, 2013.
- *Dogs & Cats Working Together: ADR in Criminal Cases*, Wisconsin State Bar Webinar, 2013.
- *Castle Doctrine & Self-Defense*, Wisconsin State Public Defender Conference, Milwaukee WI 2012.
- *Spectacular Sentencings*, Wisconsin State Public Defender Conference, Milwaukee WI 2011.
- *Gun Law & The Second Amendment: View from the Street*, National Rifle Association – NRA Institute for Legislative Action Firearms Symposium, San Diego CA, 2011.
- *Criminal Law Issues & Your Case*, Wisconsin Assn. for Justice, Tort & Technique Seminar; Madison WI 2009.

- *Criminal Law Procedure Case Law Update*, Wisconsin State Bar Association, Bench & Bar Conference, Milwaukee WI, 2005.
- *Hot Topics in Juvenile Law*. Wisconsin State Public Defender Conference, Milwaukee WI, 2004.
- *Juvenile Competency*. Wisconsin State Bar Association, Annual Convention, Milwaukee WI, 2003. (presented with Dr. Antoinette Kavanaugh, Ph.D., Northwestern University).
- *Whose Story Is It, Anyway?* Wisconsin State Public Defender Conference, Milwaukee WI, 2000 (presented with Attorney Sam Benedict, State Public Defender's Office).
- *Criminal Sentencing*. Wisconsin State Bar Association, Bench & Bar Conference, 2000 Milwaukee WI (presented with Barbara Gorman, State Public Defender's Office).
- *Motion Practice*. Wisconsin State Public Defender Conference, Milwaukee WI, 1999.
- *Can They Do That? Litigating Search & Seizure Law*. Wisconsin State Public Defender Conference, Milwaukee, WI, 1998.

ASSOCIATIONS

- American Constitution Society, Milwaukee Lawyer Chapter Board Chair (current)
- Wisconsin Hispanic Lawyer's Association (past President 2017; Scholarship Committee Chair - current)
- Milwaukee Jazz Institute – Board Member
- National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers / Wisconsin Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
- Wisconsin State Bar Association, Criminal Law Section
- Eastern District of Wisconsin Bar Association
- Justinian Lawyer's Society/National Italian American Bar Association

RECOGNITION

- *Wisconsin Super Lawyers Magazine, Criminal Defense Listing*, 2005-2024
 - Top 25 Attorneys in Milwaukee, Wisconsin Super Lawyers Magazine*, 2013-15, 2017-20
 - Top 50 Attorneys in Wisconsin, Wisconsin Super Lawyers Magazine*, 2013-2019
- *Best of Milwaukee, Criminal Defense Lawyer, Shepherd Express Magazine*, 2012, 2018
- *United Way of Greater Milwaukee's Philanthropic Five Award*, 2009
- *Leader in the Law, Wisconsin Law Journal*, 2008
- *Annabell Cook Whitcomb Award - Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee*, 2007
- *Forty Under 40, Milwaukee Business Journal*, 2006
- *Up & Comer, Best Lawyers Edition, Milwaukee Magazine*, 2003