

# Gregory R. Swygert

Center on Wrongful Convictions  
Bluhm Legal Clinic  
Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law  
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## Education

Northwestern University School of Law May 2003  
*Juris Doctorate Cum Laude, Chicago, Illinois*

Duke University May 1999  
*Bachelor of Arts Durham, North Carolina*

## Professional Legal Experience

Northwestern University School of Law, Center on Wrongful Convictions  
*Associate Clinical Professor Chicago, Illinois* September 2014- Present

- Clinical faculty member/staff attorney: responsible for teaching wrongful convictions clinic course and supervising second and third year law students in the representation of criminal defendants in various stages of post-judgment proceedings (including direct appeal, state post-conviction, DNA and fingerprint testing, federal habeas, executive clemency, and expungement), focusing on the Center on Wrongful Convictions' mission of identifying and rectifying wrongful convictions and other serious miscarriages of justice.

Ryan & Swygert, LLC

*Partner Chicago, Illinois* January 2012- August 2014

- Co-founded law firm that represents clients in a variety of areas including partnership and shareholder disputes, appeals, civil and business litigation, criminal defense, and criminal appeals
- Appointed by the Circuit Court of Cook County to represent former Illinois' death row prisoner for state post-conviction proceedings, including client's appeal
- Awarded Northwestern Law's SFPIF Young Alumni Award in recognition of outstanding commitment to public interest work

The Office of the State Appellate Defender- Capital Post Conviction Unit

*Staff Attorney Chicago, Illinois* August 2008- December 2011

- Represented Illinois' death sentenced inmates in post-conviction proceedings, including guilt and mitigation investigations through interviews, record collecting and document review, as well as brief writing for clients' state post-conviction petitions, motions, and writs
- Represented former death row client in habeas proceedings at district court level, later argued and wrote brief for appeal to the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals where habeas relief was granted, *Griffin v. Pierce*, 622 F.3d 831 (2010)
- Winner of 2011 Richard E. Cunningham Award for extraordinary legal representation, compassionate concern for the welfare of capital clients and zealous advocacy in support of constitutional precepts of due process and equal protection of the law
- Founded and led intern program for OSAD's Capital Post Conviction Unit

**Loevy & Loevy, A Civil Rights Law Firm**

**Staff Attorney Chicago, Illinois** November 2007- August 2008

- Represented plaintiffs in cases involving police brutality, unlawful arrest, and wrongful conviction
- Represented the appointed Transitional Administrator of the Cook County Juvenile Temporary Detention Center in proceedings in Federal District Court including obtaining a TRO that is still in place

**United States District Court for Eastern District of Michigan**

**Law Clerk to the Hon. Arthur J. Tarnow Detroit, Michigan** August 2005-August 2007

- Conducted legal research, wrote memoranda and submitted proposed opinions and orders for both civil and criminal cases
- Created bench memoranda and drafted proposed opinions as well as dissents when Judge Tarnow would sit by designation on the 6<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals

**Capital Post-Conviction Project of Louisiana**

**Staff/Fellowship Attorney New Orleans, Louisiana** August 2003-August 2005

- Represented Louisiana's death sentenced inmates in post-conviction and *habeas corpus* proceedings
- Conducted guilt and mitigation investigations through interviews, record collecting and document review
- Interviewed incarcerated clients at Angola Penitentiary to discuss legal and investigative strategy
- Researched and wrote claims for clients' state post-conviction petitions, motions, and writs
- Prepared, tracked and defended *pro se* post-conviction petitions for relief for the office's future clients
- Served as intern coordinator for both summer students as well as international fellows

**Admitted to Practice**

**Illinois State Bar**

**U.S. Court of Appeals, 7<sup>th</sup> Circuit**

**U.S. Court of Appeals, 6<sup>th</sup> Circuit**

**U.S. District Court, N.D. of Illinois**

**U.S. District Court, N.D. of Indiana**

**U.S. District Court, E.D. of Michigan**

**U.S. District Court, M.D. and W.D. of Louisiana**

**U.S. Bankruptcy Court, N.D. of Indiana**

**Louisiana State Bar**