

## Jeremiah Rygus

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### **EXPERIENCE**

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#### **Neighborhood Defender Service of Harlem, New York, NY**

*Supervising Attorney and Training/Trial Director*

October 2021 – Present

- Directly supervise a team of attorneys with felony and misdemeanor caseloads;
- Supervise and assist all attorneys with case development and trial preparation, novel and complex pre-trial litigation, and in-court trial work;
- Train new attorneys as well as attorneys transitioning into felony practice;
- Conduct office-wide trainings on pre-trial litigation, suppression hearings, and trial skills.

*Attorney, Criminal Defense Practice*

October 2019 – Present

- Tried 17 cases to verdict, 12 of which were jury trials;
- Tried complex and high-stakes cases, including a full acquittal on a homicide trial;
- Conducted more than 40 suppression hearings involving issues of constitutional violations and police misconduct;
- Examined more than 100 witnesses, including law enforcement officers, scientific and medical experts, lay witnesses, and child complainants;
- Drafted complex motions addressing discovery, *forensic*, post-hearing, in limine and sentencing issues; and orally argued over 100 such motions;
- Advise and prepare clients and other witnesses for grand jury testimony;
- Counsel clients through proffer sessions and cooperation agreements;
- Negotiate dispositions using aggressive litigation and creative advocacy.

#### **The Bronx Defenders, New York, NY**

*Forensic Practice Group, DNA Specialization*

February 2017 – October 2019

- Assisted attorneys on all aspects of forensic litigation, including expert development and examination, and complex motion practice;
- Developed expertise in numerous forensic areas, including digital search and privacy issues, probabilistic genotyping, and forensic pathology.

*Attorney, Criminal Defense Practice*

September 2013 – October 2019

- Similar responsibilities to current practice, described above.

### **PUBLICATIONS**

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Brief for the Office of the Appellate Defender Inc., and Others, Amici Curiae, *People v. Foster-Bey*, 35 N.Y.3d 959, (2020) (*contributing author*)

Brief for the Honorable John Lewis as Amicus Curiae in Support of Respondents and Intervenor-Respondents, *Shelby County, Alabama v. Holder*, 570 U.S. 529 (2013) (*contributing author*)

Michael A. Corriero, *Judging Children as Children: Reclaiming New York's Progressive Tradition*, 56 N.Y.L. SCH. L. REV. 1413 (2011-12) (*contributing author*)

Jeremiah Rygus, *Collateral Damage: Saddling Youth with a Lifetime of Consequences*, CRIMINAL JUSTICE, Winter 2012, Volume 26, Number 4, at 37

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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### **The Defenders' Academy**

2022 – Present

#### *Faculty Member*

- Teach trial skills at intensive national program for defense attorneys and J.A.G. attorneys in a defense rotation;
- Lecture, demonstrate, and lead breakout sessions on theme/theory, jury selection, opening statements, cross examination, direct examination, and closing arguments;
- Collaborate with nationally renowned defense attorneys to develop and implement program curricula.

### **American Academy of Forensic Science**

2018 – Present

#### *Member*

- Participate in conferences, trainings, and symposiums to stay abreast of legal and scientific developments;
- Meet regularly with other defense attorney members to develop litigation strategies.

## **EDUCATION**

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### **New York Law School, New York, NY**

J.D., June 2013

*Cum Laude*

*John Marshall Harlan Scholar (Near Total Scholarship)*

*Joseph Solomon Public Interest Fellow*

*Dr. Max Reich Award for Excellence in Civil Trial Advocacy*

*Alexander D. Forger Award for Distinguished Service to the Profession*

*Professor Vincent Lolordo Award for Excellence in Administration of Criminal Justice*

### **University of Washington, Seattle, WA**

B.A., Journalism, May 2008

*Cum Laude*

*Full Academic Scholarship*

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**Re: Application for Trial Attorney Position**

Dear Hiring Manager,

I am thrilled to apply for the **Trial Attorney** position . Throughout my career, I have been driven by a passion for courtroom advocacy, persuasive legal writing, and strategic litigation. From securing **a full acquittal in a homicide trial to examining more than 100 witnesses**—including law enforcement officers, forensic experts, and lay witnesses—I have developed the skills and experience necessary to be an effective and relentless advocate in high-stakes litigation.

As a **Supervising Attorney and Training/Trial Director** at the **Neighborhood Defender Service of Harlem**, I lead a team of trial attorneys, oversee complex case strategy, and provide training on pre-trial litigation, suppression hearings, and trial techniques. I have personally **tried 17 cases to verdict (12 jury trials)**, drafted and argued over **100 motions**, and successfully litigated numerous **suppression hearings addressing constitutional violations and police misconduct**. Prior to this, at **The Bronx Defenders**, I developed an expertise in **forensic evidence, digital privacy, and forensic pathology**, skills that are invaluable in real estate and commercial litigation where expert testimony and evidentiary challenges often arise.

What excites me most about this opportunity is the chance to apply my deep trial experience, strategic litigation skills, and passion for persuasive advocacy to **real estate litigation**. I thrive in the courtroom—crafting compelling legal arguments, challenging opposing counsel, and winning tough cases. Whether through **motion practice, cross-examination, or oral argument**, I am relentless in pursuing the best outcomes for my clients.

I welcome the opportunity to bring my **trial expertise, litigation leadership, and research skills** to your firm. I would love to discuss how I can contribute to your team—please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,

**Jeremiah Rygus**