

MIMI M. D. MARZIANI
Austin, Texas 78704
615.293.5003 • mimimarziani@gmail.com

BAR ADMISSIONS

Admitted to the Texas and New York State Bars and several federal courts, including U.S. Supreme Court, Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, Western District of Texas, Southern District of Texas, and Northern District of Texas.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

TEXAS CIVIL RIGHTS PROJECT, Austin, TX

President & CEO, Feb. 2016 – December 2022

Led preeminent civil rights advocacy organization in Texas. Restructured and transformed struggling organization, including by growing the annual budget from \$2.3 to \$6.2 million, implementing unique community lawyering model and attracting national recognition for work to expand access to voting and to protect immigrant families. Managed multiracial, six-person Leadership Team, and oversaw 40 full-time staff in five offices across Texas with an active docket of dozens of lawsuits and advocacy campaigns. Drove popular understanding of voting rights, election reform and Texas politics, and have been featured in range of media outlets, including *Texas Tribune*, *Houston Chronicle*, *Dallas Morning News*, *Austin American-Statesman*, *Washington Post*, *Guardian*, NPR, CNN, ABC News, and as a speaker at influential forums such as Texas Tribune Festival (2018, 2019, 2020), Aspen Ideas Festival (2018), and Chautauqua Institution (2018).

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SCHOOL OF LAW, Austin, TX

Adjunct Professor, Aug. 2015 - Present

Teach “Election Law and Policy” to second and third-year law students each fall to consistently high reviews. Regularly featured as speaker on campus.

BATTLEGROUND TEXAS, Austin, TX

Legal Director, May 2014 - Feb. 2016

Led election law strategy as chief in-house counsel for progressive political group and for the Wendy R. Davis for Governor Campaign. Created Texas Democrats’ first statewide, coordinated voter protection program in 2014, including by managing four-person legal team, providing legal support for mobilization efforts of hundreds of campaign staff and thousands of volunteers, and directly aiding voters and candidates with a hotline and education materials. Post-election, acted as primary counsel to Battleground Texas in its transition into year-round voter registration and community organizing non-profit.

SULLIVAN & CROMWELL LLP, New York, NY

Litigation Associate, Jan. 2013 - Nov. 2014

Represented corporate clients in all types of complex civil litigations. Dedicated 25% of billable hours to *pro bono* practice, including ongoing representation of Everytown for Gun Safety.

BRENNAN CENTER FOR JUSTICE AT NYU SCHOOL OF LAW, New York, NY

Counsel, Sept. 2009 - Dec. 2012

Litigated scores of voting rights and campaign finance reform cases in federal courts across the country, including in the U.S. Supreme Court. Advocated for expanded access to voting and greater regulation of money in politics through academic research, popular commentary and legislative counseling, including working with the office of then-Governor of Delaware Jack Markell to pass a law boosting transparency of third-party political spending in 2012. Launched Center’s government dysfunction project to advocate for filibuster reform in U.S. Senate; testified before U.S. Senate Committee on Rules and Administration in 2010 on same.

HON. JAMES C. FRANCIS IV, MAGISTRATE JUDGE, U.S. DISTRICT COURT, New York, NY

Law Clerk, Aug. 2008 - Aug. 2009

MIMI M. D. MARZIANI

Austin, Texas 78704

615.293.5003 • mimimarziani@gmail.com

SELECTED HONORS & LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

NYU SCHOOL OF LAW, *Board of Trustees* (current)
JOSÉ GARZA FOR TRAVIS COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY, *Treasurer & Senior Political Advisor* (current)
WAY TO RISE, *Board of Directors* (founding member) (current)
ROCKWOOD LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE, “*Leading from the Inside Out*” *Fellow* (2022) (competitive, yearlong national fellowship program for senior non-profit executives)
BETO FOR TEXAS, *Election Law Counsel & Senior Legal Advisor* (2022)
U.S. COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS, *Chair of Texas State Advisory Committee* (2016-2021)
NYU, *Board of Trustees* (2013-2020)
AUSTIN UNDER 40 AWARDS, *2020 Winner; 2019 Finalist* (non-profit category)

EDUCATION

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, New York, NY

JD, *cum laude*, May 2008

Honors: NYU REVIEW OF LAW & SOCIAL CHANGE, *Staff Editor*
Dean John Sexton Prize for Service to the Law School
NYU President’s Service Award

Summer Internships: U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, Special Litigation Section
South Brooklyn Legal Services, Housing Law Unit

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY, Nashville, TN

BA in English & Psychology, *magna cum laude*, May 2004

Honors: Vanderbilt Ingram Scholar (for academic achievement and community service)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Congressional Testimony/Activity: Invited to testify and testified before U.S. House of Representatives four times in recent years, including before: the Committee on House Administration’s Subcommittee on Elections on barriers to equal polling place access (June 2021); the Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis on best practices for voter administration during the pandemic (September 2020); the Committee on the Judiciary’s Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights & Civil Liberties on the Voting Rights Act in Texas (May 2019); and the Committee on House Administration’s Subcommittee on Elections on access to voting in Texas (February 2019) (my remarks were also featured in a subsequent publication prepared by Chairperson Marcia Fudge). Spoke at press conference with Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi and Congressman Lloyd Doggett on voting rights bill, H.B. 1, in March 2019.

Select Publications: Authored popular opinion pieces, such as *Will the Texas Supreme Court let Republican state leaders deny our right to vote?*, in the *Washington Post* (May 20, 2020). Drafted academic commentary, such as *What Starts in Texas Doesn’t Always Stay in Texas: Why Texas’s Systematic Elimination of Grassroots Voter Registration Drives Could Spread*, an American Constitution Society Issue Brief (May 2018).

Additional Teaching Experience: Taught undergraduate seminar “The Constitution and Today’s Public Policy Debates” at the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service at NYU (2011) and “The Relationship of Government and Religion” at NYU Abu Dhabi with NYU President John Sexton (2008-2010 and January 2023).

Community Involvement: Maintain active involvement in my Austin community, including by: serving on the Development Committee of The Trail Conservancy; running with Austin Runners Club; volunteering at Barton Hill Elementary (part of Austin Independent School District); raising money for woman political candidates with Austin Women Invest to Elect; and seeing as many live music shows as practicable.