

From: Georgia State Law Investor Advocacy Clinic investoradvocacy@gsu.edu
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Investor Advocacy Clinic Serves as Co-Counsel In FINRA Arbitration

In October, an Atlanta attorney contacted Georgia State Law's Investor Advocacy Clinic and asked it to co-counsel in a Financial Industry Regulatory

Authority (FINRA) arbitration case. Second semester clinic student [Robert F. Noens](#) (J.D. '18) stepped up on behalf of the clinic to help represent an investor who lost money due to broker misconduct.

“Robert came onto the case during the run-up to the hearing – crunch time,” said [Craig Kuglar](#), founding partner of Kuglar Law and a litigator specializing in securities arbitration.. “I treated him like any other co-counsel and assigned him direct examinations of the key witnesses.” [Read More>>](#)



Professor Iannarone and Qudisia Shafiq (J.D. '18) Testify at SEC Committee Meeting

Qudisia Shafiq (J.D. '18) missed her securities regulations class on Oct. 12 for a fitting reason: She was testifying in front of the [Securities and Exchange Commission \(SEC\) Investor Advisory Committee](#), advocating on behalf of the Georgia State Law [Investor Advocacy Clinic](#) and its clients.

Shafiq, along with [Nicole G. Iannarone](#), clinic director and assistant clinical professor, served on a panel with [David White](#), director of the [Investor Advocacy Project at Seton Hall University School](#), at the committee’s meeting in Washington, D.C. [Learn More>>](#)



SEC

Testimony

Professor Iannarone

Securities arbitration clinics ensure economic justice. Twenty years ago, then SEC Chair Arthur Levitt learned that many investors with valid arbitration claims had no means of redress because their claim was too small for a private attorney.

Chairman Levitt's novel solution was to ask law schools to fill the need through legal clinics. [Read More>>](#)



Qudsia Shafiq (J.D. '18)

Our clients are regular, middle-class Americans: hairdressers and homemakers, mechanics and skilled tradesmen, paralegals and schoolteachers – who are successful in their own professions but unsophisticated in financial matters. Despite their different backgrounds, they all share one misfortune: they entrusted a financial adviser who ultimately failed them. [Read More>>](#)



Investor Advocacy Clinic Helps People

What I enjoyed the most about my time in the clinic is the experience of doing “real” work, for real people.



The satisfaction from learning something that is not only new, but difficult to understand, and being able to fit the pieces together is very rewarding. [Read More>>](#)

Representing the Small Investor Information for Potential Clients: Are you Eligible?

Georgia State Law's Investor Advocacy Clinic provides legal services to small investors with claims against their broker-dealers who are not able to find legal representation due to the size of their claims. Law students, under the supervision of a Georgia-licensed attorney, represent investors in handling disputes with their broker-dealers that are subject to arbitration before FINRA. Are you or someone you know eligible for our services? [Learn more>>](#)



The Most Valuable Experience of My Law School Career

When I first began this journey, I felt quite overwhelmed. I had not yet experienced this kind of engagement and practical experience in law, and it was exciting and scary. I gained experience engaging with clients and drafting documents from memoranda to claims, but the most valuable skill I acquired from the clinic is how to think like a lawyer. [Read More>>](#)

Clinic Helps Students Accomplish Goals

My decision to join the Investor Advocacy Clinic was driven by two goals: 1.) utilize my financial education in a real-world, legal environment, and 2.) help those who could not afford legal representation. As this semester's work in the clinic is coming to an end, both these goals have been accomplished. [Read More>>](#)



Be an Informed Investor: Subscribe to Our Blog

Access the Investor Advocacy Clinic's investor education resources anytime and from anywhere. Our [clinic blog](#) provides tips and tricks to avoid becoming a victim of investment fraud and to learn more about investing.

Crossword Puzzles for Investor Education

One of my favorite aspects of the clinic is the Investor Education component. Though tedious and complicated, creating a crossword puzzle booklet has one of my more enjoyable law school experiences. It's not just the idea of creating and presenting puzzles but also the enjoyment of knowing that normal, everyday people may benefit from a relaxing and challenging learning experience. I look forward to presenting the



look forward to presenting the finished product to partner organizations and disseminating to the general public. [Read more>>](#)



Becoming Comfortable as a Lawyer

I learned to be comfortable with being uncomfortable. Sometimes a client will ask a question, and we will not know the answer. That is also OK. Transparency is key. Asking questions is key. And having an open mind to learn and experience lessons is of the utmost importance. I cannot believe that my semester in the clinic is coming to an end. I look back, and my favorite part of my time in the clinic is the people that I worked most closely with. [Read More>>](#)

A Reflection On Two Semesters

The lesson is: learn as much as you can, and heed the advice of those people that are experienced and have your best interest in mind. It is fine to learn from your own mistakes. That is normal, but if you can learn from other's mistakes, I promise you that your life will be easier. Many of the mistakes that leave investors, or even young lawyers, in a poor spot are largely avoidable by simply listening. [Read more>>](#)



Spread the Word

Tell others you know about the Investor Advocacy Clinic and the services it provides. We are a resource to investors who are not otherwise able to find an attorney. Help us ensure that the community knows we are here to help and can call us if they have a problem.



Forward

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