

# MONICA CARMEAN

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## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Experienced and passionate policy attorney with extensive U.S. legislative and campaign knowledge. Demonstrated expertise in issues and political strategy pertaining to religion. Possess excellent communication, organizational, relationship-building, project-management, and analytical capabilities.

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## SKILLS & MEMBERSHIP

- Project management, policy development, compliance tracking, regulatory and legislative tracking, strong written and verbal communication, team player
- Proficient with MS Office, Google Suite, Microsoft Teams, Zoom
- Bar Membership: Maryland State Bar (2012 - inactive); District of Columbia Bar (2014), SCOTUS (2016)
- We the Action/Dilley Pro Bono Project, *Amicus Mundi* Award Winner
- Second City Training Center: Improv A-E, Stand Up 1 & 2, Writing for the Onion

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## POLICY & LEGAL EXPERIENCE

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### UNITEHERE!/EQUITY FOR ALL OF US, Chicago, IL

*Divinity Fellow*

April 2022 – June 2022

- Planned and executed workforce development training for laid-off hotel and culinary workers seeking new positions.
- Surveyed South Side residents on the value, potential, and needs of their communities.
- Secured funding for workforce development, healthcare equity, and neighborhood resiliency programming.

### LAWDALE CHRISTIAN LEGAL CENTER, Chicago, IL

*Development Fellow*

October 2020 – June 2021

- Wrote grant applications to secure funding for an organization providing legal aid and supportive services to justice-involved people age 13-26.
- Organized a virtual fundraising Gala that garnered the same amount of donations as prior in-person galas.

### AXIOM, Chicago, IL

*Merger and Acquisition Contract Attorney*

April 2018 – Sept. 2019

- Evaluated and categorized financial and real-estate contract risks in anticipating of acquisitions.

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## CAMPAIGN EXPERIENCE

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### LIGHTFOOT FOR CHICAGO, Chicago, IL

*Organizer*

Aug 2018 – March 2019

- Organized 100 volunteers in 6 wards to elect the first Black female out-lesbian Mayor of Chicago.
- Communicated clearly and concisely the needs of the campaign to volunteers leading to increased productivity and more connections made with voters; brought a diverse group of people together for a common cause.

### JB PRITZKER FOR GOVERNOR, Chicago, IL

*Deputy Policy Director*

June 2017 – March 2018

- Authored policy plans to:
  - Combat gun violence by treating it as a public health epidemic, and restoring trust between law enforcement officers and the communities they serve,
  - Legalize marijuana to reduce mass incarceration and reinvest in Illinois communities,
  - Combat the opioid epidemic to reduce addiction and overdoses and increase access to treatment,
  - Make Illinois the first in the nation state to offer a public option to buy-in to Medicaid.

### HILLARY FOR AMERICA COORDINATED CAMPAIGN, Madison, WI

*Deputy Director, Voter Protection*

July 2016 – Nov. 2016

- Designed and operated voter protection program for Wisconsin during the 2016 Presidential Campaign which included outward facing voter educational materials, weekly senior executive briefings, and appropriate response to media outlets such as the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel.
- Recruited and trained 1,000 attorney volunteers on complex election law and appropriate responses to prevent voter suppression.

## LEGISLATIVE EXPERIENCE

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### SENATOR JON TESTER, Washington, DC

*Legislative Counsel*

July 2013 – July 2016

- Increased support for the Senator's Judiciary and Health Policy agenda by writing and introducing 20 pieces of legislation, 3 of which became law, as well as negotiating support for appropriations priorities.
- Expanded Medicaid in Montana by negotiating between the state legislature, governor, and the Department of Health and Human Services to obtain a Medicaid Waiver, resulting in health care coverage for 50,000 Montanans.
- Ensured 100% Democratic Caucus cohesion on all votes regarding immigration or homeland security in the Senate during the 115th Congress by successfully coordinating with Senate Leadership working group composed of Judiciary, Homeland Security, and Appropriations Committees.
- Organized the Montana Rural Health Summit to grow support for the Senator's health policy priorities by bringing together over 100 rural health care providers, federal and state policy makers, and health care officials together to discuss the health care challenges facing providers and patients.

### SENATOR SHERROD BROWN, Washington, DC

*Legislative Fellow*

Jan. 2013 – June 2013

- Improved implementation of the ACA by working with the Finance Committee, Health and Human Services and the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services staff to expand special enrollment periods, support health insurance market reform, and guarantee contraception coverage.

### THE WHITE HOUSE, Washington, DC

*Legal Intern, Office of the White House Counsel*

Jan. 2012 – May 2012

- Protected the Executive Office of the President during litigation by reviewing records for FOIA exemptions and Presidential privilege on topics such as Deepwater Horizon and the Affordable Care Act, and prepared memos on legislative oversight legal questions.

### SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE, Washington, DC

*Law Clerk, Senator Durbin*

Sept. 2011 – Dec. 2011

*Law Clerk, Senator Feinstein*

Jan. 2011 – May 2011

- Ensured Senators were prepared for hearings and markups on voting rights, immigration issues, marriage equality, and the constitutionality of the Affordable Care Act by conducting legal research, summarizing recent legal decisions, investigating potential witnesses and judicial nominees and drafting questions for hearings and for the record.

### CONGRESSMAN JIM COSTA, Washington, DC

*Legislative Correspondent*

Oct. 2008 – July 2010

*Staff Assistant*

Oct. 2007 – Oct. 2008

- Oversaw all constituent communications, drafted constituent response letters and statements for publication.

## EDUCATION

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### THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, Chicago, IL *Master of Divinity*

June 2022

Institute of Politics - Student Leadership; Teaching Assistant for Pritzker Fellow Russell Moore

Published: Institute of Politics "*Jukebox Ballot*" - *Fight Song*

Thesis: *Organized Religion: The Past and Future of Faith in Movement Building*

### GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER, Washington, DC, *Juris Doctor*

May 2012

Study Abroad: London, United Kingdom

Senior Editor, Georgetown Journal of Poverty Law

Published: *The Unmet Potential of Medical Legal Partnerships* (Georgetown Journal of Poverty Law)

### NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY, Evanston, IL, *Bachelor of Arts, Political Science*

June 2007

Study Abroad: Durban, South Africa

Activities: Varsity Crew Team (Starboard), Habitat for Humanity, Chi Omega