

Miller Fellow: Chelsea Muir

Faculty Sponsor: Roxanna Altholz

Project: U.S. Criminal Proceedings, Corruption, and Human Rights in Guatemala and Mexico



Chelsea Muir is a 2L at Berkeley Law. During law school, she has conducted refugee casework for the International Refugee Assistance Project and volunteered with the ACLU and Innovation Law Lab to advocate for relief for detained immigrants threatened by the COVID-19 pandemic. As a policy and communications fellow for the Berkeley Interdisciplinary Migration Initiative, she has conducted research and written policy briefs on the topic of immigration. During summer 2020, she was an Equal Justice Works fellow at the Florence Immigrant and Refugee Rights Project, where she worked with asylum-seekers in Nogales, Mexico. In 2019, she completed a Master of Public Policy at UC Berkeley, where she conducted her master's thesis with the San Francisco Public Defender's Immigrant Defense Unit and worked as a graduate student instructor for Professor Robert Reich. Before graduate school, she worked as a Princeton in Latin America fellow in Batey Libertad, Dominican Republic.

For the Miller Fellowship, Ms. Muir is working with Clinical Professor Roxanna Altholz, Co-Director of the International Human Rights Law Clinic, to examine U.S. court records related to individuals involved in violence and corruption in Guatemala and Mexico. Violence and corrupt state institutions in both countries have been the product of a toxic collusion between transnational drug networks and corrupt government officials. The transnational criminal groups conduct much of their illegal business within U.S. borders. As a result, ongoing U.S. law enforcement operations have targeted Guatemalan and Mexican nationals for investigation and criminal prosecution, leading to indictments, trials, and convictions for many of them. U.S. prosecutors and federal courts have generated thousands of pages of documents, many of them open to the public, although difficult to access. Ms. Muir will support efforts to compile U.S. court records that reveal information about transnational criminal networks involved in violence and corruption in Guatemala and Mexico.