

## Chris Napierala

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### EXPERIENCE

**Sentencing Alternatives – Montclair, NJ** 8/03 – present  
**Founder/Director/Mitigation Expert**

Founder and Director of mitigation-services program that provides written and oral advocacy, alternatives-to-incarceration referrals and placement, and monitoring services for criminal defendants in New York's state and federal courts. Casework involves in-depth psychosocial investigations of defendants, including comprehensive interviews and records searches; consultations with defense counsel and expert consultants; preparation of resultant pre-pleading or pre-sentence memoranda, Clayton motions, bail applications and other written reports to judges and prosecutors; formulation of detailed release plans and arrangement of alternatives-to-incarceration placements, where appropriate; monitoring of defendants in such placements; oral advocacy with judges and prosecutors. Manage rotating staff of one to three persons. To date have prepared approximately 175 reports.

**Defense Advocacy Services – Brooklyn, NY** 10/97 – 8/03  
**Founder/Director/Mitigation Expert**

Founder and Director of mitigation-services program that served as model for Sentencing Alternatives. Program mission, services and tasks were virtually identical to those above, in addition to managing full-time staff of four. In addition to carrying caseload as Mitigation Expert, directed agency and carried caseload as Mitigation Expert. Prepared more than 200 reports and edited more than 200 prepared by staff.

**Assigned Counsel Services, The Osborne Association – Brooklyn, NY** 10/95 – 6/98  
**Court Advocate/Editor**

Served as Court Advocate and Editor from October 1995 through October 1997, thereafter as Editor only, via contract. As Advocate, provided written and oral advocacy for indigent criminal defendants in the Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan and Queens. Responsibilities included extensive psychosocial investigations; formulation of detailed release plans; preparation of pre-pleading and pre-sentence memoranda, Clayton motions, bail applications and other reports to judges and prosecutors; and post-release monitoring of defendants. As Editor, responsible for editing all reports prepared by ACS staff. Editorial responsibilities included case conferences with advocates, development of advocacy strategies with ACS Program and Legal Directors, and editing and substantive revision of reports. Prepared approximately 100 reports, edited more than 400.

**El Rio & Living Well programs, The Osborne Association – Bronx, NY** 5/95 – 7/96  
**Grant Writer**

Developed strategy, conducted research for and wrote two State funding applications for The Osborne Association's Bronx-based HIV case-management and substance-abuse treatment programs.

- Center for Economic Development, UWM – Milwaukee, WI** 8/92 – 1/93  
**Graduate Assistant**  
Assisted Dean of Urban Studies Department at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee with data collection and cleaning on the Urban Indicators Project, a statistical analysis of socioeconomic indicators in major US cities.
- University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee – Milwaukee, WI** 8/92 – 1/93  
**Writing Tutor**  
Tutored students in writing for six undergraduate and two graduate courses, as well as an English-as-a-Second Language program.
- Abt Associates, Inc. – Bethesda, MD** 7/91 – 2/94  
Consultant to former employer on various federal contracts. Projects included research for funding proposals to the National Institutes on Drug Abuse (NIDA), substance-abuse-treatment research for NIDA, and data collection and analysis for the Food and Nutrition Service.
- Abt Associates, Inc. – Bethesda, MD** 12/89 – 7/91  
**Research Assistant**  
Developed survey logic and question battery for Department of Labor (DOL) unemployment-insurance (UI) study, managed pretesting; conducted site monitoring and field interviews for UI study in Massachusetts, assessed program implementation; analyzed DOL database to project bottlenecks in study's intake of UI claimants; created database programs to organize and analyze UI data; analyzed drug-use and –crime data from major US cities to describe traits and trends and predict change; collected data at District Attorneys' offices across US on felony arrests and murders, analyzed data for offense characteristics and trends.
- Time-Life Books, Inc. – Alexandria, VA** 8/89 – 1/90  
**Freelance Researcher/Writer**  
Researched numerous subjects for Time-Life book series: developed story concepts; researched stories via document searches and expert interviews; wrote storyboards and presented to editors.
- Northeast Regional Agricultural Engineering Service – Ithaca, NY** 8/88 – 5/89  
**Copy Editor**  
Copy editor for several agricultural handbooks and bulletins: edited copy, redesigned copy layout.
- Cornell University Writing Workshop – Ithaca, NY** 8/88 – 5/89  
**Tutor**  
Tutored undergraduate and graduate students in all aspects of academic writing.
- Coalition on Human Needs – Washington, DC** 1/88 – 8/88  
**Intern**  
Studied federal block grants and analyzed changes in federal spending on social-services programs, wrote fact sheets and brochures, reported on House and Senate Budget Committee hearings for newsletter articles.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

“Mental Illness and the Criminal Justice System,” continuing-medical-education presentation to staff of the Department of Psychiatry, St. John’s Hospital, Yonkers, NY, October 27, 2005

## **EDUCATION**

Cornell University – B.S., 1989

    Cornell Tradition Fellow, 1986-1989

    Dean’s List

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee – Graduate Program in Urban History, Fall 1992