



BIOGRAPHICAL STATEMENT OF TERESA MARIE

Teresa joined Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada in May of 2025 as an attorney in the Children’s Attorneys Project. Prior to joining Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada, Teresa completed her PhD at UNLV while concurrently serving as the President of the Graduate and Professional Student Body Association; where she advocated on the Nevada State Higher Education and state level for the rights and needs of all 5,000+ graduate and professional students at UNLV. Teresa successfully defended her dissertation titled “Foster Children’s Repeated Disruptions: A Qualitative Analysis of Stakeholder Insights on Failed Permanency in Foster Care” and graduated with her Ph.D. from UNLV, May of 2025. Prior to returning to school for her Ph.D., Teresa worked for the Clark County Family Court as a law clerk. She earned her Juris Doctor from the University of Massachusetts School of Law concurrently with her Master’s in Public Policy with a focus in Public Administration.

While Teresa attended law school in Massachusetts, she worked as a case manager for Southcoast Youth Courts, a juvenile diversion program. She was a judicial intern for dependency and delinquency courts in Massachusetts and was a student attorney for the Department of Family Services in her third year of law school. Teresa dedicated over 14 years of education to studying the systems that impact children involved in foster care and in the Division of Juvenile Justice Services.

In her free time Teresa enjoys any and all sporting events and camping. You can catch her dressed as a court jester kidnapped by pirates at Las Vegas Age of Chivalry Ren Faire and Pirate Fest.