

The New Hires - 2022



SANTA CLARA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

countyda.sccgov.org



William Bobseine graduated cum laude from Williams College in Williamstown, Massachusetts in 2010. He received his master's degree in International Relations and International Economics from The John Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies in Washington, D.C. in 2014. Mr. Bobseine began his law studies at the University of Maryland School of Law in 2018. While there, he was an Osborne Scholar and received the CALI Excellence for the Future Award: Civil Procedure I & II, Constitutional Law, Intro to Legal Research, Family Law and Property. After his first year in law school, he transferred to Stanford Law School. He received his law degree in June 2021. During his time at Stanford, he participated in the Stanford Law and Policy Review as a senior editor, China Law and Policy Association, the Prosecution Clinic: Elections Project, First Person: Law School Musical, and received Pro Bono Distinction.

Mr. Bobseine began his career at this Office as a law clerk as part of the Stanford Prosecution Clinic in early 2021. During his internship, he examined multiple witnesses and argued suppression hearings. He also prepared, conducted preliminary hearings, and responded to defense motions. He remembers a suppression hearing for a DUI defendant. "Here was a defendant sitting there, having the worst day of his young life. But he had a .26 blood alcohol content. Our job was to see his humanity and, also, not allow him to escape responsibility."

In 2021, Mr. Bobseine was hired as an associate for Latham & Watkins, LLP. In 2019, Mr. Bobseine clerked for the Baltimore City Office of the Public Defender in Maryland.

In 2015, Mr. Bobseine became an international trade specialist for the U.S. Department of Commerce in Washington, D.C. Over the next three years, the fluent Mandarin speaker cooperated with the U.S. and Chinese government colleagues and partners to engage in bilateral negotiations at the secretarial and presidential levels. He also coordinated with other agencies to promote the export of U.S. goods and services.

He had learned Mandarin as a student, thinking of whatever language would be the most interesting for a small-town kid from Fredonia, NY, an hour out of Buffalo. He found himself teaching in a mountain village even smaller than Fredonia – Yongfeng, where people would come from miles away just to see the tall foreigner.

Later, on a negotiating trip to China with the U.S. Department of Commerce, he realized that he wanted to be doing something that had a more direct effect on people around him than decreasing the trade deficit with China. Despite his father – a family court lawyer and magistrate - telling him to avoid becoming a lawyer, it seemed like a great path to advocate for the People.

Mr. Bobseine – one of whose three middle names is "Sweetwater," inspired by "Sweetwater" Clifton, one of the first Black men to play in the NBA - and his wife, Alina, welcomed a baby girl earlier this year.