

WORK EXPERIENCE

West Virginia University College of Law

Teaching Associate Professor & Director of Academic Excellence: Design and teach law school courses primarily focusing on criminal law, evidence, lawyering skills, legal writing, and bar preparation; oversee the academic support program, including conducting workshops designed to improve students' law school performance, managing a peer tutoring program, and assisting students to identify and overcome barriers to academic success. (June 2015 – Present)

Duquesne University School of Law

Assistant Professor of Clinical Legal Skills & Director of Academic Excellence: Same duties as described above. (September 2013 – July 2015)

Adjunct Professor of Legal Research & Writing: Taught legal research and writing to first-year students, provided detailed feedback on all student work product, conducted monthly individual student conferences, and judged appellate oral argument competitions. (August 2009 – May 2013)

Adjunct Professor (and Attorney Supervisor) of the Criminal Defense Externship: Instructed third-year students in a yearlong externship focusing on criminal law and procedure, trial advocacy, evidence, negotiation techniques, and client interviewing skills. (August 2008 – August 2013)

Allegheny County Office of Conflict Counsel

Assistant Chief Counsel: In addition to the duties of an Associate Counsel attorney, I supervised 15 attorneys across three divisions, oversaw the externship program, implemented procedures to increase office effectiveness, attended various board meetings, and conducted weekly staff calendar meetings. (May 2010 – August 2013)

Veterans Court Defense Counsel: Appointed to represent the military veterans participating in Allegheny County's Veterans Court program. (January 2010 – December 2012)

Associate Counsel: Represented indigent criminal defendants at all phases of the prosecution, including case preparation, motions drafting, plea negotiations, trial, and on appeal. (April 2008 – May 2010)

Certified Legal Intern: Participated in a yearlong externship, learning how to interview defendants, draft motions, prepare trial binders, and represent clients in court proceedings. (August 2005 – May 2006)

Allegheny County District Attorney's Office

Assistant District Attorney: Assisted trial attorneys by interviewing victims and police officers, gathering evidence, and drafting factual summaries; also represented the Commonwealth in summary appeals and first-time offender hearings. (August 2007 – March 2008)

Court of Common Pleas of Somerset County, Pennsylvania

Interim Hearing Officer: Conducted child support and spousal support hearings, drafted written findings of fact and conclusions of law, and offered recommendations to the trial court. (April 2007 – June 2007)

Judicial Law Clerk: Researched and wrote court opinions in all areas of the law for three trial judges; also maintained county law library resources and aided the public in legal research. (August 2006 – August 2007)

EDUCATION

Juris Doctorate from Duquesne University School of Law (2006)

- Named to the Order of the Barristers
- Competed in and student-coached several national mock trial competitions, including:
 - National Trial Advocacy Competition (Second Place in Region)
 - Buffalo-Niagara Mock Trial Competition (Second Place Overall)
 - Duquesne University Oral Argument Competition (First Place Overall)
- Received the Carol Los Mansmann Award for Excellence in Appellate Advocacy
- Earned the CALI Excellence for the Future Award for Legal Research and Writing
- Assisted professor in drafting and editing Pennsylvania criminal law treatise
- Studied Law of the European Union while abroad in Ireland

Bachelor of Science in Honors Psychology from University of Pittsburgh (2003)

- Graduated *Magna Cum Laude* from the Honors Department
- Nominated as a Chancellor's Fellow; researched, authored, and presented thesis entitled "Levels of Depression and Anxiety in Patients with the Hepatitis Virus or Hepatitis Related Hepatocellular Carcinoma."
- Obtained Latin American Studies Certification, after studying abroad in Mexico

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

Publications

Textbooks

- Evidence: Common Law and Federal Rules of Evidence (7th ed., LexisNexis 2015) (co-authored).
- Teaching Materials for Evidence: Common Law and Federal Rules of Evidence (LexisNexis 2015).

Trade Journals

- Do Law Schools Still Really Have the Option to Preclude Academically Underperforming Students from Participating in Experiential Learning Experiences?, *The Learning Curve* (AALS Section on Academic Support) (accepted for publication; forthcoming 2016).
- Scavenger Hunt, *The Learning Curve* (AALS Section on Academic Support), Winter 2016, at 15.
- News & Announcements, *The Second Draft* (Legal Writing Institute), Spring 2016, at 43.
- Using the Billable Hour to Help Shape Law Students' Time Management Skills, *The Learning Curve* (AALS Section on Academic Support), Winter 2015, at 13.
- Foreword to Fourth Colonial Frontier Legal Writing Conference: Teaching the Academically Underprepared Law Student, *Duquesne Law Review*, Vol 53.1, at 7 (2014).

Scholarly Presentations

- *Should academically underperforming law students be encouraged, rather than prohibited from participating in legal externships?*, Association of Academic Support Educators Annual Conference (May 2016).
- *Should academically underperforming law students be encouraged, rather than prohibited from participating in legal externships?*, Externships 8 Conference (March 2016).
- *Sentencing in Pennsylvania State Court: Collateral Consequences*, Pennsylvania Bar Institute (June 2015)
- *Practice for Success: Skills Training for Lawyers*, Allegheny County Bar Association (October 2014)
Award: American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division Award of Achievement, First Place in the Service to the Bar, Division 2B Category
- *Persuasive Use of Trial Exhibits*, American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division Annual Conference (May 2014)
- *Externship Supervisor Training*, Duquesne University School of Law (November 2013)
- *Is Miller v. Alabama's Ban on Automatic Life Sentences Just for Kids?*, Pennsylvania Bar Institute Criminal Law Symposium (July 2013)
- *Training Program for Lawyers Interested in Becoming Court-Appointed Criminal Defense Attorneys*, Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas (May 2013)
- *Effective Use of Suppression Motions in State Court*, Pennsylvania Bar Institute (October 2012)

Other Presentations

- “Stepping Out” at Central Catholic High School (February 2014)
- “Wills for Heroes” at the City of Pittsburgh Police Department (February 2014)
- Back to the Bar Program Mock Interview (October 2013)
- Guest speaker on Pennsylvania Cable Network’s show “Crime and Punishment” (January 2013)
- KD, You, & The Law (April 2012)
- Participant in panel presentations to law students about careers in public interest law (2010 to present)
- Various outreach programs for the Criminal Defense Externship (2008 to 2014)
- Guest coach and judge for numerous mock trial / moot court competitions (2006 to present)

AFFILIATIONS

Bar Admissions

- Will be admitted to the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia (October 2016)
- Admitted to the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania (# 203826)
- Admitted to the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania

Professional Memberships

- Member of the American Bar Association (2015 to present)
- Member of the Allegheny County Bar Association (2008-2015)
Criminal Litigation Section Council Member
Chair of the Young Lawyer’s Division Public Interest Committee’s Fairy Tale Mock Trial Bar Leadership Initiative Graduate, June 2014
- Member of the Duquesne Law School Alumni Association (2006-2015)

Community Involvement

- Make-A-Wish Wishmaker, granting three wishes so far
- Tough Mudder participant, raising money for the Wounded Warrior Project

- Regular donor to other charities such as the American Heart Association, the Hillebrand Scholarship Fund at St. Anne's Catholic School, and Christmas Angel Trees