

OF LAW

Washington, D.C.

Teaches Civil Procedure, Adoption Law, Family Law, Child Parent & State, Pretrial Litigation Practice and Appellate Advocacy 1999 to present

Law School Committees: Chair-2008 Self-Study Committee, Curriculum Review Committee, Chair-Academic Programs Committee, Judicial Clerkship Committee, Initial Appointments Committee, Law Journal Committee, Sabbatical Review Committee; Faculty Advisor, Howard Family Law Society

University Committee: Judicial Review Board

National Committees: Law School Admission Council-Board of Trustees (former Minority Affairs Committee and Pre-law Undergraduate Scholars Program Subcommittee member), American Bar Association's Family Law Section Child Custody Committee, AALS Executive Committee for the Civil Procedure Section, AALS Executive Committee for the Family Law Section

Community Service: Citizens Review Board for Children, Prince Georges County (appointed by Governor Ehrlich); Frederick B. Abramson Memorial Foundation, Board of Directors

**ASSOCIATE
PROFESSOR****WASHINGTON & LEE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW**
Lexington, VA.

Taught Family Law, Advanced Family Law, and Civil Procedure; was tenured in 1998. 1998 - 1999

Committees and Activities: AALS Executive Committee for the Civil Procedure Section, Faculty Appointments Committee, Virginia Continuing Legal Education Committee, Student Faculty Hearing Board, Faculty Advisor- Race and Ethnic Ancestry Law Journal

**ASSOCIATE
PROFESSOR****WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW**
Morgantown, W.VA.

Taught theoretical and practical application of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Federal Jurisdiction, Advanced Discovery Techniques, and Family Law. 1994-1998 (faculty unanimously voted for promotion and tenure in 1998)

Committees and Activities: West Virginia Law Institute's Adoption Law Reform Project Advisory Committee, Dean Search and Screen Committee, Academic Enrichment Committee, Cultural Diversity Committee, Ad Hoc Committee on Recruitment and Retention of Minority Students, Faculty Advisor - Black Law Students Association and First Year Peer Group, Faculty Mentor-Academic Support Program, Board of Directors-West Virginia Alliance for Women's Studies.

**LAWYERING
INSTRUCTOR****New York UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW**
New York, N.Y.

Taught Legal Writing (including research and analysis with emphasis on advisory and advocacy skills); used Torts, Constitutional Law, and Criminal Law problems as teaching tools; instructed students and critiqued their performance in interviewing, counseling, negotiation, oral advocacy, and trial simulations. 1993-1994

**TEACHING
FELLOW****HOWARD UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW**
Washington, D.C.

Wrote syllabus and lesson plans for legal writing instructors; instructed students on oral advocacy, research, case analysis, and legal writing techniques. Spring 1990

ADJUNCT**AMERICAN UNIVERSITY/ WASHINGTON COLLEGE OF LAW**

PROFESSOR

Washington, D.C.

Provided instruction on legal writing, oral advocacy, research, and professional ethics; supervised teaching assistants' classroom presentations. 1988-1990

VISITING FACULTY APPOINTMENTS

UNIVERSITY OF THE WESTERN CAPE

Cape Town, South Africa

Howard University School of Law Summer Abroad Program

Designed and taught International Mediation, Arbitration, and Restorative Justice course-a comparative survey of popular methods of alternative dispute resolution including theory, simulations, procedure and practice tips; subject areas included family law, commercial law, criminal law (including juvenile victim/offender mediation), and employment law issues; drafted problems for demonstration of procedure; the advantages and disadvantages of reconciliation and peacemaking were additional topics of lengthy discussions; issues related to successful dispute resolution processes including culture, gender and ethics were covered; practices in specific countries – the United States, South Africa, Egypt, Uganda, China, France, London, Sweden, Germany, Australia and Latin America-were discussed in detail. Summer 2005

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW

Syracuse, New York

Taught Adoption Law (new course) and Child, Parent & State and organized celebration for National Adoption Month. Fall 2004

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA COLLEGE OF LAW

Gainesville, FLA.

Taught theoretical and practical application of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. Summer 1997

WASHINGTON & LEE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

Lexington, VA.

Taught theoretical and practical application of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Federal Jurisdiction, and Legal Writing skills with assignments in writing complaints, answers, interrogatories, interoffice memoranda, and motions. Spring 1997

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

**ASSISTANT
GENERAL
COUNSEL**

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Office of General Counsel

Washington, D.C.

Defended WMATA in jury and bench trials and pretrial proceedings involving Torts and Products Liability issues; wrote pleadings, motions, and memoranda; served and responded to written discovery requests; interviewed and prepared witnesses; took and defended many depositions; wrote and argued appellate briefs; negotiated and mediated settlement of cases; wrote collection complaints; prepared a five-volume practice manual for WMATA attorneys; provided advice to WMATA officials on administrative issues. 1991-1993

**TRIAL
ATTORNEY**

FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION
Washington, D.C.

Filed claims against representatives of railroad carriers for violations of federal regulations; negotiated settlements; acted as Hearing Examiner at safety hearings; drafted legislation; responded to Freedom of Information Act requests. 1990-1991

ASSOCIATE **CROWELL & MORING**, Washington, D.C.

Litigation experience in several practice areas with a concentration in Products Liability, Torts, and Government Contracts; wrote pleadings and memoranda; conducted discovery; researched issues; managed pro bono employment discrimination cases; wrote updates for publications; recruited new associates. 1986-1990

**JUDICIAL
LAW CLERK** **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
Judge Anna Diggs Taylor, Detroit, MI.

Researched issues and recommended solutions for resolving disputes in criminal and civil disputes; drafted opinions and orders; monitored trials; acted as court bailiff. 1984-1986

**JUDICIAL
LAW CLERK** **SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**
Judge Harriett Rosen Taylor, Washington, D.C.

Recommended decisions for civil and criminal proceedings; drafted orders; assisted the courtroom clerk during court proceedings. 1983-1984

LAW CLERK **DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**
Crystal City, VA.

Assisted counsel in preparing a case for trial and presenting it before an administrative law judge; wrote an appellate brief and interrogatories; researched Government Contracts issues. Summer 1982

**PARALEGAL/
OFFICE
MANAGER** **WOODSON & WOODSON, P.C.**
Washington, D.C.

Drafted pleadings, demand letters, and other correspondence; filed documents with courts; communicated with clients; paid bills; ordered supplies; maintained office schedule; supervised law clerks and secretaries. 1978-1980

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

District of Columbia Bar Association
Arbitrator, Attorney-Client Arbitration Board (1990-1995, 2000 to 2008)
American Association of Adoption Attorneys, Honorary Member (2007 to present)
American Bar Association (since 1982)
Section of Dispute Resolution, Litigation Section, Family Law Section
Association of American Law Schools
Executive Committee for the Family Law Section
Executive Committee for the Civil Procedure Section (1998-2000)
Citizen Review Board for Children (Prince Georges County, Maryland) (2006 to 2009)
Board of Directors, Frederick B. Abramson Memorial Foundation (2006-2009)
International Society of Family Law
Editorial Board, FAMILY COURT REVIEW (2004-2008)
Law School Admission Council, Board of Trustees (2008 to present)

Family Mediator, Superior Court of the District of Columbia (2002 to present)
National Bar Association
Mountain State Bar Association, Inc. (1993 – 2002)
Editorial Board, *Washington Lawyer Magazine* (1987-1990)
American Association of Law Schools Mentoring Program (1997-1998)

PROFESSIONAL AWARDS

Distinguished Faculty Author for Scholarly Work Published
Howard University (2001, 2002, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009)
Award in Appreciation for Hard Work, Support and Dedication, Washington & Lee University School of Law's Race and Ethnic Ancestry Law Journal Editorial Staff 1998 - 1999
Cheikh Anta Diop Award (for scholarship and research)
West Virginia University Center for Black Culture and Research 1998
Mountain State Bar Association's Special Recognition Award 1998
WVU Black Students Association's Award for Outstanding Dedication and Efforts 1998
Black Law Students Association's Attorney of the Year Award 1996
National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education Award 1991
National Bar Association President's Compass Award 1990
National Organization of Victim Assistance's Certificate of Achievement 1988
HOWARD LAW JOURNAL Award of Merit 1983

PUBLICATIONS

Joint/Shared Parenting: Valuing All Families as Applicants in the Adoption Process, 17 J. GENDER, SOC. POL'Y & L. 101-26 (2009).

A MEPA-IEP Review: Continuing to Make Permissible Assessments Based on Race for the Best Interests of Children of Color (work in progress to be published in Volume 39 of the Capital University Law Review in the fall of 2009).

Multicultural and Bicultural Families in Conflict (considering a child's multicultural background in custody disputes)(accepted for publication in Spring 2010 by the Washington and Lee Journal of Civil Rights and Social Justice in the spring of 2010).

TEACHERS' MANUAL, ADOPTION LAW: THEORY, POLICY AND PRACTICE (2008).

Looking Beyond the United States: How Other Countries Handle Issues Related to Unwed Fathers in the Adoption Process, 29 Capital L. Rev. 363-412 (2007).

ADOPTION LAW: THEORY, POLICY AND PRACTICE (2006) (lead co-author with Lisa Kelly).

Opening Another Exit for Children from the Child Welfare System-Why Some Gays and Lesbians Should be Allowed to Adopt Children in Florida, 18 ST. THOMAS L. REV. 269-324 (2006).

Disappearing Act: Encouraging Fathers to Reappear for their Children, 7 J. LAW & FAM. STUD. 111-34 (2005).

Who is the Baby's Daddy (and why is it important for the child to know?), 34 UNIV. BALT. L. REV. 211-39 (2005).

Essay, *Children Who Led The Desegregation Revolution*, Vol. 14 THE JURIST (Howard Alumni Magazine) 13-16 (2005).

"I want my real father"-the Delicate Balance of Identifying Fathers and Parenting Children Created from an In Vitro Fertilization Mix-up, 18 NAT'L BLACK L.J. (COLUMBIA) 203-62 (2004).

Coming to America: The Child's Voice in Asylum Proceedings, 11 TEMPLE POL. & CIV. RTS. L. REV. 63-110 (December 2001).

Second Chances—Insuring that Poor Families Remain Intact by Minimizing Socioeconomic Ramifications of Poverty, 103 W. VA. L. REV. 559-666 (2000) (cited in LYNN WARDLE AND LAURENCE NOLAN, FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF FAMILY LAW 334 (2002)).

The Traumatic and Chaotic Aftermath of a Baby Switch, WM. & MARY J. WOMEN IN THE LAW 1-66 (1999) [lead article].

African Americans are not Carbon Copies of White Americans — The Role of African American Culture in Mediation of Family Disputes, 13 OHIO ST. J. DISP. RESOL. 405-60 (1998) (cited in THE CONFLICT & CULTURE READER 198 (Pat K. Chew, ed. 2001)).

Warning! The Manufacturer of this Product May Have Engaged In Cover-ups, Lies, and Concealment-- Making the Case for Limitless Punitive Awards in Product Liability Cases, 73 IND. L.J. 187-253 (1997) (cited in DOUGLAS RENDLEMAN, REMEDIES 192 (2d ed. 1998)); lengthy excerpt reprinted in a college textbook - NEIL BROWNE AND NANCY KUBASEK, ROUNDTABLE VIEWPOINTS: BUSINESS LAW (2008).

Love Alone Is Not Enough in Transracial Adoptions--Scrutinizing Recent Statutes, Agency Policies, and Prospective Adoptive Parents, 42 WAYNE L. REV. 1349-1422 (1996) [lead article].

Reaffirming Affirmative Action --We've Come A Long Way, But Not Far Enough, RACE AND ETHNIC ANCESTRY LAW DIGEST (WASHINGTON & LEE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW) 1-18 (April 1996) [lead article].

Book Review, 14 NAT'L. BLACK L.J. (UCLA) 173-80 (1996) (reviewing J. CLAY SMITH, JR., EMANCIPATION OF THE BLACK LAWYER 1844-1944 (1993)).

Case and Statute Summaries in the ENCYCLOPEDIA OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN EDUCATION 156-57, 190-91, 275-76, 488-89 (Faustine C. Jones-Wilson, et al., eds., 1996).

Brother Can You Spare a Dime? Can You Spare Your Privacy, Too?, 28 U.S.F. L. REV. 309-41 (1994).

The Supreme Court Opens a Pandora's Box in the Law of Warrantless Automobile Searches, 26 HOW. L.J. 1231 (1983).

CBS, NBC, and ABC Should Continue to Be Barred From Owning Cable Systems: A Brief for the Status Quo, 12 NAT'L B. A. L.J. 1 (1983) (co-author).

SPEECHES AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Multicultural and Bicultural Families in Conflict: Making Culture a Customary Factor for Consideration in Child Custody Disputes, International Association of Law and Mental Health, New York University School of Law, Manhattan, NY, June 29, 2009

A MEPA-IEP Review: Continuing to Make Permissible Assessments Based on Race for the Best Interests of Children of Color, Capital University's Fifth Annual Wells Conference on Adoption Law, Columbus, OH., March 12, 2009

Joint/Shared Parenting: Valuing All Families as Applicants in the Adoption Process, Valuing All Families under Law, Journal of Gender, Social Policy and the Law Symposium, American University Washington College of Law in Washington, D.C., January 26, 2009 (co-panelist)

An Update on Adoption Law, the Inaugural Annual Midwest Family Law Conference, Indiana University School of Law in Indianapolis, IND., June 13, 2008

Making a Place for Culture in Child Custody Determinations, ABA-FLS & APA Joint Continuing Education Conference in Chicago, ILL., May 1, 2008 (plenary session-keynote speaker)

Child Support Obligations for Incarcerated Parents, Annual Meeting of the New Jersey Child Support Council in Atlantic City, N.J., February 8, 2008 (co-panelist)

Family Law Issues in In Vitro Mix-ups, 63rd Annual Meeting of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine in Washington, D.C., October 14, 2007 (co-panelist)

Accountability to Prospective and Current Adoptive Families, Evan B. Donaldson Adoption Institute Conference in Arlington, VA., October 16, 2007 (keynote speaker)

Perspectives on Incarcerated Parents, Department of Health and Human Services, Workshop on Child Support Enforcement in Washington, D.C., September 10, 2007 (co-panelist)

Empowering Parents and their Children to Create Healthy Transracial Adoptions, Annual Conference of the International Association of Law and Mental Health, in Padua, Italy, June 25, 2007 (moderator and co-panelist)

Hot Topics in Adoption, Rhode Island Bar Association Annual Meeting, in Providence, R.I., June 15, 2007 (co-panelist and special invitee)

Looking Beyond the United States: How Other Countries Handle Issues Related to Unwed Fathers in the Adoption Process, at Capital University Law School's Third Annual Wells Conference on Adoption Law in Columbus, OH, February 17, 2007

Adoption Awareness 2007 Program, Howard University School of Law in Washington, D.C., January 19, 2007 (moderator and organizer)

Pre- and Post-adoptive Care and Services for the Protection of Special Needs Children, International Conference – 100 Years of Child Protection, International Society of Family Law (co-sponsor), Vrije University in Amsterdam, Netherlands, November 28, 2005

Opening another Exit for Children from the Child Welfare System-Why Some Gays and Lesbians should be allowed to Adopt Children in Florida, Symposium on Same Sex Adoption, Stetson University College of Law in Tampa, FLA., September 28, 2005

Mediation as a Method of Resolving Family Law Disputes, Presentation to the Family Law Society, Syracuse, University in Syracuse, N.Y., October 25, 2004

Disappearing Acts: Encouraging Fathers to Reconnect to their Children, Presentation at the International Society of Family Law World Conference in Beijing, China, July 19, 2004

The Widespread Impact of the Brown Decision, Presentation at the Superior Court of the District of Columbia's Annual Black History Month Celebration in Washington, D.C., February 27, 2004

Who is the Baby's Daddy?, Presentation at the Mid-Atlantic People of Color Conference, University of Baltimore, Baltimore, MD., January 30, 2004

"I want my real father"-the Delicate Balance of Choosing the Right Parents for Children Created from an In Vitro Fertilization Mix-up at The International Society of Family Law North American Regional Conference-Technological Influences on the Development of Family Law in Eugene, ORE., June 27, 2003

Managing Conflict and Removing Barriers to Collaborative Decision Making in Mediation of Family Disputes, Presentation at The Center for Alternative Dispute Resolution's 15th Annual Conference in Greenbelt, MD., June 19, 2003

Expanding the Universe of Law Schools from Which Law Professors Are Recruited, Presentation at the Association of American Law Schools' Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA., January 4, 2002

Guardians Ad Litem: Should the Child's Best Interests Advocate Give More Credence to the Child's Best Wishes?, American Bar Association Family Law Section's Fall Meeting in Kansas City, MO., April 19, 2001

A Law Professor's Pledge-Road Map for Becoming A Law Clerk in the Judicial System, Presentation at the National Bar Association's Judicial Council Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., August 10, 2000 (co-panelist)

Mandalo Para Su Casa (Send him home)-The Elian Gonzalez Custody Battle Should End, Presentation at the Northeast People of Color Legal Scholarship Conference in San Juan, P.R., April 15, 2000

Ensuring That Poor Families Remain Intact in Neglect Matters, Presentation at the Family Law in the Year 2000 Symposium, West Virginia University College of Law in Morgantown, W.VA., March 3, 2000

Identifying Your Mission in the Legal Field and Pushing Toward It, Presentation to the Black Law Students Association, West Virginia University College of Law in Morgantown, W.VA., March 4, 2000

Don't Forget God (as you climb the ladder of success), Presentation to Washington & Lee University School of Law's Christian Legal Society in Lexington, VA., February 25, 1999

Mastering the Job Talk and Call Back Aspects of the Recruitment Process, Presentation to Candidates at the American Association of Law Schools Recruitment Conference in Washington, D.C., October, 29, 1998

Epilogue of a Baby Switch, Presentation to the Women Law Students Organization, Washington & Lee University School of Law in Lexington, VA., September 24, 1998

Cross-Examination of a Physician in a Personal Injury Trial, CLE Presentation at the Mountain State Bar Association Inc.'s Fall Meeting in Huntington, W.VA., September 12, 1998

Panelist, *Guerilla Survival Tactics for Law Professors in the Age of Retrenchment*, Southeast/Southwest Law Teachers of Color 1998 Conference in Atlanta, GA., May 9, 1998

Panelist, *Contemporary U.S. Families: Responding to Realities from a Legal Perspective*, Twelfth Annual JoAnne & Charles Dickinson Symposium in Women Studies, West Virginia University in Morgantown, W.VA., February 26, 1998

Panelist, *The Aftermath of Brown v. Board of Education*, Florida Coastal School of Law's Conference on Rethinking Desegregation: New Perspectives From an Original Source in Jacksonville, FLA., June 11, 1997

Panelist, *Multi-Racial and Bi-Racial Identity and the Definition of Family*, Mid-Atlantic People of Color Scholarship Conference in Louisville, KY., February 14, 1997

Domestic Violence in West Virginia, West Virginia University College of Law's Observance of Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Morgantown, WV., October 28, 1996

Domestic Violence, CLE Presentation at the Mountain State Bar Association Inc.'s Fall Meeting in Huntington, W.VA., September 28, 1996

You Can Be a Lawyer like Me, Career Day, Maggie L. Walker Middle School 390 in Brooklyn, N.Y., May 22, 1996

Panelist, *Love Alone Is Not Enough in Transracial Adoptions--Scrutinizing the Multiethnic Placement Act of 1994 and Prospective Parents*, The Mid-Atlantic People of Color Legal Scholarship Conference, Paper Presentation, Howard University School of Law in Washington, D.C., February 17, 1996

Panelist, *Reaffirming Affirmative Action*, Civil Rights Symposium 1996, Washington & Lee University School of Law in Lexington, VA., February 16, 1996

Update on West Virginia Family Law, CLE Presentation at the West Virginia University College of Law in Morgantown, W.VA., October 28, 1995

Preparing Witnesses for Trial, Lugar Trial Association in Morgantown, W.VA., September 19, 1995

Negotiating Personal Injury Settlements with Defense Firms, CLE Presentation at the West Virginia State Bar's Annual Meeting in Huntington, W.VA., May 6, 1995

Reaching out to Touch Parents for West Virginia's Children, CLE Presentation on the West Virginia Long-arm Statute at the Office of Child Advocate's Statewide Conference in Morgantown, W.VA., March 28, 1995

Media Presentations and Writings

Adoption Awareness, Horizons, WHUR Radio Broadcast (October 27, 2007) (one-half hour interview)

Michael Jackson's Indictment and Child Custody Issues, Black Entertainment Television (BET) (2003)

Martin Luther King Day, Morgantown, West Virginia, Local NBC News Broadcast (2001)

Parental Rights in Child Abuse and Neglect Cases, AFRO-AMERICAN NEWSPAPER, Washington, D.C. (2000)

Switched babies' families face many complicated issues, THE ROANOKE TIMES, August 22, 1998, at A9 (opinion editorial)

References and reprints will be provided upon request.