

Heather M. Kolinsky, JD, LL.M.

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of Florida Levin College of Law, Gainesville, FL 2023-present
Legal Skills Professor

Courses: Legal Writing I and II; Family Law; Florida Bar Topics

Washington & Lee University School of Law, Lexington, VA 2021-2023
Professor of Practice

Courses: Legal Writing I and II; Professional Responsibility

Barry University School of Law, Orlando, FL 2006-2014
Associate Professor of Law
Director of Legal Research and Writing (2008-2012)

Courses: Legal Research and Writing I and II; Professional Responsibility; Advanced Appellate Advocacy; Judicial Externships

EDUCATION

Emory University School of Law, Atlanta, GA
LL.M. 2015
Research Assistant to Professor Richard Freer

Rutgers University School of Law, Camden, NJ
Juris Doctor 1993
Foreign and International Law Honors Program Certificate

Stetson University, DeLand, FL
Bachelor of Arts, Social Science 1990

JUDICIAL CLERKSHIP

U. S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida, Orlando, FL Sept. 2018- July 2021
Judicial Clerk to Magistrate Judge Gregory J. Kelly
Researched pending motions and drafted orders for motions related to discovery, dismissal, jurisdiction, conditional class certification, summary judgment, attorney's fees; reviewed and prepared orders on social security appeals and immigration appeals; occasionally researched and prepared orders on criminal matters.

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Fundamental Rights and Fair Fights: Holding Out for Legal Parent Recognition under State Multiparent Recognition Statutes

59 LOY. L.A. L. REV. (forthcoming 2026)

Transitioning from Being a Practicing Lawyer to a Law School Professor: Learning to Be “Teacher You” (co-authored)

32 PERSPECTIVES: TEACHING LEGAL RSCH. AND WRITING (forthcoming 2025)

First Steps: Using Questions to Scaffold Students’ Approach to Counterarguments in Persuasive Legal Writing

5 PROCEEDINGS 25 (2024)

Building Resilience by Removing Barriers: Addressing Structural Impediments to Advocacy by Nonprofit Organizations on Behalf of the Unenfranchised (co-authored)

92 U. CIN. L. REV. 786 (2024)

Situating the Corporation within the Vulnerability Paradigm: What Impact Does Corporate Personhood Have on Vulnerability, Dependency, and Resilience

25 AM. U. J. GEN. SOC. POL’Y & L. 51 (2017)

The Shibboleth of Discretion: The Discretion, Identity and Persecution Paradigm in American and Australian LGBT Asylum Claims

31 BERKELEY J. GEN., LAW & JUST. 206 (2016)

The Intended Parent: The Power and Problems Inherent in Designating and Determining Intent in the Context of Parental Rights

119 PENN. ST. L. REV. 1 (2015)

The Ties that Bind: Reevaluating the Role of Legal Presumptions of Paternity

48 LOY. L.A. L. REV. 221 (2014)

Just Because You Can Doesn’t Mean You Should: Viewing an Attorney’s Liability for Defamation During Litigation through the Lens of Professionalism

37 NOVA L. REV. 113 (2012)

Taking Away an Employer’s Free Pass: Making the Case for a More Sophisticated Sex Plus Analysis in Employment Discrimination Cases

36 VT. L. REV. 329 (2011)

A Fine Line, Redefined: Moving Toward More Equitable Asylum Policies

40 U. BALT. L. REV. 101 (2011)

Respecting Working Mothers with Infant Children: The Need for Increased Federal Intervention to Develop, Protect, and Support a Breastfeeding Culture in the United States
17 DUKE J. GEN. L. & POL'Y 333 (2010) (symposium edition)

PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS

Storytelling, The Sound of Music, and Special Teams: Revisiting Some Basic Legal Writing Techniques with Fresh Eyes, THE FLA. BAR JOURNAL, Vol. 96, No. 4 (July/Aug. 2022).

Navigating the Differences in Circuit Court Appellate Jurisdiction for Nonfinal Orders, THE FLA. BAR JOURNAL, Vol. 93, No. 1 (Jan./Feb. 2019).

Recent Changes in the Appellate Rules and Administrative Orders, THE BRIEFS, Orange County Bar Association (June 2018).

Imputed Income and Incarceration: Establishing Child Support When a Parent Is Incarcerated, COMMENTATOR, The Fla. Bar Family Law Section, Vol. XXXI, No. 3 (Spring 2018).

The Effect of a Bankruptcy Stay on a Subsequently Filed Appeal, THE RECORD, Fla. Bar Appellate Practice Section (Winter 2016).

SELECT PRESENTATIONS

Southeastern Association of Law Schools, July 2025
Discussant, Family Law Workshop, *Family Law Pedagogy*

Association of Legal Writing Directors Biennial Conference, July 2025
Discussant, *The Secret to Getting a Good Mentor is Being a Good Protégé: The Importance of Two-Way Mentorship*

AALS New Law Teachers Workshop, June 2025
Moderator, *Course Design and Classroom Implementation for Faculty Teaching Legal Analysis, Writing, and Research*
Facilitator, *Putting it into Practice – Course Design Demonstrations*

LWI One-Day Conference, University of Florida Levin College of Law, May 2025
Panelist, *A Collaborative Memo Experiment: Harnessing the Power, Precision, and Persuasion of Three*

Florida Bar Appellate Practice Section, February 2025
Presenter, CLE Webinar Series, *Storytelling, The Sound of Music, and Special Teams: Revisiting Some Basic Legal Writing Techniques with Fresh Eyes*

Mid-Atlantic Family Law Scholars Roundtable, December 2024
Presenter, *Fundamental Rights and Fair Fights: Holding On to Holding Out in Multiparent Recognition*

Western Regional Legal Writing Conference, September 2024
Presenter, *First Steps: Using Questions to Scaffold Students' Approach to Counterarguments in Persuasive Legal Writing*

Southeastern Association of Law Schools, July 2024
Discussant, Family Law Workshop, *Family Law New & Emerging Scholarship*
Discussant, Family Law Workshop, *Family Law Pedagogy*

Southeastern Association of Law Schools, July 2023
Moderator/Panelist, Works-in-Progress Panel, *Holding Out for a Hero: Fundamental Rights, Fair Fights, and the Reality of Assigning Parental Rights under Third Parent Statutes*

Mid-Atlantic Family Law Scholars Roundtable, December 2022
Incubator Session, *Fundamental Rights and Fair Fights: The Reality of Assigning Parental Rights Beyond the Binary*

Family Law Scholars and Teachers Conference, June 2022
Incubator Session, *Fundamental Rights and Fair Fights: The Reality of Assigning Parental Rights Beyond the Binary*

Florida Bar Appellate Practice Section
Appealing Wisely and Avoiding Un-Appealing Mistakes, January 2018
Panelist, *Appellate Advocacy 101: Appellate Briefs and Motions Structure and Strategy*

Florida Bar Appellate Practice Section
Appellate Practice A to Z: Appellate Advocacy for Legal Services Lawyers, May 2017
Panelist, *Appellate Advocacy 101: Circuit & DCA Appeals*

Vulnerability and the Human Condition Initiative: A Workshop on Vulnerability at the Intersection of the Changing Firm and the Changing Family
Emory University School of Law, October 2015
Presenter, *Vulnerability and the Shifting Sands of Corporate Personhood*

Law and Society Association, Annual Conference, May 2015
Presenter, *The Shibboleth of Discretion: The Discretion, Identity and Persecution Paradigm in American and Australian LGBT Asylum Claims*

Emerging Family Law Scholars and Teachers Conference, May 2014
Work in Progress, *The Ties That Bind: Reevaluating Legal Presumptions of Paternity*
Incubator Session, *The Intentional Parent: The Power and Problems Inherent in Designating and Determining Intent in the Context of Parental Rights*

Symposium, Duke University School of Law, Journal of Gender Law and Policy, February 2010
Speaker, *Respecting Working Mothers with Infant Children: The Need for Increased Federal Intervention to Develop, Protect, and Support a Breastfeeding Culture in the United States*

OTHER LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Chad Barr Law, Altamonte Springs, FL

Dec. 2016-Sept. 2018

Appellate Attorney

Managed heavy state appellate caseload; prepared appellate briefs and extraordinary writ petitions in a variety of civil and family law cases; argued cases before the District Courts of Appeal.

HMKLaw, P.A., Orlando, FL

July 2015-Dec. 2016

Attorney/Owner

Prepared appellate briefs and extraordinary writ petitions in civil and family law cases, provided litigation support to local counsel by conducting research and drafting complex motions and pleadings, argued cases before the District Courts of Appeal.

Fox & Loquasto, P.A., Orlando, FL

May 2015-Dec. 2016

Of Counsel

Prepared appellate briefs and extraordinary writ petitions in a variety of civil and family law cases; argued cases before the District Courts of Appeal.

Law Offices of Steven M. Fahlgren, P.A., Orlando, FL

2002-2005

Associate Attorney (part-time)

Federal and state litigation in employment and consumer protection.

Ninth Judicial Circuit Court of Florida, Orlando, FL

1997-2014

Staff Attorney (full time 1997-2001; contract 2001-2006, 2014)

Conducted research for circuit judges and prepared orders on a variety of appellate, civil, criminal, domestic relations and probate matters, including death penalty postconviction cases.

PROFESSIONAL AWARDS

FLORIDA TREND, Legal Elite 2018 (Appellate Practice)

FLORIDA TREND, Legal Elite 2017 (Appellate Practice)

Florida Association for Women Lawyers, 2016 Leader in the Law Award

SERVICE

Professional

American Association of Law Schools

Member, Planning Committee for New Law Teachers Workshop 2025

Association of Legal Writing Directors

Member, Teaching Workshops Committee 2025-2026

Delegate (2024-2026)

Legal Writing Institute

Editorial Board, THE JOURNAL OF THE LEGAL WRITING INSTITUTE (2024-present)

Co-Coordinator, LWI One-Day Workshop, University of Florida 2023

Southeastern Association of Law Schools

Volunteer, Prospective Law Teachers Program (2024, 2025)

Florida Bar Appellate Practice Section

Executive Council, Fifth District Representative (2017-2020; 2021-2024)

Editor for submissions to THE FLORIDA BAR JOURNAL (2020-2022)

Assistant Editor for submissions to THE FLORIDA BAR JOURNAL (2018-2022)

Pro Bono Attorney, Defending Best Interests Project (2017-2018)

Central Florida Association for Women Lawyers

Executive Board (2017-2019, 2021-2022)

Nominating Committee (2023)

Orange County Bar Association

Board Member, OCBA Legal Aid Society Board of Trustees (2018-2019)

Volunteer, Valor Project (2016-2018)

Guardian Ad Litem (2017-2018)

Orange County Teen Court (1997-2005)

Institutional Service/Student Advising/Committees

University of Florida

Chair, Judicial Clerkships Committee

Adjunct Teaching Committee

Bar Exam Mentor

Non-Tenure Track Appointments, Retention, and Promotions Committee

Affiliated Faculty, Center for Children and Families

Student Note Advisor

BLSA 1L Boot Camp/Orientation
Introduction to Lawyering – Guest Lecturer
1L Orientation – Introduction to Legal Analysis
Introduction to Law – Guest Lecturer
Chomp the Bar – Guest Lecturer

Washington & Lee University

Davis Moot Court Competition, Brief Grader for Final Eight
W & L Mediation Competition, Judge
Student Note Advisor
1L Orientation – Introduction to U.S. Legal System and Case Briefing
Law School Representative, University Faculty Executive Committee
Law Marshal Committee, W & L Law Commencement

Community

Volunteer, Florida High School Moot Court Competition (2024-present)
Volunteer, Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida (2011-2018)
Volunteer, Boy Scouts of America (2008-2020)
Troop Leader, Girl Scouts of America, Citrus Council (2006-2012)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Bar Association
Florida Bar
Central Florida Association for Women Lawyers (past member)
Orange County Bar Association (past member)
Central Florida American Inns of Court (past member)
Federal Bar Association (past member)

BAR ADMISSIONS

Florida Bar
Connecticut Bar (retired)
United States Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals
United States Middle District Court of Florida (2018-2025)