

Heather M. Kolinsky, JD, LL.M.

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of Florida Levin College of Law, Gainesville, FL

Director of Legal Writing and Drafting

2026-present

Legal Skills Professor

2023-present

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

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 (2008-2011)

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, criminal matters, reviewed and prepared orders on social security appeals and immigration appeals.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

“What if the Kid Wants to Be an Astronaut?” Using Alignment Triads to Build a Theoretical Framework for Universal Resilience

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

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

59 LOY. L.A. L. REV. 101 (2026)

Bluebook Bites: Practicing Legal Citations One Day at a Time

THE SECOND DRAFT Spring 2026

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

32 PERSP. 35 (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, FLA. BAR J., Vol. 96, No. 4 (July/Aug. 2022).

Navigating the Differences in Circuit Court Appellate Jurisdiction for Nonfinal Orders, FLA. BAR J., 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 2026
Discussant, *Anchored in Authority: Strategies for Teaching Legal Research and Citation in an AI-Driven Age*

Legal Writing Institute, Biennial Conference, July 2026
Presenter, *Toolkit to Build Community, Enhance Communications, and Improve Your Teaching During the Semester for Gen Z and Beyond*

Family Law Teachers and Scholars Conference, June 2026
Presentation, Incubator, *"What if the Kid Wants to Be an Astronaut?" Using Alignment Triads to Build a Theoretical Framework for Universal Resilience*

Law and Society Association, Annual Conference, May 2026
Panelist, *Boundaries, Norms & Tensions in the Realm of Parenting and Intimate Relationship Formation*

Presenter, *“What if the Kid Wants to Be an Astronaut?” Using Alignment Triads to Build a Theoretical Framework for Universal Resilience*

Southeast Regional Family Law Workshop, December 2025

Presenter, Incubator, *“What if the Kid Wants to Be an Astronaut?” Divining a Theoretical Framework at the Intersection of Parental Autonomy and Children’s Rights in a Decompensating State*

Arizona State University Legal Writing Scholarship Roundtable (Virtual), September 2025

Discussant, *Moving from Scaffolding Counterarguments to a Broader Conversation About Counterarguments*

Southeastern Association of Law Schools, July 2025

Discussant, Family Law Workshop, *Family Law Pedagogy*

Association of Legal Writing Directors Biennial Conference, July 2025

Panelist, *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

Presenter, Work in Progress Session, *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*

SERVICE

Professional

American Association of Law Schools

Awards Committee for LWRR Section 2026

Planning Committee for New Law Teachers Workshop 2025

Legal Writing Institute

Editorial Board, THE JOURNAL OF THE LEGAL WRITING INSTITUTE 2024-2027

Book Review Editor for Volumes 31 and 32

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

Association of Legal Writing Directors

Teaching Workshops Committee 2025-2026

Delegate 2024-2026

American Bar Association

Brief Grader, National Appellate Advocacy Competition 2026

Southeastern Association of Law Schools

Volunteer, Prospective Law Teachers Program 2024-present

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

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

Ad Hoc Committee on Assessments & Outcomes/ABA 315
Chair, Judicial Clerkships Committee
Adjunct Teaching Committee
Summer Bar Exam Mentor
Non-Tenure Track Appointments, Retention, and Promotions Committee
Affiliated Faculty, Center for Children and Families
Student Note Advisor
Volunteer Judge, Moot Court Program
Black Law Students Association
Presenter/Panelist, BLSA 1L Boot Camp/Orientation
Presenter/Panelist, BLSA 1L Legal Writing/Editing Workshop
Presenter/Panelist, BLSA 1L Oral Argument Workshop
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 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

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 petitions for extraordinary writs in a variety of civil and family law cases; argued cases before Florida's 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; OPS 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 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)