

MELISSA WURTZEL O'SHEA

EDUCATION:

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF LAW Champaign, IL
Juris Doctor, May 2003, *cum laude*
Dean's List, Fall 2001- Spring 2003
Honors, Legal Research and Writing and Oral Advocacy

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA CHAMPAIGN Urbana-Champaign, IL
B.A. in Political Science, minor in Philosophy, May 2000
Women's Varsity Gymnastics Team, Member, 1996-1997
Student Teaching Assistant, Small Group Communication, Fall 1999

WORK EXPERIENCE:

Michigan State University East Lansing, MI
Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science August 2014- Present
Prepare lesson plans and teach large introductory social science lectures relating to the United States Supreme Court, focusing on critical reading and analysis skills. Prepare and teach seminar lectures on variety of topics, including introductory judicial process, constitutional law, moot court, and mock trial. Developed and implemented a legal internship program for law bound students, including a seminar on a variety of legal skills to prepare students for the legal workplace.

Michigan State University College of Law East Lansing, MI
Adjunct Professor of Law August 2010 -May 2014
Prepare lesson plans and teach weekly classes to first-year and upper level J.D. students. Use a substantive area of law to teach students how to research and write objective memoranda, appellate briefs, and litigation documents. Conduct exercises to teach oral advocacy skills. Developed upper level civil litigation course, including pre-trial writing and trial skills. Meet with students individually to review work product, answer questions, and provide curricular advice. Review and grade student work product, providing extensive feedback on strength of arguments, quality of writing, and citation format.

Michigan State University College of Law East Lansing, MI
Visiting Clinical Professor May 2013 – August 2013
Review and analyze Externship Program for potential modifications. Implemented and taught academic seminars relating to legal field placements, including Professionalism, Professional Responsibility, and Research and Writing skills. Review student reflection papers and provide comment and feedback on papers to assist students in maximizing the benefits of their field placement. Met with site supervisors to review appropriateness of the site for student placement and any concerns regarding students placed at the site.

Cardelli, Lanfear & Buikema Royal Oak, MI
Associate February 2009 – March 2010
Conducted legal research and writing in a variety of litigation matters, including drafting of various motions to the court. Attended depositions in complex litigation cases.

Cuddy, Kennedy, Albetta, Ives & Archuleta-Staehlin, LLP Santa Fe, NM
Associate January 2006- July 2008
General litigation attorney with experience in labor and employment law, special education law, civil rights, and personal injury defense. Regularly drafted discovery requests and responses, complaints and answers, and dispositive motions, including motions for summary judgment and motions for judgment on the pleadings. Prepared multiple appellate briefs to state court of appeals, state supreme court, and federal court of appeals. Attended IEPs and presented seminars to local schools districts on changes in

the IDEA and implementation of those changes.

Pretzel & Stouffer, Chartered
Summer Associate
Litigation Associate

Chicago, IL
June 2002-August 2002
June 2003- August 2005

Maintained a general litigation and insurance defense practice, specializing in personal injury, medical malpractice, and breach of contract. Extensive motion practice included drafting and arguing motions to dismiss, motions for summary judgment, and motions in limine. Took and defended numerous depositions, including party, fact, and expert depositions. Attended and conducted settlement conferences before the court and conducted settlement negotiations with opposing counsel.

Webber & Thies, P.C.
Law Clerk

Urbana, IL
May 2001- May 2003

Drafted complaints for ADA/ADEA and environmental tort cases. Prepared discovery requests, interviewed witnesses, and participated in locating and hiring experts. Met with clients and drafted correspondence to clients and opposing counsel. Conducted legal research and drafted memoranda on issues relating to environmental torts, employment discrimination, and estate planning.

Professor Matthew Finkin, University of Illinois
Student Editor
Prepared foreign Bluebook citations for journal publication.

Urbana Champaign, IL
August 2001-May 2003

Professor Elaine Shoben, University of Illinois
Research Assistant

Urbana Champaign, IL
December 2002-May 2003

Assisted in research and Bluebook citations for employment discrimination journal publications.

PUBLICATIONS

Melissa Wurtzel O'Shea, *Student Search and Seizure in the Public Schools*, EDUCATION LAW QUARTERLY, July 2008

Melissa Wurtzel O'Shea & John F. Kennedy, *Student Search and Seizure in Public Schools – A Legal Analysis*, NEW MEXICO LAWYER, June 2, 2008

Melissa Wurtzel O'Shea, *Compliance With Rules and Regulations Regarding Electronic Communication*, THE ADVOCATE, Spring 2008 at 8

Melissa Wurtzel O'Shea, *Courts Won't Interfere in Employee Evaluation Process*, THE ADVOCATE, Fall 2007/Winter 2008 at 8

Melissa Wurtzel O'Shea, *Courts Won't Interfere in Employee Evaluation Process*, EDUCATION LAW QUARTERLY, September 2007

Melissa Wurtzel O'Shea, *Denying Grades or Course Credit for Truancy – Caution is Advised*, THE ADVOCATE, Spring 2007 at 15

Melissa Wurtzel O'Shea, *Electronic Data Subject to New Federal Discovery Rules*, EDUCATION LAW QUARTERLY, March 2007

Melissa Wurtzel O'Shea, *Sometimes You Feel Like A Nut: Food Allergies in Schools*, EDUCATION LAW QUARTERLY, March 2006

PRESENTATIONS

New Mexico School Boards Association, Annual School Law Conference, June 2008
Student and Employee Random Drug or Alcohol Testing

National Business Institute, School Law in the 21st Century Conference, January 2008
Student Discipline, Suspension, and Expulsion
School Liability and Immunity

New Mexico School Boards Association, Annual School Law Conference, June 2007
Sex Education – How and Why to Comply
How to Properly Procure and Monitor Construction Projects

National Business Institute, “Inspection of Public Records Act,” September 2007

Grant Public Schools, “Complying with the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act,” September 2007

New Mexico School Boards Association, Annual School Law Conference, June 2006
Categories of Employee Leave and Compliance with the Law
Particular Student Health and Wellness Issues
New Technology and its Impact on First Amendment Issues

New Mexico School Boards Association, Leader’s Retreat, panelist at public forum on education, June 2006, July 2007

LICENSURES

Illinois State Bar Association (inactive) – 2003 to present
New Mexico State Bar Association (inactive) – 2006- present
Michigan State Bar Association (inactive) – 2008- present
Western District of Michigan Federal Court -2010- present