

HEATHER PERRY BAXTER

Professor of Law

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ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Nova Southeastern University, Shepard Broad College of Law, Fort Lauderdale, FL

Director of Legal Research and Writing Program

2021-present

Professor of Law

2016-present

Associate Professor of Law

2011-2016

Assistant Professor of Law

2007-2011

Primary teaching responsibilities include Legal Research and Writing I & II, Criminal Procedure, Appellate Advocacy for Moot Court, and the Judicial Field Placement Clinic. Responsible for teaching first-year law students the fundamentals of legal research, writing, and analysis as well as various professional skills such as client counseling and interviewing skills, drafting opinion and demand letters, and the rules of ethics and professionalism. Provide group and individualized instruction to first-year law students on how to analyze a legal problem, how to write an Office Memorandum, and how to write a trial brief. Teach upper-level students the basic tenets of Criminal Procedure using United States Supreme Court cases. Developed course in Appellate Advocacy specifically for Moot Court students. Supervised and taught students interning for judges.

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Staff Attorneys of the 17th Judicial Circuit, Fort Lauderdale, FL

February 2006-May 2007

Assistant Supervisor. Assisted in supervising 18 staff attorneys. Participated in hiring and discipline procedures regarding staff attorneys. Directed Summer Intern Program and reviewed all work from interns. Continued regular duties as a judicial staff attorney as outlined below.

17th Judicial Circuit, Fort Lauderdale, FL

January 2006-May 2007

Special Magistrate. Conducted juvenile delinquency restitution hearings. Decided amount of restitution to be paid by children to victims based on evidence presented.

Staff Attorneys of the 17th Judicial Circuit, Fort Lauderdale, FL

March 2002- January 2006

Judicial Staff Attorney. Assigned exclusively to six circuit judges to assist in all aspects of judicial duties. Analyzed motions brought before the judge, including pre-trial and post-conviction. Drafted orders. Observed trials and hearings and advised judge on evidentiary matters. Drafted appellate opinions on cases brought from the county court. Supervised summer interns.

Phillips, Eisinger, Koss, Rothstein & Rosenfeldt, P.A., Hollywood, FL *September 2001- February 2002*

Associate. Assisted clients in all aspects of Labor and Employment law, including drafting pleadings and motions, interviewing clients, conducting discovery, participating in trial preparation and sitting third chair on federal sexual harassment trial.

Justice Janet L. Stumbo, Supreme Court of Kentucky, Prestonsburg, KY *August 2000 – August 2001*

Judicial Law Clerk. Assisted Justice Stumbo in judicial duties for the highest court in Kentucky. Researched novel areas of law regarding criminal and civil appeals, including death penalty case. Reviewed and analyzed appellate briefs, records, and motions provided by appealing parties. Wrote bench briefs and published opinions on cases assigned to Justice Stumbo. Drafted court rules. Participated in all court conferences and discussions. Observed and evaluated nine oral arguments monthly.

Tripp, Scott, P.A.

May 1999 – August 1999

Ft. Lauderdale, FL

Summer Associate. Researched and drafted memoranda, pleadings, and motions on issues concerning Employment, Probate, Real Estate, Products Liability, Personal Injury, and Family Law. Summarized depositions and met with clients. Contributed to appellate brief through legal research and drafting. Observed court hearings.

Academic Resources Program, Shepard Broad Law Center

August 1998 – May 1999

Ft. Lauderdale, FL

Teaching Assistant. Assisted first year law students with developing effective study skills and habits. Taught substantive concepts in both Contract and Property law. Met weekly with a section of students to review hypothetical problems, answer questions and augment test-taking abilities.

Public Interest Law Center, Shepard Broad Law Center

May 1998 – May 1999

Ft. Lauderdale, FL

Program Assistant. Placed students in Public Interest jobs and internships. Worked with Pro Bono Students America to match students with organizations for pro bono work. Researched and organized public interest internship, fellowship and job information for easier accessibility to students.

Staff Attorneys of the 17th Judicial Circuit

May 1998 – August 1998

Ft. Lauderdale, FL

Pro Bono Legal Intern. Researched legal issues for staff attorneys and circuit court judges concerning criminal law, appeals, and constitutional concerns. Conferred directly with judges regarding assignments and findings. Reviewed court files, pleadings, depositions, motions and research provided by litigating counsel. Drafted memoranda for judges, as well as opinions and orders. Observed numerous hearings and trials.

EDUCATION

Nova Southeastern University, Shepard Broad Law Center, Ft. Lauderdale, FL

Juris Doctor, *magna cum laude*, May 2000

Class Rank: Top 6% GPA: 3.47

Honors:

- Nova Law Review, Executive Editor, 1999-2000
- Best Brief Award; Moot Court
- Highest Grade Award, Legal Research & Writing, Winter 1998
- Highest Grade Award, Copyright, Fall 1999
- Highest Grade Award, Antitrust, Fall 1999
- Dean's List, 1997-2000
- Student Bar Association Academic Award, 2000
- Recipient, 1999 Young Lawyer's Division of the Florida Bar Scholarship
- Recipient, F.A.W.L Scholarship, 1999
- Recipient, NAPIL Summer Fellowship, 1998

Activities: National Association for Public Interest Law (NAPIL), Co-Chairperson, 1998-9
Association of Trial Lawyers of America (ATLA), Member, 1997-98
Florida Association of Women Lawyers (FAWL), Member, 1997-2000

University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY

Bachelor of Arts, May 1996

Major: English

Honors: Dean's List 1992-3, 1994-5
National Dean's List 1995-6

Activities: Pi Beta Phi Sorority, Pledge Class President and Campus and Community Chair

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- *Right Result, Wrong Reason: Why the Intent Requirement in Florida v. Jardines Trespasses on the Clarity of the Fourth Amendment*, 47 SEARCH AND SEIZURE L. REP. 85 (October 2020).
- *Innovations Inside and Outside the LRW Classroom*, book chapter in the Legal Writing Sourcebook, published by the ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar (co-authored with Mary Bowman and Sara Rankin) (2019).
- *Using Hamilton’s “Farmer Refuted” to Teach Oral Argument*, 27 PERSPS. 66 (2019).
- *Right Result, Wrong Reason: Why the Intent Requirement in Florida v. Jardines Trespasses on the Clarity of the Fourth Amendment*, 51 TEXAS TECH L. REV. 217 (2019).
- *At a Crossroads: Where the Indigent Defense Crisis and the Legal Education Crisis Intersect*, 18 BERKELEY J. AFR.-AM. L. & POL’Y 25 (2016).
- *Everything I Learned About Teaching Legal Writing I Learned From Being a Parent*,” 22 PERSPS. 147 (2014).
- *Too Many Clients, Too Little Time: How States Are Forcing Public Defenders to Violate Their Ethical Obligations*, 25 FED. SENT’G REP. 91 (2012).
- *Gideon’s Ghost: Providing the Sixth Amendment Right to Counsel in Times of Budgetary Crisis*, 2010 MICH. ST. L. REV. 341 (2010).
- *In Memory of Melissa Britt Lewis*, 33 NOVA L. REV. 533 (2009).
- *2006 Changes to the Florida Ethics Rules*, 31 NOVA L. REV. 1 (2006).
- *Drug Trafficking Sentencing in Florida: Can Seven Pills Turn a Defendant into a First-Degree Felon?*, 23 NOVA L. REV. 525 (1998).

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- “Classroom Exercise Ideas,” Legal Writing Institute (LWI) Spring Bootcamp, January 2023 (co-presenter with Professors Sue Liemer, Charlie Oldfield, and Beth Wilensky).
- “Teaching Resistance in the Classroom,” SALT Teaching Conference, October 2022 (co-presenter with Professor Hugh Mundy).
- “Choosing and Building Moot Court Teams,” Teaching Advocates Conference, September 30, 2022.
- “Fostering ‘Power With, To, and Within’ Instead of ‘Power Over’ to Promote Effective Leadership in the Law School Environment,” Legal Writing Institute (LWI) Biennial Conference, July 2022 (co-presenter with Professor Hugh Mundy).
- “Critiquing Methods Roundtable,” Legal Writing Institute (LWI) Biennial Conference, July 2022, (co-presenter with Professors Laura Graham and Camille Lamar).
- “Legal Skills App of the Month Club: Annotate Pro,” AALS Section on Technology, Law, and Legal Education, March 10, 2022.

- “Appellate Advocacy: Brief Writing Edition,” NSU Moot Court Upperclassmen Competition Workshop, September 9, 2021.
- “Critiquing Methods Roundtable,” LWI One-Day Conference, Wake Forest University (online), December 2020 (co-presenter with Professor Camille Lamar).
- “Adapting to Technology to Teach Appellate Advocacy,” Training Advocates Conference 2020: Our Virtual Reality, August 8, 2020.
- “Making Moot Court Matter: Best Practices and Ongoing Challenges,” Moderator, Southeastern Association of Law Schools (SEALS) 2020 Annual Conference, August 2020
- “Time Hacks for Teaching Legal Writing: Ways to be More Efficient in the Classroom and Beyond,” Moderator, Southeastern Association of Law Schools (SEALS) 2020 Annual Conference, August 2020.
- “Charting New Territories: Giving Effective Feedback in an Online Environment,” William & Mary Virtual Conference for Excellence in Teaching Legal Research & Writing Online, June 18, 2020.
- “Live or Memorex” & “Better PowerPoints” NSU Law Teaching Tips, Summer 2020.
- “Careers in Academia,” Alumni Mentoring Panel, NSU Shepard Broad College of Law, February 25, 2020.
- “Using the Musical ‘Hamilton’ to Teach Oral Argument,” LWI One-Day Conference, University of Alabama, December 2019.
- “Using the Musical ‘Hamilton’ to Teach Oral Argument,” Reimagining Advocacy Conference, Stetson University College of Law, November 9, 2019.
- “Best Writing Practices: Mythological Edition,” Florida Trial Court Staff Attorneys Association Annual Conference, October 18, 2019.
- “Come Together: Successful Collaborations between LRW, the Community and Student Organizations,” Annual Conference of New England Consortium of Legal Writing Professors, October 11, 2019 (co-presenter with Dean Olympia Duhart).
- “Come Together: Successful Collaborations between LRW, the Community and Student Organizations,” Central States Legal Writing Conference, September 14, 2019 (co-presenter with Dean Olympia Duhart).
- “Knowing (and Interpreting) the Rules of the Game,” American University, Washington College of Law 2019 Coaches and Competitions Clinic, August 17, 2019.
- “Restructuring Legal Education-Discussion Group,” Southeastern Association of Law Schools (SEALS) Annual conference, August 3, 2019.
- “Best Writing Practices: Orders and Opinions that PACC a Punch,” Florida Trial Court Staff Attorneys Association Annual Conference, September 2018.
- “Moot Court Judging: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly,” American University, Washington College of Law’s 2018 Coaches and Competitions Clinic, August 11, 2018.

- “Connecting Students and Law Professors to a Plurality of Legal Citation Approaches,” Southeastern Association of Law Schools (SEALS) Annual conference, August 5, 2018.
- “Critiquing Methods Roundtable,” Legal Writing Institute (LWI) Biennial Conference, July 13, 2018, (co-presenter with Professors Laura Graham and Camille Lamar).
- “Teaching Workshop: Going Back to School with New Ideas,” Legal Writing Institute (LWI) Biennial Conference, July 12, 2018.
- “Write Right: Ten Tips to Help You Be Your Own Best Editor,” Paralegal Association of Florida-Brevard Chapter, April 21, 2018.
- “Maximize Your Writing and Oral Advocacy Skills: Thoughts from Appellate Judges and Law Professors,” at the Broward County Bar Association Appellate Practice Section CLE on April 4, 2018, along with Fourth DCA judges Judge Conner, Judge Damoorgian, Judge Forst, as well as Dean Duhart.
- “Using Technology to Entice Students and Enhance Teaching,” Southeastern Association of Law Schools Annual Conference, August 2017.
- “Grit in the LRW Classroom: Practices that Promote Passion and Perseverance,” Association of Legal Writing Directors Biennial Conference, July 2017 (co-presenter with Olympia Duhart).
- Moderator, “Idea Exchange among the Circuits,” Florida Trial Court Staff Attorneys Association Annual Conference, October 2016.
- “Teaching Workshop: Challenges and Strategies for Changing Times,” Legal Writing Institute Biennial Conference, July 2016 (co-presenter with Susan Chesler, Karen Sneddon, and Kelley Mauerman).
- “The Critiquing Workshop,” Legal Writing Institute Biennial Conference, July 2016 (co-presenter with Professors Laura Graham and Camille Lamar).
- “Building a Bridge with the Bench and Bar: How to Incorporate Soft Skills into a First Year Legal Writing Class Using Judges and Lawyers,” Southeastern Legal Writing Conference, January 2016 (co-presenter with Professor Olympia Duhart).
- “Best Writing Practices: Top Ten Scariest Legal Writing Mistakes and How to Overcome Them,” Florida Trial Court Staff Attorneys Association Annual Conference, October 2015.
- Moderator, “Idea Exchange among the Circuits,” Florida Trial Court Staff Attorneys Association Annual Conference, October 2015.
- “A Tapas-Style Approach to Integrating the ‘Real World’ into the First-Year Writing Curriculum,” Association of Legal Writing Directors Biennial Conference, June 2015 (co-presenter with Professors Jane Cross and Camille Lamar).
- “At a Crossroads: Where the Indigent Defense Crisis and Legal Education Crisis Intersect,” Society of American Law Teachers Teaching Conference, October 2014.

- “Moving beyond Apples to Apples: Why using a statute-based problem for the first assignment in the first semester improves the overall analysis in 1L CREACs,” Legal Writing Institute Biennial Conference, July 2014 (co-presenter with Professor Marilyn Uzdavines).
- “Rule-Based Reasoning” Legal Writing Institute One-Day Workshop, December 2012.
- “Analysis - Rule-Based and Analogical Reasoning Techniques,” Florida Trial Court Staff Attorneys Association Annual Conference, October 2012.
- Moderator, “Idea Exchange Among the Circuits,” Florida Trial Court Staff Attorneys Association Annual Conference, October 2011 and October 2012.
- “Issues of Professionalism and Mental Health for Law Students,” Student Education and Admission to the Bar Committee, The Florida Bar Conference, June 24, 2011.
- “Gideon’s Ghost: Providing the Sixth Amendment Right to Counsel in Times of Budgetary Crisis,” Southeastern Association of Law Schools, New Scholars Panel, August 3, 2010.
- “The Art of the Steal,” Southeast Legal Writing Conference, September 2009 (co-presenter with Professors Jane Cross and Elena Langan).
- “Justice Teaching and the Bill of Rights,” NSU’s Lifelong Learning Institute, May 13, 2008 (co-presenter with Professor Elena Langan).

COLLEGE OF LAW AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- Advocacy Program
 - Moot Court Faculty Advisor, 2016-present
 - NSU Trial Association Faculty Advisor, 2022-present
 - ABA National Appellate Advocacy Competition (NAAC) Moot Court team Coach, 2009-present
 - NYC Bar National Moot Court Competition team Coach, 2017-present
 - Thomas Tang team Coach, 2015
- Committee Service
 - Curriculum Committee, 2022-present
 - Elected to Committee on Retention, Promotion, and Tenure, 2017-18, 2020-2022
 - Adjuncts Committee, 2011-12; 2012-13, (chair); 2013-14 (chair); 2014-15 (chair); 2015-16; 2018-19; 2019-20 (chair)
 - Admissions Committee, 08-09; 09-10, (secretary); 10-11 (secretary)
 - Governance Committee, 07-08
- LRW Student Outreach Committee
 - Chair 2015-2017
 - Inaugural Member 2013-present
 - Point Person for Judicial Roundtable, 2013-present
- Ad-Hoc Committees and Other Service
 - Advocacy Director Hiring Committee, 2023 (Chair)
 - LWI One-Day Planning Committee, Fall 2022
 - Honors Program Committee, Fall 2020
 - Fall 2020 Task Force, Teaching Subcommittee, Orientation Subcommittee
 - NSU LWI One-Day Conference Planning Committee, 2017 (Chair)

- Tenure Committee, 2016-17
- Self-Study Committee, 2015-16
- Internal Review Committee, M.S. Employment Law, 2013-14
- LSV Strategic Planning Committee, 2012-13; 2013-14
- LWI One-Day Conference Committee, 2012-13
- Curriculum Committee, Masters of Employment Law Program, 2010-2012
- Marketing Researching Ad-Hoc Committee, 2010-2011
- Nova Law Review Faculty Co-Advisor, 2010-2019
- Strategic Planning Committee, “Enhancing the Student Experience” Key Result Area Subcommittee, 2009
- New Faculty Orientation and Mentoring Work Group, 2010
- FAWL Faculty Advisor (2008-present)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Legal Writing Institute (LWI)
 - Board of Directors 2022-present
 - Communications and Public Relations Officer 2022-present
 - Legal Writing Institute (LWI), Moot Court Committee, 2020-2022
 - Teaching Resources Committee, 2010-2020 (Chair, 2016-2020)
- Association of American Law Schools (AALS)
 - LWRR Diversity Committee 2021-2022
 - LWRR Outreach Committee Member, 2017, 2018, 2021, 2022
 - LWRR Awards Committee Member, 2019-2020
- Association of Legal Writing Directors (ALWD)
 - Inclusive Leadership & Development Committee 2021-2022
 - Blackwell Award Reception Committee 2018-2021; 2022-2023 (Chair, 2019-2021; 2022-2023)
 - Teaching Workshops Committee 2017-2018
 - NSU Delegate, 2013-2015; 2017-2020
- Society of American Law Teachers (SALT)
 - Access to Justice Committee 2015-2016
- Nova Southeastern University Law Alumni Association Board of Directors, 2010-2016
 - Student Engagement Committee, Chair, 2012-2014
- The Florida Bar
 - Student Education and Admission to the Bar Committee of The Florida Bar, 2010-2011
- Florida Trial Court Staff Attorneys Association
 - President 2005
 - President-Elect 2004

PROFESSIONAL AWARDS

- Finalist, Advisor of the Year, NSU Student Life Achievement Award 2021
- NSU Law Stephanie Aleong Impact Award 2018
- Finalist, Advisor of the Year, NSU Student Life Achievement Award 2018
- Finalist, Faculty/Staff Member of the Year by the NSU Office of Student Leadership and Civic Engagement, 2017

- NSU Law Stephanie Aleong Impact Award 2011

MEMBERSHIPS

- Admitted to Kentucky Bar, 2000
- Admitted to Florida Bar, 2002
- Admitted to Supreme Court of the United States, 2008