

PEGGY KLINE KIRKPATRICK

peggy.kirkpatrick@mitchellhamline.edu

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Mitchell Hamline School of Law, St. Paul, MN

Associate Director of Legal Writing, July 2024-present

- Teach one section of legal writing in fall and spring semesters.
- Collaborate with and assist Director of Legal Writing in running legal writing program.
- Manage Blended LARC program, comprised of six sections of legal writing. Develop fall and spring course template for use by Blended LARC professors. Meet regularly with Blended professors. Plan for and execute first annual Blended oral argument competition, the Victoria Cup.
- Hire, train, supervise, and evaluate adjunct legal writing faculty.
- Supervise staff in Research and Writing Center.
- Coordinate internal programming, including Best Brief awards and book orders.

Legal Writing Instructor, June 2021-June 2024

- Taught first-year law students legal writing in two-semester, graded course for Blended and Evening (BAM) programs (30+ students); provide individual feedback on weekly writing assignments; hold individual conferences with students; meet with and support students in developing legal writing skills; assess and grade student performance.
- Helped develop course curriculum, including quizzes and problems, and collaborate with colleagues on teaching ideas and strategies.
- Assisted in mentoring and training new legal writing faculty and Visiting Assistant Professors.

Committee/Service work

- LWI Biennial Conference Site Committee, October 2024-present (July 2026 conference - Minneapolis)
- Clerkship Committee, July 2021-June 2024
- Legal Writing Committee, July 2023-June 2024
- Minnesota Supreme Court Residency application review committee, Spring 2023
- Legal Writing Instructor, Business Practicum Course, Spring 2023
- Faculty supervisor for student long papers, Fall 2022-Spring 2023 and Fall 2023
- Faculty supervisor for student independent research project, Spring 2022
- Faculty supervisor for student externship, Spring, Summer, and Fall 2023
- Connecting the Dots Committee, Fall 2020-Fall 2022
- McGee National Civil Rights Moot Court Competition: Brief scorer, January-February 2021
- Legal Writing Institute: Member of Academic Support Committee, October 2020-June 2024
- Association of Legal Writing Directors: Assisted chair of Publications Committee, November 2019-21
- Lawyering Program: Cabinet member, August 2016-May 2017

Adjunct and Curriculum Coordinator, LARC program, November 2019-June 2021

- Taught first-year law students legal writing in 60-80 student sections in BAM and Blended programs; supported students; assessed student learning; graded papers and determined final grades.

- Aided in overall development and support of LARC program; helped plan and develop curriculum and assessment tools, including quizzes and rubrics; beta tested curriculum; reviewed textbooks and online research and citation teaching tools for use in course.
- Recruited, interviewed, and trained approximately 26 adjuncts; directly supported and assessed 5 adjuncts. Conducted weekly meetings with adjuncts; directly supervised five adjuncts.
- Developed and planned a CLE series consisting of five hour-long sessions for the Quill & Bagel Society at the Minnesota Court of Appeals. Coordinated with Judge Matthew Johnson as well as the legal writing faculty at University of Minnesota and St. Thomas law schools.

Adjunct Professor, Legal Writing program, August 2010-December 2019

- Led a weekly, seminar-style class of 10 to 12 students on topics including legal research, analysis, writing, and citations; teach students how to write formal office memos, letters to clients, letters to opposing counsel and a motion practice memorandum to a court.
- Provided extensive written and oral feedback on students' papers through detailed evaluation.
- Conducted motion practice oral arguments.

Tutor, Lawyering Program, August 2016-April 2018

- Tutored first-year law students in BAM, Hybrid, and EJD programs. Provided guidance on a variety of writing assignment to students both in person and over the phone.

Minnesota Court of Appeals, Honorable Matthew E. Johnson, St Paul, MN

Law Clerk, January 2008-August 2009

- Prepared bench memos for three-judge panels; assisted in drafting opinions.
- Conducted legal research; reviewed briefs and case files; prepared authority checks on opinions; discussed cases and related legal issues with Judge Johnson.
- Served as marshal for oral arguments.

Leonard, Street and Deinard, Minneapolis, MN

Staff Attorney, Environmental Law, September 2004-December 2007

- Researched and wrote memoranda analyzing the effects of federal, state and local laws, rules, regulations and case law on issues, including transporting medical waste, establishing a solid waste transfer facility and examining alternatives in scoping process for environmental impact statement.
- Reviewed documents, including Phase I environmental site assessments and litigation-related documents; prepared environmental disclosure document required under Indiana law and other environmental documents.
- Drafted findings of fact and conclusions of law and brief in administrative proceeding seeking permits for construction and operation of integrated-gasification combined-cycle power plant.
- Prepared detailed memorandum on doing business in Indian Country for client.
- Writing tutor for law student with firm scholarship.
- Research and writing resource for summer clerks.

Associate, Public Law Department, December 2000-September 2004

- Brought motion for judgment on the pleadings and achieved dismissal in suit against a client who hired an independent contractor to conduct hearing tests on employees.
- In large asbestos-contamination case, prepared brief and motion documents, conducted depositions, conducted research, reviewed documents, and worked with environmental expert.

- In suit involving disposal of hazardous substances in landfills, conducted depositions and legal and factual research, and reviewed documents.
- Brought writ of certiorari appeal on land use matter involving Metropolitan Council.
- Negotiated with the Federal Aviation Administration and the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry over fines and penalties issued to clients.
- In replevin action, drafted pleadings, motion documents, and correspondence and appeared in court.
- Prepared and negotiated terms of agreements, including an access agreement, an indemnification agreement, and an agreement and release for investigation and cleanup of petroleum-contaminated soil and groundwater; prepared authorization for response action and negotiated terms with MPCA.
- Advised clients, corresponded with clients and opposing counsel, conducted legal and factual research, and prepared research memoranda on a variety of legal issues.

Summer Associate, May 1999-August 1999

- Performed legal and factual research; drafted research memoranda in securities law, real estate, employment, and intellectual property; drafted real estate and health law documents.

Committees

- Recruiting Committee, member, 2003-2004.
- Summer Associate program, co-leader, 2003.

Day, Berry & Howard, Hartford, CT

Legal Assistant, September 1995-May 1997

- Drafted commercial and residential closing documents; conducted residential closings; reviewed and negotiated leases; revised client's lease manual; performed research.

EDUCATION

University of Minnesota Law School, Minneapolis, MN

Juris Doctorate, Magna Cum Laude, May 2000

Order of the Coif

Minnesota Law Review, Articles Editor, May 1999-May 2000

Minnesota Law Review, Staff Member, June 1998-May 1999

Legal Assistance to Minnesota Prisoners Clinic, Student Director, August 1999-May 2000

Legal Assistance to Minnesota Prisoners Clinic, Student Attorney, June 1998-May 1999

Northwestern University, Evanston, IL

Master of Arts, American History, June 1995

Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT

Bachelor of Arts, History, *Summa Cum Laude*, May 1994

Phi Beta Kappa

Academic Awards:

- Maude Violet Graybar American History Prize for senior thesis
- William B. Catton Prize for senior thesis
- Andrew E. Nuquist Award for junior thesis

University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland. Winter/Spring semesters 1993

PUBLICATIONS

Co-author, *Pondering Parentheticals: Problems and Possibilities*, 36 The Second Draft, No. 2 (Nov. 2023).

Writing Wrongs: The Common Legal Writing Mistakes of Law Students and Lawyers, Amicus Curiae Blog, Mitchell Hamline Law Review (Sept. 12, 2019).

Comment, *Partners Dumping Partners: Business Before Ethics in Bobatch v. Butler & Binion*, 83 Minn. L. Rev. 1767 (1999).

- Minnesota Law Review Volume 35 & 36 Memorial Award: For “Outstanding Note or Comment Authored by a Member of the Minnesota Law Review,” presented April 1999.

The Right to Recreate and the Attempt to Amuse: Recreation and Leisure in Addison County, Vermont, 1790-1930, Middlebury College senior thesis published by Friends of the Library, Middlebury College (1998).

PRESENTATIONS

“Rule Explanation/Synthesis and Case Illustrations” legal writing refresher training, at Minnesota Department of Revenue, February 12, 2025 (with Brandon Robb).

“Pondering Parentheticals’ Punch: Pursuing a More Purposeful Approach to Their Precedential Power in Judicial Opinion Writing,” Faculty Development Scholarship Workshop at Mitchell Hamline School of Law, January 24, 2024 (with Wendy Shea).

“Pondering Explanatory Parentheticals in Judicial Opinions,” Rocky Mountain Legal Writing Conference in Las Vegas, NV, February 25, 2023 (with Wendy Shea).

“Rediscovering Your Inner Writing Guru,” Dakota County Law Library CLE, November 17, 2022 (with Melissa Shultz).

“Pondering Explanatory Parentheticals,” Biennial Conference of the Legal Writing Institute at Georgetown Law in Washington, D.C., July 2022 (with Wendy Shea).

“Explanatory Parentheticals: Persuasive or Problematic?” Quill & Bagel Society CLE at the Minnesota Court of Appeals, May 14, 2021 (with Wendy Shea).

“Back to the Basics Part I: Top Tips to Improve Your Legal Writing,” Mitchell Hamline Alumni CLE, December 3, 2020 (with Melissa Shultz).

OTHER

Reader (for press publication decision) and blurb-writer: Ryan McCarl, *Elegant Legal Writing* (2023), published by University of California Press.