

La Donna J. Childress, Esq.
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CURRICULUM VITAE

EDUCATION

SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, Los Angeles, CA
Juris Doctor, cum laude, May 2004

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, Reno, NV
Bachelor of Arts, History, with High Distinction, May 2001

Member of the Bars of California and Nevada

AWARDS AND HONORS

Member, Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society
Recipient of the Paul W. Wildman Scholarship
Southwestern University Law School Dean's List: 2002-2003, 2001-2002
Managing Editor, Southwestern University Law Review, 2003-2004
Member, Southwestern University Law Review, 2002-2003
Member, Southwestern Moot Court Honors Program, 2002-2003
First Place Writer, Southwestern Intramural Moot Court Competition, 2002

EXPERIENCE

BENNETT & ERDMAN, Los Angeles, CA
Associate Attorney, March 2011-Present
Represented both plaintiffs and defendants in a variety of civil and family law litigation matters

ASHFORD UNIVERSITY, San Diego, CA
Adjunct Instructor, March 2011-Present
Teaching Political Science: The American Constitution, preparing lectures, assisting students in developing legal analytical and essay writing skills in the context of assignments on issues of constitutional law and principles

THE LAW OFFICE OF LA DONNA J. CHILDRESS, San Francisco, CA and Reno, NV
Owner of Law Firm, September 2011-March 2011
Representing clients in a variety of civil, criminal and family law litigation matters at both the trial and appellate level, with an emphasis on serving the LGBT community

NEVADA STATE SUPREME COURT, Carson City, NV
Court Editor, January 2009 – August 2011
Performed legal research and analysis on both criminal and civil law issues; assisted in drafting opinions and orders for the court

NEVADA STATE SUPREME COURT, Carson City, NV
Criminal Staff Attorney, June 2007 – January 2009
Law Clerk to the Honorable Robert E. Rose, Chief Justice, August 2004 - August 2005
Performed legal research and analysis on both criminal, civil, and family law issues; wrote bench memoranda; assisted in drafting opinions and orders for the court; worked on death penalty criminal appeals

BENNETT & ERDMAN, Los Angeles, CA
Associate Attorney, February 2006 - June 2007
Represented both plaintiffs and defendants in a variety of civil and family law litigation matters

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA, Los Angeles, CA
Extern to the Honorable Dale S. Fischer, January 2004 - May 2004
Performed legal research and analysis, prepared memorandums for Judge Fischer on pretrial issues, drafted orders and assisted with ongoing cases

SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, Los Angeles, CA
Teaching Assistant to Professor James A. Kushner, January 2004 - May 2004
Conducted classroom discussions on Constitutional law; assisted students in developing legal analytical and essay writing skills; developed hypothetical questions and model answers on questions of Constitutional law

SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, Los Angeles, CA
Research Assistant to Professor J. Kelly Strader, May 2002 - May 2004
Researched, wrote, and edited materials for White Collar Crime casebook; researched and organized materials for Constitutional Criminal Procedure class; performed substantive and technical edits on legal hornbook on White Collar Crime

CALIFORNIA ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE, CRIMINAL DIVISION, APPEALS, WRITS, AND TRIALS, Los Angeles, CA
Law Clerk in Summer Honors Program, May 2003 - August 2003
Performed legal research on issues ranging from sentencing to the necessity for particular jury instructions; drafted criminal appellate briefs; attended legal writing workshops; attended seminars on sentencing issues and federal habeas corpus work

PUBLICATIONS

La Donna J. Childress, To Fulfill a Promise: Using Canons 3(B)(5) and 3(B)(6) of the Judicial Code of Conduct to Combat Sexual Orientation Bias Against Gay and Lesbian Criminal Defendants, 34 Sw. U. L. Rev. 4, (2005)

PRESENTATIONS

La Donna J. Childress, Discriminatory Treatment of LGBT Defendants, January 12, 2005, Presented at Southwestern University Law Review's Symposium on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgendered Issues and the Civil Rights Agenda