

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

State University of New York, University at Buffalo, School of Law August 2021-Present

Professor of Skills

Design and teach advanced lawyering skills course focusing on litigation drafting and practical drafting tools. Design and teach a practical litigation writing course for drafting documents common to litigation but not commonly taught in law school. Assists academic support and other faculty to assist students needing direct legal writing support. Serves on admissions committee and hiring committee for lawyering faculty and assistant director of academic support. Develop federal practice program with Western District of New York to assist with caseload emergency and provide additional internship and networking opportunities for students. Developed course focused on teaching legal writing with a focus on drafting research memoranda and draft opinions for judges.

Creighton University School of Law, Omaha, Nebraska July 2016-May 2021

Special Faculty

Courses taught: Federal Courts, Legal Research and Writing I & II. Develop curriculum for upper-level Federal Courts course. Teach first year students in two-semester legal research and writing course, collaborate with full-time faculty in course and program development. Serve as coach, judge, and briefing judge for moot court teams and domestic moot court competitions. Consult with faculty and administration regarding special projects and outreach to legal community.

University of Nebraska, July 2019 – May 2020

Adjunct Professor

Co-teach course in judicial process with federal judge. Design course content for in-residence judicial process court. Design course for undergraduate political science that covers judicial organization and basic criminal and civil procedure.

Bellevue University, Bellevue, Nebraska November 2014-2018

Adjunct Professor

Teach undergraduate courses in law, ethics, legal writing, and criminal justice in both in-residence and online format. Teach online legal research resources to undergraduate students with diverse backgrounds. Review and prepare curriculum materials in resident and online courses. Conduct academic research in constitutional law and criminal justice system.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

United States District Court, District of Nebraska, Omaha, Nebraska February 2013–2021

Judicial Attorney, Attorney-Advisor

Research and provide operational advice on complex issues of federal and state law. Direct intern and law clerk education program in District through education and training. Serve as liaison with local law schools for externship placement, grading, and clerkship development. Represent District on practice committees and professional association committees. Supervise staff attorneys, law clerks and administrative staff. Serve as member of local rules committee to draft and promulgate local procedural rules. Produce articles and present continuing legal education to practicing federal bar.

ROBERT A. STARK

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Employment Dispute Resolution Coordinator

Provide procedural advice and conduct investigations into employment disputes. Serve as mediator for appropriate disputes involving claims of workplace harassment and discrimination. Advise presiding judges and potential litigants of administrative procedures. Keep record and report to circuit executive and federal administrative office on employment dispute resolution. Implement new harassment reporting and resolution guidelines and take part in national training.

Judicial Consultant – Federal Case Management

Serve on national and local committees for implementation of automated court systems. Provide guidance to national administrators on case management policies and practices. Train district court staff in various district courts nationwide on implementation of federal court case management practices. Provide ongoing consulting services to judges and chambers nationwide on electronic case management resources. Consulted districts include the Southern District of New York, Eastern District of Louisiana, Western District of Washington, District of Wyoming, Southern District of California, Western District of Tennessee, Southern District of Mississippi, Northern District of Indiana, and District of Idaho.

Baird Holm, LLP, Omaha, Nebraska August 2011 – February 2013

Associate Attorney

Represent corporate clients at large regional law firm in all aspects of complex commercial litigation with emphasis on complex commercial litigation and employment law. Prepare briefs and other litigation documents. Participate in client interviews and depositions. Publish industry articles and prepare legal education presentations for technology and intellectual property practice group.

United States District Court, District of Nebraska, Omaha, Nebraska August 2009–August 2011

Federal Judicial Clerk for the Honorable Laurie Smith Camp

Draft orders and opinions for federal district court and appellate proceedings. Maintain docket to manage case progression, motions and ensure other court action is timely. Review legal briefs submitted by litigating parties. Research complex issues of federal and state law.

EDUCATION

Creighton University School of Law, Omaha, Nebraska

Juris Doctor May 2009, *cum laude*

Honors & Activities Editorial Board, Articles Editor, Creighton Law Review
Nebraska Bar Foundation Silver Quill Award for Legal Writing Excellence
CALI Award for Highest Grade in Class: Legal Writing & Lawyering Skills II; Legal Writing & Lawyering Skills I; Financial Statement Analysis; Economic Development Law
Allen A. Sekt Law Scholarship, William Grodinsky Merit Scholarship, Dean's Academic Merit Scholarship

University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah

Bachelor of Arts, Economics, May 2006

Honors & Activities Dean's List, Fall 2003-May 2006
Scholar Athlete Award, Mountain West Conference Track & Field 2005
Eccles Academic Merit Scholarship, Eccles School of Business
Community Economic Research Group, Dept. of Economics, 2005-06

RESEARCH AND PRESENTATIONS

Making Office Hours Effective: Empire State Legal Writing Conference, Spring 2024.

Go With The Fleauve: A Coordinated Multi-Year Legal Writing Curriculum for Improving Student Success: Rocky Mountain Legal Writing Conference, Spring 2024.

Getting to “Thank You!”: Lessons in Legal Communication from Federal Judges: Nebraska Bar Conference 2021.

Practice in Federal Courts for Rural Lawyers: Presented beginning in May 2018 and ongoing.

Un-Alternative Facts: Why “Where” Matters in Factual Presentation When Moving or Opposing Summary Judgment, 20 Nebraska Lawyer 31 (May/June 2017).

Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 56 states that summary judgment should be granted (1) where there is no genuine issue of fact and (2) a party is entitled to judgment as a matter of law. My research focuses on the first part of that formula. Local rules promulgated by individual districts further restrictions and guidance as to how to establish a fact. My research discusses the different approaches to establishing facts and discusses the empirical impact on summary judgment disposition time. I argue that the majority of local rules inhibit efficient disposition of summary judgment motions and contravene the purpose of Rule 56. I also propose a format for fact establishment that is more in line with the purpose of summary judgment and would promote efficient disposition.

**This article is a shortened version of the large-scale research project looking at nationwide rules and recommends structural changes in local rules regarding presentation of factual matter for motions for summary judgment.*

**Book Chapter, Nebraska Appellate Practice Handbook
(Published by Nebraska State Bar Association, 2016)**

Authored chapters in State Bar Appellate Handbook regarding appeals within the federal courts. Authorship and research focuses on appeals of administrative matters to the district courts, appeals of magistrate judge orders and findings in criminal and civil matters, and appeals of specialized areas of federal law.

There May or May Not Be Blood: Why the Eighth Amendment Prohibition Against Executing the Insane Requires a Definitive Standard. 41 CREIGHTON L. REV. 763 (2008).

The Effect on Labor Markets of Natural Resource Boom and Bust Cycles, Trendlines Quarterly Labor Economic Report, May 2006.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND OUTREACH

Nebraska Rural Practice Initiative: Outreach to Rural Nebraska Lawyers on Practice in Federal Courts

(Presented through Nebraska State Bar) (May 2018 - Ongoing)

Created free CLE presentation and mentorship program as a guide to practice in federal courts. Travel to several rural and smaller Nebraska communities to discuss the essentials of federal practice and provide guidance about resources for federal practice. The goal of the program is to help lawyers in rural communities feel equipped to handle their clients' federal matters rather than outsourcing such cases to lawyers in larger cities.

Teachers Law School

Participated as a mentor to high school teachers seeking to provide civics lessons on the law and legal practice. Help teachers prepare for oral argument before participating judge and discuss how exercises could be incorporated into lesson plans. Educate teachers on common legal issues and discuss pedagogical strategies for teaching the law to high school students.

Creighton Moot Court, Volunteer Judge

Participated as a Judge in Creighton's domestic moot court program as well as a guest attorney-judge for several of Creighton's moot court traveling teams.

Lawyers in the Classroom – Elementary Education Outreach

Teach basic constitutional law and legal principles to elementary aged children. Present lesson plans covering the basics of the three branches of government and their functions. Present lesson plans regarding basic court structure and coach students through simplified mock trials.