



DEBORAH M. HENSON

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New Orleans, Louisiana 70124
(504) 301-1842
(504) 232-8884

EDUCATION:

**University of California
Boalt Hall School of Law**
Berkeley, California
LL.M. - December 1993

Loyola University School of Law
New Orleans, Louisiana
J.D. (Civil Law), *cum laude* - May 1991
Cumulative G.P.A. - 3.541; Class Rank - 8 of 225
Loyola Law Review; Moot Court Staff Member
Semi-Finalist, Moot Court Competition
Highest Exam Paper - Admin. of Crim. Justice
Highest Seminar Papers - Law & Poverty; Family Law Sem.

Tulane University School of Social Work
New Orleans, Louisiana
Master of Social Work - December 1977 (Mental Health track)

University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas
Bachelor of Arts, Speech Communications & Human Relations,
Speech & Drama - May 1975
Cumulative G.P.A. - 3.80
Phi Beta Kappa

**LEGAL
EMPLOYMENT:**

Law Office of Deborah M. Henson, LLC, 6/08 - present
Attorney Disciplinary Representation/Ethics; Appellate Research/Writing
Mental Health Law and Disciplinary Representation w/ Licensing Boards
New Orleans, Louisiana

Contract Appellate Attorney and Litigation Support, 10/05-6/08
Trey L. Dolezal, Esquire
Austin, Texas

Appellate Brief Writer, 9/03 to 8/05 (Katrina)
Office of the City Attorney for the City of New Orleans
New Orleans, Louisiana

Judicial Law Clerk, 1/03 to 9/03
Judge Edwin A. Lombard
Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal

Private Law Practice, 5/99 to 12/02
Attorney Disciplinary Investigations/Ethics; Adoption; Mediation
New Orleans, Louisiana

Staff Attorney, 5/99 to 8/00
Stanley & Flanagan, L.L.C.,
New Orleans, Louisiana

Board Staff Attorney, 2/98 to 5/99
Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary Board

Judicial Law Clerk, 8/96 to 2/98
Associate Justice Harry T. Lemmon (now retired)
Louisiana Supreme Court

Legal Analysis and Writing Instructor, 7/94-6/96
University of Pittsburgh School of Law
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Judicial Law Clerk, 8/91-7/92
Chief Justice Pascal F. Calogero, Jr. (now retired)
Louisiana Supreme Court
New Orleans, Louisiana

Summer Associate 7/90-8/90; **Law Clerk**, 8/90-4/91
Stone, Pigman, Walther, Wittman & Hutchinson
New Orleans, Louisiana

Summer Associate, 5/90-6/90
Gordon, Arata, McCollam & Duplantis
New Orleans, Louisiana

United States Eastern District Court Externship, 8/89-5/90
Magistrate (now Judge) Ivan L.R. Lemelle
New Orleans, Louisiana

Law Clerk, 5/88-8/89
Steven Scheckman, Mark S. Goldstein, Ron Purcell
New Orleans, Louisiana

Research Assistant, 1/89-5/91
Revising and updating text: Louisiana Successions and Donations,
Material and Cases; Kathryn V.Lorio, Professor, Loyola Law School

**SOCIAL WORK
EMPLOYMENT:**

Licensed Clinical Social Worker, 1981 to present
Private practice of psychotherapy, supervision, consultation, and training (clinical and ethics issues).

New Orleans, Louisiana; Austin, Texas

Conduct psychotherapy with individuals, couples, families and groups - adults, adolescents and children; provide evaluations and recommendations for court or probation offices; supervise clinical social workers for licensure; consult re: clinical and business aspects of social work practice; train mental health practitioners in clinical/legal issues.

Adjunct Professor, 1984-87

Tulane University School of Social Work

Taught "Family Violence: Theory and Therapy" and "Clinical Work with Children" in Masters (MSW) program.

[for additional Clinical Social Work positions/experience, *see* web site – www.deborahmhenson.com]

PUBLICATIONS:

Tips of the Trade in Appellate Practice in
Louisiana Bar Journal March 2010

Preventing Grievances in Texas Bar Journal, September 2007

Common Ethical Violations That Can be Easily Avoided in The Practice Manager, an online publication of the Law Practice Management Program of the Texas State Bar, March 12, 2007.

Will Same-Sex Marriages be Recognized in Sister States: Full Faith and Credit and Due Process Limitations on States' Choice of Law regarding the Status and Incidents of Homosexual Marriages following Hawaii's Baehr v. Lewin, 32 J. Fam. L. 551 (1994). [LL.M. Thesis]

A Comparative Analysis of Same-Sex Partnership Protections: Recommendations for American Reform, 7 Int'l J. of L & Fam. 282 (1993).
Note, *Equal Protection Analysis of Louisiana's Unemployment Law Balances Economic Security for Both Unemployed Individuals and Employers: Pierre v. Administrator*, 36 Loy. L. Rev. 195 (1990).

Therapy with Battered Women in Women, Power and Change. National Association of Social Workers, Inc. (Ann Weick and Susan Vandiver, eds. 1982).

**COMMUNITY
SERVICE:**

Arbitrator – LSBA Fee Dispute Program

Volunteer Arbitrator – decide fee disputes between lawyer and client
January 11, 2010; March 6, 2009

Trinity Training & Counseling Center

Consultant – Legal & Ethical Issues in Clinical Practice
Oct. 10 and 17, 2008 (half day staff trainings)

Loyola Professionalism Orientation

Panelist – LSBA group session for new law students - August 9, 2008

NASW Austin, Texas Branch Steering Committee

Member and Program Committee Co-Chair; May 2007- present

New Orleans Pro Bono Project B

Child in Need of Care (CINC) Program

Volunteer attorney for children in State custody
February 2000 to August 2005 (Katrina)

AIDSLaw of Louisiana, Inc. - Board of Directors, New Orleans

June 2001 to June 2004

**Louisiana Association of Professional Responsibility Lawyers
(LAPRL) 1999 to 2005**

American Civil Liberties Union

Board member of Greater Pittsburgh Board of Directors 1994-96;
Vice-President of Greater Pittsburgh Chapter Board - 1995-96

Louisiana Committee for Social Work Vendorship

President - 1986-89; Litigation Chair – 1989

Chartres Mental Health Center Advisory Board, New Orleans

Vice-President - 1987; Treasurer - 1983-86

National Association of Social Workers

Private Practice Special Interest Group, New Orleans

President - 1984-85; Program Committee Chair - 1982-84

Crescent House Shelter for Battered Women, New Orleans

Clinical Consultant for Adult & Children's Counseling Programs -1979-85

**RECENT
PRESENTATIONS:**

Avoid Ethics Complaints and Malpractice Lawsuits

PESI, LLC – Richmond, Norfolk, Virginia – Jan. 20-22, 2010

Des Moines, Omaha, Kansas City, Wichita – Dec. 1-4, 2009

Indianapolis, IN – Nov. 4-6, 2009

Minneapolis, MN, October 1-3, 2009

Philadelphia and Harrisburg, PA & Cherry Hill, NJ - July 13-15, 2009

Legal and Ethical Issues in Mental Health Practice: Protecting Yourself and Your Clients (half-day seminar)

Louisiana Association of Clinical Social Workers

June 19, 2009

Legal & Ethical Issues in Clinical Practice: Litigation Involvement and Preventing Disciplinary Complaints – Master Session (half day)

National Association of Social Workers-Louisiana Annual Conference,
April 1, 2009

Loyola Professionalism Orientation

Sponsored by Loyola School of Law and the Louisiana State Bar Association – Panelist for 3-hour group for incoming law students
August 9, 2008

Legal & Ethical Issues in Mental Health Practice: Protecting Yourself and Your Clients – 6-hour CEUs through Cross Country Education, Inc.

January 29-31, 2008 (Nashville, Knoxville, and Asheville).

December 17-19, 2007 (Cleveland, Erie and Pittsburgh).

Exploring The Grey Areas Of Social Work Practice: An Interactive Workshop Applying Ethics Rules to Challenging Clinical Situations

Sponsored by the University of Texas Professional Development Office
CEU ethics training for mental health professionals –
July 20, 2007 and November 30, 2007 (full day)

Ethics & Litigation: A Survival Guide

Sponsored by St. Edward's University Professional Education Office
CEU ethics training for mental health professionals –
August 10, 2007 and November 9, 2007 (half day)

Appellate Writing: Tips of the Trade

Two-hour CLE

Sponsored by Prime Time CLE Institute, May 15, 2005.

Common Ethical Dilemmas in Law Practice

CLE for New Orleans City Attorney's Office - March 25, 2004

How to Be Effective in Courtroom for Mental Health Professionals

CEU for Louisiana Association of Clinical Social Workers – Sept.12, 2003

Keeping the Wolves and Disciplinary Counsel from the Office Door
All day seminar on risk prevention and common ethical dilemmas in solo law practice. Sponsored by Prime Time CLE Institute, January 24, 2002.

Structure and Procedures of the Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary Board and Avoiding Common Client Complaints
Lecture for Tulane Law School=s CLE by the Hour - December 27, 2001

The New Ethical Standards: Compliance with the Louisiana Social Work Practice Act
Lecture for Tulane School of Social Work
Center for Lifelong Learning, Summer Updates, June 1, 2001

Issues in Ethics and Professionalism
Lecture for Prime Time CLE Institute, March 7, 2001

Ethics and Professionalism
Lecture for Prime Time CLE Institute, December 17, 1999

Comparison and Contrast of the Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary System with the Board Certified Social Work Disciplinary System
National Association of Social Workers Florida Parishes Regional Meeting, October 20, 1998

Utilizing the Mental Health Professional as Deponent
All day workshop through Prime Time CLE Institute - October 16, 1998

Social Work and the Law: Understanding Your Rights
National Association of Social Workers-Louisiana Annual Conference, March 11, 1998

**BAR
ADMISSIONS:**

State Bar of Louisiana – October 19, 1991
State Bar of Texas – August 10, 2006 (inactive at present)
United States Supreme Court – April 19, 2004
United States Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals – April 1, 2004
United States District Court, Eastern District, Louisiana – May 19, 1999

**CLINICAL
LICENSES:**

Licensed Clinical Social Worker (L.C.S.W.), Louisiana – 1980
Licensed Clinical Social Worker (L.C.S.W.), Texas – 2006 (inactive)
Board Approved Supervisor (TX) – April 2007 (inactive)

**AVAILABLE FOR CONSULTATION IN LOUISIANA AND TEXAS
(hourly, flat, and daily rates) in the following areas:**

ATTORNEY DISCIPLINE/ETHICS/RISK PREVENTION

APPELLATE RESEARCH & WRITING

RESEARCH AND PRE-TRIAL WRITING

MENTAL HEALTH LAW and REPRESENTATION WITH LICENSING BOARDS

CLINICAL CONSULTATION/TRAINING FOR MENTAL HEALTH
PROFESSIONALS

MEDIATIONS

CUSTODY EVALUATIONS

PARENT FACILITATOR/CASE MANAGER FOR COURT-DIRECTED FAMILIES