



**DEBORAH M. HENSON**

New Orleans, LA 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

**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:**

**Contract Appellate Attorney and Litigator**, 10/05 to present  
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.  
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 Venturatos Lorio, Professor, Loyola Law School

**SOCIAL WORK  
EMPLOYMENT:**

**Cooperative Parenting Program Instructor**, 2007 to present  
**Travis County Domestic Relations Office**  
Austin, Texas

**Clinical Social Worker**, 1981 to present  
**Private practice of psychotherapy, supervision and consultation (clinical and ethics issues).**  
Austin, Texas; New Orleans, Louisiana  
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.

**Family Therapist**, 1993-94  
**The Divorce Center**, New Orleans, Louisiana  
Individual, couple and family therapy with divorcing/divorced families; family mediation involving parenting disputes; divorce mediator certified through the Family Mediation Council of Louisiana, Inc.

**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.

**Mental Health Specialist**, 1980-84  
**New Orleans Public Schools**, New Orleans, Louisiana  
Counseling with students and families; consultation with special education teachers; advocacy with school board administrators on behalf of special education ("Emotionally Disturbed" and "Gifted") children.

**Clinical Coordinator/Assistant Director**, 1978-80  
**YWCA Battered Women's Program**, New Orleans, Louisiana  
Trained and supervised clinical staff and student interns; recruited, trained and supervised volunteer staff (50) for 24-hour crisis telephone line; lectured and provided in-service on domestic violence to New Orleans Police Academy, Orleans Parish District Attorney's Office and other medical/social service agencies; coordinated intra-agency social work and legal services to clients; advocated for clients in legal, medical, and social service systems; wrote grant application for special projects.

## **PUBLICATIONS:**

*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 Lesbian Feminist Critique of Susan Okin's Justice, Gender, and the Family: Lesbian Families with Children as a Non-Heterosexist Model for the Development of Morality and Justice*, 4 Hastings Women's L.J. 249 (1994).

*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:**

**NASW Austin, Texas Branch Steering Committee**  
Member and Program Committee Co-Chair

**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**  
June 2001 to June 2004

**Louisiana Association of Professional Responsibility Lawyers (LAPRL)** 1999 to 2005  
**American Civil Liberties Union**  
Member - 1987 to 2005

Board member of Greater Pittsburgh Board of Directors B 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**

Vice-President - 1987; Treasurer - 1983-86

**National Association of Social Workers**

**Private Practice Special Interest Group**

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

**Crescent House Shelter for Battered Women**

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

**RECENT  
PRESENTATIONS:**

**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

**Ethics & Litigation: A Survival Guide**

Sponsored by St. Edward's University Professional Education Office  
CEU ethics training for mental health professionals – August 10, 2007

**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

September 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:**

Admitted to the State Bar of Texas, August 10, 2006

Admitted to the State Bar of Louisiana, October 1991

Admitted to the Supreme Court of the United States of America, April 19, 2004

Admitted to the United States Court of Appeals, for the Fifth Circuit, April 1, 2004

Admitted to the United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana, May 19, 1999

**CLINICAL LICENSES:**

Licensed Clinical Social Worker (L.C.S.W.), Texas – 2006

Licensed Clinical Social Worker (L.C.S.W.), Louisiana – 1980