

ANDRELE BRUTUS ST. VAL

Associate Professor of Law

University of Detroit Mercy School of Law

[SSRN](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | Email

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, Detroit, Michigan

Associate Professor of Law (tenure-track)

Aug. 2026–Present

Courses: Applied Legal Theory and Analysis (ALTA) I & II; Litigation Drafting

University of Pittsburgh School of Law, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Associate Professor of Legal Writing

Jul. 2024–Jun. 2026

Assistant Professor of Legal Writing

Jul. 2020–Jul. 2024

Courses: Legal Analysis and Writing I & II; Teaching Assistant Training; Thriving in the Law: Tools for Academic, Professional, and Personal Well-Being

Mitchell Hamline School of Law, St. Paul, Minnesota

Visiting Assistant Professor

Dec. 2019–Jun. 2020

Course: Legal Research and Writing II (hybrid program)

Henry Ford College, Dearborn, Michigan

Adjunct Professor of Legal Research & Writing

Aug. 2015–May 2016

Courses: Legal Research and Writing; Introduction to Paralegal Studies

EDUCATION

Wayne State University Law School, Detroit, Michigan

Master of Laws (LL.M.) in Labor and Employment Law

Dec. 2018

Florida A&M University College of Law, Orlando, Florida

Juris Doctor

May 2009

University of Central Florida, Orlando, Florida

Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

Aug. 2005

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Labor and Employment Law
- Occupational Licensing and Worker Classification
- Legal Education
- Professional Identity Formation and Student Well-Being

RESEARCH AGENDA

My scholarship examines how legal institutions shape worker autonomy, professional identity, and legal education. My primary research agenda addresses occupational licensing, employment classification, and the regulatory structures that govern labor markets. A complementary line of pedagogical scholarship examines professional identity formation, adaptive mindsets, and law student well-being.

SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS

Current Research

Control Without Protection: Gender, Misclassification, and the Hidden Labor Law of Occupational Licensing (manuscript in preparation; expected submission Spring 2027).

A Hybrid Framework for Regulatory Misclassification (research in progress).

An Empirical Study on the Effectiveness of LIFT's Belonging Intervention (empirical study in development).

Articles

Distance Learning: New Tech, Old Problem, 32 Geo. J. on Poverty L. & Pol'y 59 (2024).

Professional Identity Formation Through Exploring Academic, Professional, and Personal Well-Being, 20 U. St. Thomas L.J. 766 (2024).

Survey Says—How to Engage Law Students in the Online Learning Environment, 70 J. Legal Educ. 297 (2021).

No-Hire Provisions in McDonald's Franchise Agreements: An Antitrust Violation or Evidence of Joint Employer?, 23 Employee Rts. & Emp. Pol'y J. 279 (2019).

Books

Legal Writing: A Contemporary Approach (3d ed. 2024) (co-author).

Teacher's Manual to Legal Writing: A Contemporary Approach (3d ed. 2026) (co-author).

Essays and Online Publications

Amplifying Voices, Shaping the Future: JLWI at Thirty(-Five), 30 Legal Writing __ (forthcoming 2026), perma.cc/78QX-8YN5.

Fostering Resilience and Engagement in Law Students, Holloran Center Professional Identity Implementation Blog (with A. Sinsheimer, O. Fotuhi & C. Willet), <https://perma.cc/U72U-4NSF>.

A Regard on the Power of Words, AALS Sec. on Legal Writing, Reasoning, and Research Newsl., Spring 2020, at 11, perma.cc/YDS7-8T4V.

EDITORIAL LEADERSHIP

Legal Writing: The Journal of the Legal Writing Institute

Flagship peer-reviewed journal of the Legal Writing Institute.

Editor-in-Chief

2024–Present

- Lead all aspects of article solicitation, peer review, editorial policy, and publication.
- Direct the work of managing editors, editorial board members, and assistant editors.
- Oversee production of Volumes 31 and 32 and coordinate the Journal's long-term strategic initiatives.

Previous Editorial Roles

- Assistant Editor-in-Chief, 2024–2026
- Managing Editor, Volumes 28–29, 2022–2024
- Editorial Board Member, 2021–Present
- Assistant Editor, 2019–2021

HONORS, FELLOWSHIPS, & GRANTS

- AccessLex Pledge Fellowship (\$25,000), 2026–2027
- PittEI3 Fellow, 2024–2026
- Pitt Law Faculty Fellow, 2023–2026
- PittEI3 Grants (\$33,000; \$24,400), 2024, 2025
- Distinguished Public Interest Professor Award, 2025
- AccessLex PLEDGE Bootcamp, 2025
- University of Pittsburgh Chancellor's Gap Fund (\$15,000), 2024

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

National & International Invited Presentations

SXSW EDU, Chronicle of Higher Education Shark Tank

Mar. 5, 2024

Revolutionizing Graduate and Legal Education

Arizona State University, Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, Staff and Faculty Workshops

Feb. 9–10, 2026

Psychology of Student Success: Cultivating Adaptive Mindset Practices

Wake Forest University School of Law, Leadership and Character in the Law Conference

Mar. 28, 2025

Panel: Character-Based Leadership and the Human Elements of Lanyering: Flourishing and Well-Being

2025 Mentoring and Advising Summit

Mar. 14, 2025

Panel: Mentoring vs. Sponsoring for Graduate Students

Southeastern Association of Law Schools (SEALS) Annual Meeting

Jul. 25, 2024

Panel: Attorney Well-Being Discussion Group

Southeastern Association of Law Schools (SEALS) Annual Meeting

Jul. 26, 2023

Panel: From Student to Lanyer: Infusing Professional Identity Formation into the Required Curriculum

West Academic <i>Incorporating Professional Identity Formation in the Legal Writing Classroom</i>	Aug. 23, 2023
Complying with ABA Standards Conference (presented by ILTL) <i>Co-presented with Ann Sinsheimer & Omid Fotuhi — Psychology of Student Success: Cultivating Adaptive Mindset Practices</i>	Jun. 3, 2023
University of St. Thomas School of Law & Holloran Center for Ethical Leadership, Spring Law Journal Symposium <i>Professional Identity Formation Through Exploring Academic, Professional, and Personal Well-Being</i>	Apr. 21, 2023
Association of Legal Writing Directors (ALWD), Biennial Conference <i>Co-presented with O. Fotuhi, J. Lipton & A. Sinsheimer — Keeping All Our Students Engaged: An Approach to Changing Legal Education</i>	Jun. 16–18, 2021
Sirico Scholars Workshop <i>How Correspondence Education Can Inform Online Legal Education</i>	Jul. 21–24, 2021
Consultation, University of World Economy and Diplomacy (Tashkent, Uzbekistan) <i>Structuring Legal Courses to the Online Format</i>	Apr.–May 2021
AALS Discussion Group on Post-COVID-19 Online & Hybrid Learning Pedagogy Best Practices and Standards Development <i>Law Student Perceptions of Online Teaching Strategies</i>	Jan. 5, 2021
Faculty Workshop, Gonzaga University School of Law <i>How to Engage Law Students in the Online Learning Environment</i>	Feb. 11, 2021
William & Mary Conference for Excellence in Teaching Legal Research & Writing Online <i>Building Virtual Rapport: Real Relationships for Effective Online Learning</i>	Jun. 18, 2020
<u>Legal Writing Institute Conference Presentations</u>	
Legal Writing Institute (LWI) Biennial Conference <i>Invited Panel, ALWD Leadership and Development Committee — Leading Today's Students Using a Psychological Approach</i>	Jul. 18, 2026
Legal Writing Institute (LWI) Biennial Conference <i>Panel: So You Want to Be a Legal Communication Scholar?</i>	Jul. 17, 2026
Legal Writing Institute (LWI) Biennial Conference <i>Panel: Fostering Inclusion, Belonging, and Adaptive Mindsets in the Legal Writing Classroom</i>	Jul. 18, 2024
<u>Institutional & Training Workshops</u>	
University of Pittsburgh School of Law, Teaching in the Age of Gen AI <i>Panel: The Legal Writing Perspective of Teaching with GenAI</i>	Apr. 23, 2025

University of Pittsburgh School of Law, Teaching Workshop <i>Panel: Hybrid JD Programs</i>	Mar. 20, 2025
CLEO at Pitt Law: Road to Law School <i>Logical Reasoning</i>	Feb. 27, 2021
LWI New Teacher Training Bootcamp <i>Panel: What I Wish I Knew</i>	Jul. 9, 2024
LWI New Teacher Training Bootcamp <i>Panel: What I Wish I Knew</i>	Aug. 2, 2023
LWI New Teacher Training Bootcamp <i>Panel: What I Wish I Knew</i>	Jul. 13, 2022
LWI New Spring Teacher Training Bootcamp <i>Panel: First Semester Reflections</i>	Jan. 10, 2023
LWI One-Day Virtual Workshops, Mitchell Hamline School of Law <i>Technological Competence — Law Student Perceptions of Online Teaching Strategies</i>	Dec. 4, 2020

SELECTED MEDIA COVERAGE

Madison Pauly, *Fast-Food Companies Have One Easy Trick for Avoiding Liability for Sexual Harassment. Now, Workers Are Walking Out*, Mother Jones (Nov. 9, 2021), available at tinyurl.com/3tehv77x.

An-Li Herring, *Workers Are Switching Jobs More Than Ever, but Here's Why Your Hairstylist Might Be Stuck*, WESA/NPR (Mar. 11, 2022), available at tinyurl.com/rjtrxxjv.

TEACHING, LEADERSHIP, & SERVICE

Teaching

- Legal Analysis and Writing
- Litigation Drafting
- Teaching Assistant Training
- Thriving in the Law

Educational Initiatives

Co-Founder and Co-Director, Legal Initiative for Fortitude and Transformation (LIFT), a multidisciplinary initiative focused on law student resilience, well-being, and professional identity formation — 2024–Present

Co-Director, Resilience and Engagement Project — 2020–2024

Faculty Leadership

- Chair, Teaching Committee, 2023–2024
- Tenure for Legal Writing and Clinical Faculty Committee, 2024–2025
- Student Writing Awards Committee, 2024–2025
- Planning and Budget Committee, 2022–2023

- Steering Committee, 2022–2023
- Admissions Committee, 2020–2021

Student Engagement

- Faculty Advisor, Black Law Student Association (BLSA), 2021–2026
- Faculty Advisor, Black Asian Latine+ Legal Alliance (BALLA+), 2023–2026

Community Engagement

- Co-organized, Family Preparedness Clinic, Mar. 26, 2025
- Co-organized, Know Your Rights: Immigration Law, Apr. 7, 2025

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Legal Writing Institute, 2019–Present

- 2026 LWI Conference Program Committee, 2025–2026

Association of Legal Writing Directors (ALWD), 2020–2025

- DEI Committee, 2024–2025
- Co-Chair, Publications Committee, 2020–2021
- Chair, Publications Committee, 2021–2022
- Co-Chair, Social Media and Website Committee, 2022–2023

Writing as Resistance (W.A.R.), 2023–Present

Resilience and Engagement Project Advisory Board, 2024–Present

- Co-Director, 2024–Present

Conferences Organized

- Co-organized, LIFT 2026 Resilience Conference, May 21–22, 2026
- Co-organized & hosted, Haitian Studies Association's 37th Annual Conference, Oct. 23–25, 2025
- Co-organized & hosted, Inaugural Building Resilience Conference, May 16–17, 2024

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Expert Legal Writing Solutions, LLC, Auburn Hills, Michigan

Founder and Consultant

Apr. 2019–Present

- Advise attorneys in Michigan and Florida on complex legal research, appellate advocacy, and persuasive legal writing.
- Draft dispositive motions, appellate briefs, trial briefs, and other litigation documents across a range of civil matters.
- Provide strategic consulting on legal analysis, written advocacy, and litigation strategy.

University of Michigan Unemployment Insurance Clinic, Ann Arbor, Michigan

Staff Attorney

Summer 2019

- Supervised law students representing unemployment insurance claimants in administrative proceedings.
- Represented clients before administrative tribunals and advised students on litigation strategy, client counseling, and advocacy.
- Collaborated with clinical faculty to support experiential legal education.

Wayne County Probate Court, Detroit, Michigan

Court Attorney

Feb. 2016–May 2018

- Advised probate judges on complex issues involving wills, trusts, estates, guardianships, conservatorships, and fiduciary administration.
- Drafted more than 385 judicial opinions, orders, and legal memoranda supporting judicial decision-making.
- Developed and presented training programs for court personnel and supervised legal interns.
- Served on the Court's Executive Board, contributing to court administration and institutional policy.

Florida Second District Court of Appeal, Central Staff, Lakeland, Florida

Career Staff Attorney

Jan. 2010–Jun. 2015

- Advised appellate judges on criminal, civil, juvenile, dependency, and post-conviction matters through comprehensive legal research and analysis.
- Drafted hundreds of appellate memoranda, proposed opinions, and dispositive orders for publication and judicial review.
- Evaluated and recommended dispositions in more than 555 extraordinary writ proceedings and 105 emergency motions.
- Mentored and trained newly hired staff attorneys on appellate procedure, legal writing, and court operations.

BAR ADMISSIONS

- State of Michigan, Aug. 2015
- State of Florida, Oct. 2009