

MICHELLE L. RICHARDS

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DETROIT MERCY SCHOOL OF LAW – DETROIT, MI
Associate Professor, Applied Legal Theory & Analysis, (Present)

Teaching Responsibilities:

- Responsible for teaching and assisting in design of first-year law applied legal research and writing curriculum (ALTA).
- Teaching and/or design & teaching following courses:
 - Pre-Trial Litigation Skills LFP – course provides students with a simulated civil litigation experience; students represent a plaintiff or defendant from the client interview through pre-trial motions; utilize local judges, attorneys, and other litigation entities (court reporters, mediators, expert witnesses) for motion practice, alternative disputed resolution, and deposition skills exercises.
 - Torts
 - Civil Procedure (Spring, 2017)
 - Advanced Appellate Advocacy – course provides a unique, process-based approach to persuasive writing and also focuses on improving a young lawyer's ability to effectively communicate during oral arguments.

Service/Committee Responsibilities:

- Faculty Chair – Orientation Committee (Fall 2016 & Fall 2017)
 - Responsible for design and presentation of the academic component of IL Orientation.
- Faculty Chair - Moot Court Board of Advocates (2006 – 2015)
 - Responsible for administration and coaching of 8 – 15 moot court teams which compete in national competitions, and for the administration, management, and problem creation for 2 internal competitions – the Ernie Goodman Trial Advocacy Competition and the Patrick Keenan Appellate Competition.
 - Responsible for coaching of the 2009 National Moot Court Championship team
 - Achieved nationally ranking for moot court program.
 - Significant contact with national and local counsel to market program, discuss current hot topic issues in specialty areas, and coordinate assistance with team preparation.
- Committee Member – Admissions, Curriculum, Moot Court, Judicial Clerkships.

COMCAST CABLE COMMUNICATIONS, INC. – MIDWEST DIVISION – SOUTHFIELD, MI
Director of Regulatory & Legal Affairs, Midwest Division

Responsibilities relative to regulated services and general legal services for a 10-state division of major cable and telecommunications company including but not limited to areas of commercial and transactional law, contracts, business law, antitrust compliance, mergers and acquisitions, employee relations and benefits, litigation and real property

Major Accomplishments:

- Worked with senior management to draft, negotiate and finalized various commercial agreements from small cable franchises to extensive mergers and acquisitions.
- Coordinated, oversaw and negotiated transfer of franchises during major merger and acquisition between Comcast and AT&T.
- Managed all legal and litigation related issues in Comcast's Midwest Division.
- Provided legal support and oversight of corporate/governmental affairs personnel on daily basis on various legal, regulatory, and/or business matters.
- Drafted standard forms and contracts for use by all business functions.
- Integrated business training and process implementation to achieve regulatory compliance and resolve customer care related issues.
- Responsible for the oversight, management and implementation of relevant state and federal regulatory requirements throughout the Division territory, with a primary focus cable television, high-speed internet and telephony matters, both traditional and IP-enabled.
- Responsible for monitoring and participating in state regulatory dockets, as well assisting with cable, HSD, and telephony-related legislation, in coordination with Division Legislative Director, management, various corporate functions, business partners and state associations.
- Worked as a strategic partner with management team to accomplish business goals of the organization through regulatory or legislative action. Monitored state government and regulatory affairs activity as well as cable, HSD, and telephony related legislative initiatives. Worked with management and applicable corporate functions to develop strategy regarding proposed legislative, legal and regulatory initiatives.
- Collected relevant information from business partners and provided support for regulatory and governmental filings. Analyzed proposed regulatory or legislative changes for impact to business operations. Analyzed and reviewed training materials with respect to regulatory requirements.
- Primary oversight of customer care issues that had a regulatory or legal impact and worked with applicable corporate functions to resolve. Educated and assisted business partners with respect to regulatory compliance on the federal, state and local levels.
- Managed communications concerning operations and policy issues with regulators to facilitate business objectives. Developed and maintained relationships with government representatives and state regulators.
- Represented and furthered Comcast's position at industry and government forums.
- Coordinated with appropriate Division and Cable personnel to communicate with government officials.

WILLMARTH, TANOURY, RAMAR, CORBET, GARVES & SHAW – DETROIT, MI

Senior Associate

- Litigation firm specializing in medical malpractice defense and general liability matters.
- Handled own caseload and clients, with practice concentration in telecommunications law, contracts, general negligence, employment law and insurance coverage matters, including brief writing, legal research, depositions, & court appearances for motions, trials, etc.

HARVEY KRUSE, PC – TROY, MI

Senior Associate

- Litigation associate specializing in insurance defense, including premises liability, automobile negligence, general negligence, products liability, environmental law, construction law, labor/employment law and contracts.
- Strong emphasis on appellate work, including brief writing, research and oral argument.
- Extensive experience in maintaining existing client relations and marketing of new clients.
- Demonstrated ability to work successfully in both complex litigation teams and on individual docket.

CITY OF DETROIT LAW DEPARTMENT

Assistant Corporation Counsel

- Member of Litigation Division of major metropolitan law department.
- Caseload included liability matters involving premises liability, motor vehicle accidents, and gross negligence involving police officers.
- Responsible for large, individual docket including trials, motions, brief writing, research and file management, prosecution of civil ordinance violations and misdemeanors in the district court.

PUBLICATIONS

- *12 Angry Men vs. The Agency: Why Preemption Should Resolve this Conflict in Drug Labeling Litigation*, forthcoming in Marquette Law Review (June, 2017).
- *Elements of Good Legal Writing: The Topic Sentence*, Detroit Legal News, 2013.
- *The Methodology of Persuasion: A Process Based Approach to Persuasive Writing*, – Journal of Legal Writing, February, 2008 (w/ Cara Cunningham-Warren).
- *Update on Governmental Immunity* – Presentation at Corporation Law Section of State Bar of Michigan's Annual Meeting – Spring, 1997 & Published article, Corporation Law Quarterly, Summer, 1997.

PRESENTATIONS

- *12 Angry Men vs. The Agency: Why Preemption Should Resolve this Conflict in Drug Labeling Litigation*, New Scholars Program, Sponsored by Legal Writing Section, AALS 2017, San Francisco, California.
- *Beyond the Trophy: Creating a Successful Moot Court Program*, LEGAL WRITING INSTITUTE-sponsored Moot Court Conference, Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Fall, 2014 (co-presenter w/ Karen Henning).
- *How to Write for Law School*, LWI Pre-Law Outreach National Committee - NAPLA 2014 Conference, Baltimore Law School, Baltimore, Maryland, June, 2014 (co-presenter with Committee members).
- *Teaching the Writer to Do the Heavy Lifting: A Systematic Approach to Case Analysis*, 2010 LEGAL WRITING INSTITUTE CONFERENCE, Poster Presentation (w/ Karen Henning).
- Faculty – ICLE Deposition Skills Conference, Plymouth, Michigan, Spring, 2011.
- Lecturer – CORT Appellate Advocacy and Legal Writing Workshop, Novi, Michigan, Fall, 2005 (co-lecturer w/ Pamela Wilkins).
- *Alternative Legal Careers for the Young Attorney* – Co-Chairperson of Program sponsored by Young Lawyers Section of the State Bar of Michigan, April 2001.
- *Stress Management for the Young Professional* – Chairman of Program sponsored by Young Lawyers Section of the State Bar of Michigan, March 2000. Program received ABA Award from Young Lawyers Division and was selected for national presentation at ABA/YLD Annual Meeting in Tucson, AZ – October, 2000.

- *Lawyer to Lawyer: Increasing Civility and Professionalism for Young Attorneys* – Chairman of Program sponsored by Young Lawyers Section of State Bar of Michigan – March, 1999.
- Various submissions to the Young Lawyers Section of State Bar of Michigan Newsletter, “Inter Alia.”

EDUCATION

Juris Doctor – *University of Detroit Mercy School of Law*, 1994

Bachelor of Arts – *Michigan State University, College of Social Science*, 1991

AFFILIATIONS

- Licensed to practice in all Michigan Courts, U.S. District Courts (MI) and Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals.
- Member, State Bar of Michigan and American Bar Association
- Executive Council Member – Young Lawyers Section of State Bar of Michigan (1998-2001).
- Young Lawyers Section State Bar of Michigan - Secretary/Treasurer (1999-2000).
- University of Detroit Mercy School of Law Alumni Board of Directors (2000 – 2001)
- Detroit Bar Association – Judicial Advisory Committee (1995-1996).
- American Bar Association – Young Lawyers Division Delegate (1998-2001).
- Member, Women in Cable Television