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W.W. Caruth, Jr. Child Advocacy Clinic, Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law

- Director, Supervising Attorney, and Associate Clinical Professor
 - Direct legal clinic, representing as Guardian/Attorney *ad Litem*, abused and neglected children who have been removed from their homes by Child Protective Services.
 - Supervise student attorneys who are enrolled in the Clinic for course credit.
 - Conduct lectures/role plays for students in the Clinic in the area of Child Welfare Law and trial advocacy skills.
 - Coordinate interdisciplinary lectures in the child welfare area.
 - Design and coordinate community outreach programs to improve representation and service to children in the child welfare system.

W.W. Caruth, Jr. Institute for Children's Rights, Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law

- Director
 - Direct Institute that pursues innovative and bold theories and projects that address the fundamental and overarching challenges of child abuse and neglect.
 - Design and plan Institute activities, including pursuing research and collaborative projects within the child welfare community.

PRIOR EXPERIENCE

Carrington, Coleman, Sloman & Blumenthal, L.L.P.

1987- present

8/15/13 - present

- Of Counsel in the Firm's Business Litigation Practice Group

1/1/1993 - 8/15/13

- Partner in the Firm's Business Litigation Practice Group
 - Defended and pursued litigation matters from inception through trial as lead attorney.
 - Full responsibility for case strategy, client satisfaction, setting and complying with litigation budgets, and billing.
 - Supervised teams of attorneys working on matters.
 - Responsible for supervising and training associate attorneys and less experienced partners.
 - Supervised all associate attorneys handling family law pro bono matters.

- Firm management positions
 - Executive Committee (2008 - August 2013) - Member of 4-person Executive Committee elected by the Partnership. Responsible for setting Firm policy, budgets, partner compensation, and overseeing all aspects of Firm operations.
 - Business Development Committee (2002 - August 2013) - Responsible for overseeing and coordinating Firm's business development efforts, planning and approving expenditures, including charitable contributions, and supervising the Firm's Business Development Director.
 - Paralegal Liaison Partner (1998 - August 2013) - Responsible for retaining, compensating, training, and maintaining morale and positive work environment for paralegals and litigation support personnel.
 - Pro Bono Partner (1987-2008) - Responsible for implementing Firm's efforts in providing pro bono legal services to the poor, to non-profit organizations, and in furtherance of improvement of the justice system.
 - Diversity Committee Chair (2004- August 2013) - Chair committee to promote diversity efforts within the Firm and outreach to the Dallas legal community.

9/1987- 12/31/1992 - Associate attorney practicing general business litigation under the training of various partners.

EDUCATION

Cornell Law School

Ithaca, NY

Juris Doctorate, *cum laude*, 1987

- Member of Cornell Law Review
- Co-Chair, Public Interest Law Association
- Research Assistant for Faust F. Rossi, Samuel S. Leibowitz Professor Of Trial Techniques
- Recipient, John J. Kelly Memorial Prize, awarded by a faculty committee to a student demonstrating scholarship, a sense of fair play, and good humor

Franklin & Marshall College

Lancaster, PA

Bachelor of Arts with a Major in English and a Minor in Government, 1984

ADMITTANCES

Texas State Bar

U.S. District Courts for the Northern, Southern, Eastern, and Western Districts of Texas

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Present

- Child Welfare Law Exam Commission, Texas Board of Legal Specialization
- Director, Board of Directors of Legal Aid of Northwest Texas
- Director, Board of Directors of the Dallas Bar Association's Community Services Fund
- Vice-Chair, Dallas Bar Association Juvenile Justice Committee
- Member, TexProtects Roundtable

Recent Past (selected)

- Advisory Committee to the Texas Board of Legal Specialization to advise on creation of/standards for a child welfare law specialization
- Director, Board of Directors of the Dallas Bar Association
- Division Director, American Bar Association, Section of Litigation, Public Service Division
- Chair, American Bar Association, Section of Litigation, Committee on the Future of Multi-District Litigation
- Chair, American Bar Association, Section of Litigation, Expert Witnesses Committee
- Chair, American Bar Association, Section of Litigation, Woman Advocate Committee
- Chair, Dallas Bar Association/Legal Aid of Northwest Texas, Equal Access to Justice Campaign Committee
- Chair, Dallas Bar Association Pro Bono Activities Committee
- Chair, Dallas Bar Association By-Laws Committee
- Chair, Dallas Bar Association Judiciary Committee
- Chair, Dallas Bar Association Minority Participation Committee
- Chair, Dallas Bar Association Summer Law Intern Program
- Member, Committee for A Qualified Judiciary

HONORS

- Louise Raggio Women's Legal Advocate Award, presented by Legal Aid of Northwest Texas for pro bono service representing and benefitting women in poverty
 - Pro Bono Coordinator of the Year, 1998 and 2005, presented by the Dallas Volunteer Attorney Program to the outstanding law firm pro bono coordinator
 - Joanna Moreland Outstanding Committee Chair Award, presented by the Dallas Bar Association to selected committee chair. Received award for service as Chair of the DBA's Pro Bono Activities Committee in 2010 and received award for service as Chair of the DBA's Judiciary Committee in 2013
 - Texas State Bar Pro Bono College (various years)
 - Texas Super Lawyer (2011-2013)
 - Listed in Best Lawyers in America (2010-present)
 - Fellow: American Bar Foundation
 - Life Fellow: Texas Bar Foundation and Dallas Bar Foundation

MEMBERSHIPS

American Bar Association

- Section of Litigation
- Children's Rights Litigation Committee

Texas Bar Association

- Juvenile Justice Section
- Family Law Section

National Association of Counsel for Children

Dallas Bar Association

FORMS MANUAL

Dual Role: Guardian ad Litem/Attorney ad Litem Forms/Templates Manual, prepared by the W.W. Caruth, Jr. Child Advocacy Clinic at SMU Dedman School of Law, Diane M. Sumoski, Director and Supervising Attorney (November 2016)

SELECTED SPEECHES/PUBLICATIONS

- Moderator, *M.D. bnf Stukenberg v. Abbott*: The Federal Class Action to Reform DFPS, Dallas Bar Association 7th Annual Child Welfare Conference, 2016
- Presenter, Asserting Constitutional Rights of Children in Individual Child Welfare Proceedings and Lessons from Impact Litigation, 16th Annual ABA National Conference on Children and the Law, 2015
- Presenter, Referral Resources for Students in Crisis, Dallas Bar Association Education Symposium
- Presenter, Empowered, Effective, and Ethical Guardians/Attorneys Ad Litem for Children, 5th Annual Dallas Bar Association Child Welfare Conference, 2015
- Presenter, Kinship Legal Custody Program (March 2015 and October 2015)
- Presenter/Faculty Member, Evidence Module, Dallas Bar Association Trial Academy, 2012 and 2014
- Presenter, Education Advocacy for CASA Advocates, Dallas CASA 2014
- Presenter, The Child Welfare Case: From Removal to Permanency, Circles of Care, Inc. Foster Agency 2014
- Faculty Member, Opening Statements, Dallas Bar Association Trial Academy 2013

- Author, Expert Advice: Practical Tips for the First Meeting with your Expert, Section of Litigation Annual Conference, 2008
- Presenter, What Attorneys Want (and Sometimes Even Need) From their Experts, Forensic Expert Witness Association, 2008
- Presenter, Bridging the Gender Gap in the Courtroom, Connecticut Defense Lawyers Association, 2007
- Author, Bridging the Gender Gap, The Litigation Manual, First Supplement, 2007
- Author, Enron: Navigating the Civil Side of the Corporate Case of the Century, American Bar Association Section of Litigation Annual Conference, 2007
- Presenter, Creating a Visual Strategy with your Expert: Using Demonstratives with Expert Witnesses, American Bar Association Annual Meeting, 2007
- Presenter, Discovery Problems and their Solutions, American Bar Association Annual Meeting, 2005
- Author, A Lawyer's Professional Responsibility to Provide Pro Bono Legal Services, presented at three separate Dallas Bar Association Pro Bono Summits