

## SUSAN A. MCMAHON

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### LEGAL EXPERIENCE:

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**Arizona State University Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law** **2021-present**

*Clinical Professor of Law*  
*Associate Clinical Professor of Law*

Courses: Legal Method and Writing; Legal Advocacy; Advanced Legal Writing;  
Persuasion

Service: Hiring Committee; Colloquium Committee

**Georgetown University Law Center** **2011-2021**

*Professor of Law, Legal Practice*  
*Associate Professor of Legal Research and Writing*  
*Visiting Associate Professor of Legal Research and Writing*

Courses: Legal Research and Writing/Legal Practice; Legal Writing Seminar;  
Theory and Practice for Law Fellows; Judicial Opinions Seminar;  
Legislative Process Seminar; Guantanamo Detentions Seminar;  
Internal Investigation Simulation: Evaluating Corporate Corruption

Service: Chair, Online Pedagogy Working Group; Legal Careers and  
Clerkships Committee; Ad Hoc Committee on ABA Self-Study and  
Faculty Handbook; Journals Committee

**Debevoise & Plimpton LLP, Washington, DC & New York, NY** **2006-2008 & 2009-2011**

*Associate*

**U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, Washington, DC** **2008-2009**

*Law Clerk to the Honorable Richard J. Leon*

### ARTICLES

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Susan A. McMahon, *What We Teach When We Teach Legal Analysis*, 107 MINN. L. REV. 2511 (2023).

Susan A. McMahon, *Gun Laws and Mental Illness: Ridding the Statutes of Stigma*, 5 U PA. J.L. & PUB. AFF. 133 (2020).

- Selected to be presented at the AALS New Scholars Showcase (Legal Writing, Reasoning, and Research Section) in Jan. 2020.

Susan A. McMahon, *Reforming Competence Restoration Statutes: An Outpatient Model*, 107 GEO. L.J. 601 (2019).

Susan A. McMahon, *It Doesn't Pass the Sell Test: Focusing on the Facts of the Individual Case in Involuntary Medication Inquiries*, 50 AM. CRIM. L. REV. 387 (2013).

- Named a “must-read” article by the Getting Scholarship into Court Project of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers.

## **ESSAYS**

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Eun Hee Han, Tiffany Jeffers, & Susan A. McMahon, *The Unending Conversation: Gut Renovations and No-Demo Renos*, 6 STETSON L. REV. FORUM no. 2, at 1 (2023).

Sherri Lee Keene & Susan A. McMahon, *The Contextual Case Method: Moving Beyond Opinions to Spark Students' Legal Imaginations*, 108 VA. L. REV. ONLINE 72 (2022).

Sonya Bonneau & Susan A. McMahon, *Disruptive Lanyering 101*, 25 LEGAL WRITING: J. LEGAL WRITING INST. 37 (2021).

Susan A. McMahon, *Pandemic as Opportunity for Competence Restoration Decarceration*, 2 ARIZ. STATE L.J. ONLINE 207 (2020).

## **TEXTBOOKS**

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SONYA BONNEAU & SUSAN A. MCMAHON, LEGAL WRITING IN CONTEXT (2017, 2d ed. forthcoming 2024).

## **SELECTED PRESENTATIONS**

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*What We Teach When We Teach Legal Analysis*, Western Regional Legal Writing Conference, Aug. 26, 2023.

Panelist, *How to Integrate Issues of Diversity into the Legal Writing Curriculum*, Association of Legal Writing Directors Biennial Conference, Jul. 13, 2023.

Invited Presenter, *What Is Competency to Stand Trial: A National and Arizona Perspective*, Legal Competency & Restoration Conference for Mental Health Professionals, Arizona Supreme Court, Aug. 10, 2023.

Invited Panelist, *Mental Health and the Courts: What Can New Science & Technologies Offer?*, ASU's 8th Biannual Law & Neuroscience Conference, Dec. 9, 2022.

*Teaching Critical Lanyering*, SALT Teaching Conference, Oct. 14, 2022 [with Eun Hee Han].

Invited Panelist, *Leaving Langdell Behind: Redesigning the Law School Curriculum*, Minnesota Law Review Symposium, Oct. 7, 2022, available at

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qeKVbx1jynU&list=PLwPT8-x\\_9wN6mbqvdYxmstcl2A5fjXwq5&index=5](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qeKVbx1jynU&list=PLwPT8-x_9wN6mbqvdYxmstcl2A5fjXwq5&index=5).

Invited Panelist, *Competency Determinations: Increasing Diversions and Improving Caseflow Management*, Conference of Chief Justices and Conference of State Court Administrators Annual Meeting, Jul. 25, 2022.

*Critical Lawyering Pedagogy*, Legal Writing Institute Biennial Conference, Jul. 23, 2022 [with Tiffany Jeffers].

*Interrogating Legal Pedagogy and Imagining a Better Way to Train Lawyers*, Virginia Law Review Online Symposium, Feb. 18, 2022 [with Sherri Lee Keene].

Discussant, *Interrogating and Disrupting the Legal Writing Canon*, Southeastern Association of Law Schools Conference, July 31, 2021.

*Addressing Racial Bias by Confronting Norms in the Legal Writing Classroom*, Association of Legal Writing Directors Biennial Conference, Jun. 16, 2021 [with Sonya Bonneau, Sherri Keene, and Ruth Anne Robbins].

Panelist, *Vulnerable Populations in the Context of COVID-19*, Arizona State Law Journal Online Symposium, Dec. 14, 2020.

*Confronting Norms in Legal Analysis and Storytelling*, Getting Out of Our Comfort Zones: Addressing Issues of Race in the LRW Classroom, Northeastern Univ. School of Law, Dec. 3, 2020 [with Sherri Keene].

*The Danger Stigma*, Legalese (Georgetown Law Video Series), Feb. 27, 2020, available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DzuHV3he45A>.

Expert Testimony, *Mental Health, Mental Health Courts, and the Criminal Legal System*, Public Hearing of the D.C. Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, Nov. 7, 2019.

*When Tales Fail: False Narratives and Legal Consequences*, Applied Legal Storytelling Conference, July 11, 2019.

*In Theory and In Practice*, Legal Writing Institute Biennial Conference, July 13, 2018 [with Sonya Bonneau].

*The Social Lives of Rules*, Legal Writing Institute Biennial Conference, July 11, 2016 [with Sonya Bonneau].

*Teaching Tank: Bridging the Theory/Practice Divide in the Law School Classroom*, Association of Legal Writing Directors Biennial Conference, June 4, 2015 [with Sonya Bonneau].

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES & ASSOCIATIONS:**

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Member, Task Force on Rule 11 of the Arizona Rules of Criminal Procedure, Arizona Supreme Court (2022-present).

Organizer, Teaching Social Justice and Legal Change in Legal Writing, Legal Writing Institute One-Day Workshop (2022) [with Mary Bowman & Sarah Ricks].

Board Member, Journal of the Legal Writing Institute (2022-present).

Conference Committee, Rocky Mountain Legal Writing Conference (2022).

Peer Reviewer, Legal Communication & Rhetoric: JALWD (2022).

Scholarship Development Committee, Legal Writing Institute (2018-2020).

Scholarship Grant Committee, Ass'n of Legal Writing Directors (2017-2018).

Assistant Editor, Journal of the Legal Writing Institute (2014, 2017).

Program Committee, AALS Section on Legal Writing, Reasoning and Research (2015-2017).

Conference Committee, Capital Area Legal Writing Conference (2012).

**EDUCATION:**

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**Georgetown University Law Center**, Washington, DC **June 2006**  
J.D., *magna cum laude*

**College of the Holy Cross**, Worcester, MA **May 2000**  
B.A., *cum laude*

**OTHER EXPERIENCE:**

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***The Sun***, Lowell, MA **Nov. 2000-Aug. 2003**  
*Education Reporter & Southern New Hampshire Reporter*

Awards: First Place, Breaking News Story, New England Associated Press News Executives Association (2002).

**CNN**, Atlanta, GA **July 2000-Nov. 2000**  
*Video Journalist*