

**Debra Moss Curtis**  
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**EXPERIENCE:**

**Shepard Broad Law Center, Nova Southeastern University, Ft. Lauderdale, FL**  
**Professor of Law (2008-present)/Associate Professor of Law (2006-2008)**  
**Asst. Professor of Law/Visiting Asst. Prof. (2001-2006)**

Current Courses Taught:

*Contracts, UCC: Sales, UCC: Secured Transactions, UCC: Sales and Secured Transactions Survey*

Past Courses Include:

*Law Office Management Workshop, Introduction to the 4th Amendment (on-line),  
Lawyering Skills and Values I and II*

Law School Service:

Co-Director of Public Service Fellowship Grant Project (2001-present)

*Current Service Includes:* Committee on Promotion, Retention and Tenure

*Past Service Includes:* Chair, Appointments Committee; Ad Hoc Committee on Legal Profession and Legal Education; Professionalism Orientation Program

Professionalism Committee; Faculty Development Committee; Bar Gift

Award Committee; Curriculum Committee; Chair, Curriculum Mapping Committee; E-mail

Task Force; Interface Committee; Chair, Faculty Appointments Committee; Student Affairs

Committee, Public Service Summer Fellowship Selection Committee; President's Faculty

Research and Development Grant Reviewer

**Director, Public Interest Law (1996-2001)/Director Pro Bono Students America/Southeast**

Created and managed law school's information center for public interest law. Created Pro Bono Honor Program and new community projects. Brought school to national ranking of #9 in National Jurist report of Public Interest programs. Managed Southeast region of national program matching law students with pro bono positions nationwide. Aided regional law schools in structuring individual pro bono programs.

**Berg & Wheeler, P.A., Attorney/ Contract Attorney, Brandon, FL (1993- 2001)**

Maintained caseload of clients in family law, civil litigation, real property, estate planning and administration and probate, including litigation, and assisted on appeals. Handled all aspects of cases, including client intake, pleadings, discovery, document drafting, research, depositions, motions, trial briefs and court appearances. Wrote appellate briefs, resulting in PCA decisions for all appellee clients. Brought electronic research medium to firm.

## **BAR ADMISSIONS:**

Florida Bar, admitted 1993

United States District Court, Middle District of Florida, admitted 1994

United States Circuit Court of Appeals, 11th Circuit, admitted 2003

United States Supreme Court, admitted 2001

## **BAR SERVICE:**

Vice Chair-Vision 2016, Florida Bar's Commission to Study the Legal Profession (2013-Present)

Hawkins Commission on Attorney Discipline (2011-2012)

*-Appointed academic consultant to Bar President's Commission to study attorney discipline*

Florida Law Related Education Committee (2011-present)

*-Chair Subcommittee on Legal Publications (2012, 2013)*

Judicial Independence Committee (Now Constitutional Judiciary Committee) (2005-present)

*-Planned symposium on Judicial Independence and Elections for annual meeting (2012)*

*-Co-authored "Guide for Florida Voters" to educate public about Judicial Elections and Merit Retention (2011-2012)*

*-Assisting in developing "Benchmarks" program for teaching adult civics education Chair (2010-2011); Vice-Chair (2006-2007; 2008-2009); Chair, Education Subcommittee (2006-2007, 2009)*

*-Supervised creation of "Judicial Independence Overview" and of special compendiums for committee and bar website for educational purposes on the crisis in the judiciary (2005-2008)*

Committee on Professionalism (2006-2007); Student Education and Admissions to the Bar Committee (2004-2005); Advertising Task Force (2004-2005)

Our Courts America Working Group

*-On board of national partnership of court advocates that aims to educate the public about the important role that the court system plays in our communities across the country. (2012-present)*

American Judicature Society

*-Produced information regarding Independence of Judiciary for national distribution (2010-present)*

## **AWARDS AND NOMINATIONS**

Professor of the Year, Nova Southeastern University Shepard Broad Law Center (2008)

General Solo and Small Firm Section Nominated 2003 for "Tradition of Excellence Award"; Practice Management Section Nominated, 2001 and 2002 for Florida Bar Professionalism award

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Books:**

*REFORMING LEGAL EDUCATION: LAW SCHOOLS AT THE CROSSROADS* (Debra Moss Curtis & David M. Moss eds. 2012).

### **Law Review Publications:**

*Beg Borrow or Steal: Ten Lessons Legal Education Can Learn from Other Disciplines* (forthcoming) 42 USF L. REV. \_\_\_\_ (2014).

*Attorney Discipline Nationwide: A Comparative Analysis of Process and Statistics*, 35 J. LEGAL PROF. 209 (2011).

*Curriculum Mapping: Bringing Evidence-Based Frameworks to Legal Education*, 34 NOVA L. REV. 473 (2010).

*Teaching Law Office Management: Why Law Students Need to Know the Business of Being a Lawyer*, 71 ALB. L. REV. 201 (2008).

*In a Case, on a Screen, Do They Remember What They've Seen? Critical Electronic Reading in the Law School Classroom*, (co-authored) 30 HAMLINE L. REV. 247 (2007).

*Teach the Children Well: Incorporating Cultural Literacy Into the Law School Learning Experience*, 37 CUMB. L. REV. 177 (2006–2007).

*Domestic Violence and the Lawyer as Good Samaritan: What Responsibility to Become Involved?*, Essay, 6 WHITTIER J. CHILD. & FAM. ADVOC. 3 (2006).

*Everything I Needed to Know about Law Professors' Ethics I Learned as a Kindergarten Teacher: Examining Ethics in the Classroom*, 2006 BYU J. LAW & EDUC. 455 (2006).

*You've Got Rhythm: Curriculum Planning and Teaching in the Legal Writing Classroom*, 21 TOURO L. REV. 465 (2005).

*Licensing and Discipline of Fiscal Professionals in Florida: Attorneys, Accountants and Real Estate Professionals*, 29 NOVA L. REV. 339 (2005).

*In a Case, In a Book, They Will Not Take a Second Look! Critical Reading in the Legal Writing Classroom*, (co-authored), 41 WILLAMETTE L. REV. 293 (2005).

*A Public View of Attorney Discipline in Florida: Statistics, Commentary, and Analysis of Disciplinary Actions against Licensed Attorneys in the State of Florida From 1988–2002*, (co-authored), 28 NOVA L. REV. 669 (2004).

## **Other Legal Publications:**

### *BarCharts Series:*

Bankruptcy (2005); Contracts (2006); Legal Research (2008); Legal Terminology A-Z (2008); Professional Responsibility (2005); Sales (2011); Secured Transactions: Revised Article 9 (2011); Wills and Trusts (2004)

*Judicial Independence: Statewide Committee Update*, 85 FLA. BAR J. 64 (June 2011).

*It Takes Three to Be Divorced: Conflicts of Interest when Third Parties Pay Attorney's Fees*, 48 FAM. LAW COMMENT. FLA. BAR (Spring 2005).

*Marketing for Minders*, ABA LAW PRACTICE TODAY (Apr. 2004); Reprinted (July 2004), [www.technolawyer.com](http://www.technolawyer.com), Reprinted Paralegals Plus (Sept. 2004).

*Venturing into the On-Line Wilderness: Some Lessons Learned*, (co-authored) JURIST, (Feb. 2003), <http://www.jurist.org>.

*When Should You Bill?*, 29 FLA. BAR NEWS 6 (Mar. 15, 2002).

*Bringing the Internet to the Classroom*, JURIST (Apr. 2002), <http://www.jurist.org>.

*Trust Accounting: Which Way Works?*, 29 FLA. BAR NEWS 19 (Oct. 1, 2002).

*Supervise Your Lawyers and Staff*, 76 FLA. BAR J. 74 (Dec. 2002).

*Teach New Lawyers Your Billing Practices*, 23 FLA. BAR NEWS 4 (Feb. 15, 2001).

*Bringing Your New Hires in on Your Marketing Plans*, 28 FLA. BAR NEWS 6 (Mar. 15, 2001).

*Tune In, Turn On (So They Won't) Drop Out*, 28 FLA. BAR NEWS 16 (Aug. 15, 2001).

*Client Confidences: Is Your Workspace Telling Tales?*, 28 FLA. BAR NEWS 25 (Dec. 15, 2001).

*Counseling Students in Public Service, Public Service Guide to Public Interest Law*, NAT'L ASS'N L. PLACEMENT (1998).

## **PRESENTATIONS**

Critical Electronic Reading, Health Professions Division, Nova Southeastern (forthcoming December 2013)

Boot Camp, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York, NY (2011-present)

-*Law School Mock Class, March, 2013, January 2013, January 2012; Introduction to Law School, July 2011; Law School Influencing Careers, June 2011.*

Benchmarks: Teaching Adult Civics, Florida Bar (2010-present)

*-Mid-Year Meeting CLE, Orlando, Florida, September 2011, September 2010; Annual Meeting Florida Bar, Boca Raton, Florida June 2010; Broward Bench and Bar, November 2010.*

Law School as a Consumer Product: Beat 'em or Join 'em? SEALS Conference, Palm Beach, Florida, July 2010.

Judicial Watch Judicial Candidate Forum, Moderator, NSU Law School, July 2010.

Law Day Education Program, for High School Students, Florida Law Related Education Association and Florida Bar, Ft. Lauderdale, FL, March 2010.

Choices in Lawyering, Panel, Law Day on the Hill, Tufts University, March 2009.

Critical Electronic Reading in Law School, Institute for Law School Teaching Conference, (co-presented) Suffolk Law School, June 2007.

U.S Constitution and Citizenship Day Program on Judicial Independence, NSU Law Center, September 2006.

The Importance of Education in Judicial Independence, Voluntary Bar Leaders Conference of the Florida Bar, July 2006.

Teaching Cultural Literacy in the Law Classroom, New Scholars Presentation, SEALS Conference, July 2006.

The Ethics of Teaching, Inspiring Students and Facilitating Learning Institute for Law Teaching Conference, Chicago-Kent Law School, June 2006.

The Meyers-Briggs Type Indicator - How Lawyers Can Work Together, (co-presented) Annual Meeting Florida Board of Bar Examiners, June 2006.

Keynote Speaker: Separation of Powers and Judicial Independence, Law Day on the Hill Tufts University, March 2006.

The 18th Edition of the Bluebook: Florida Practice (co-presented), Florida Trial Court Staff Attorneys Association Statewide Conference, October 2005.

Legal Research and Writing, Florida Trial Court Staff Attorneys Association, October 2004.  
The Attorney Discipline Process: Is it Working and does it Shape Public Opinion of Lawyers? SEALS Conference, July 2004.

In a Case, In a Book They Will Not Take a Second Look: Critical Reading in the Legal Writing Classroom, Legal Writing Institute Conference, July 2004.

All You Needed to Learn about Critical Reading as Gleaned by Dr. Seuss (co-presented), Southeastern Legal Research and Writing Conference, September 2003.

Starting a Small Firm: Business and Ethical Considerations, T.J. Reddick Bar Association, April 2003.

*Ethical Billing for Your Law Firm, Palm Beach County Inns of Court, January 2002.*

#### **EDUCATION:**

##### **Boston College Law School, Newton, MA**

Juris Doctor, cum laude, May, 1993

- Two years, Academic Support Tutor for Property, teaching first-year course and Bar Preparation

- Summer Associate, Robbins, Gaynor & Bronstein, P.A. (1992)

*-Research and drafting in commercial litigation, general civil litigation and tax law.*

##### **Tufts University, Medford, MA**

*B.A., Political Science, May, 1990*

#### **COMMUNITY SERVICE AND AWARDS:**

##### Tufts University, Medford, MA

-Tufts University Alumni Council (Elected for 10 year term 2011)

-Tufts Lawyers Association

- Recipient, Tufts University "Citizen Lawyer Award" 2010

- Recipient, Tufts Lawyers Association National Service Award 2006

- Board of Directors (2002-present)

- Organization President (2008-2010)

- Organization Vice President (2004-2007)

- Law Day on the Hill

- Event Chair, 2005, 2004, 2003

- Speaker (2002-2008)

- Tufts University Alumni Admissions Interviewer

##### Local Community Schools, Boca Raton, FL

-Waters Edge Elementary School, National Law Day Programs;

-Eagles Landing Middle School, National Law Day Programs and Volunteer Civics Teacher

-Olympic Heights High School, Band Parent Organizer