

EMMA M. HETHERINGTON

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA SCHOOL OF LAW, Athens, Georgia

- *Assistant Clinical Professor*, January 2017 – Present
- *Director*, Wilbanks Child Endangerment and Sexual Exploitation Clinic, December 2015 - Present
- *Clinical Instructor*, December 2015 – January 2017

AWARDS AND HONORS

- SAGE Publishing and Council on Social Work Education National Innovative Teaching in Social Work Education Award Recipient, 2018
- National Association of Counsel for Children Child Welfare Law Specialist Certification Diversity Scholarship Award Recipient, 2018

COURSES TAUGHT

- Child Endangerment and Sexual Exploitation Seminar
- Child Endangerment and Sexual Exploitation Clinic
- Interdisciplinary Trauma-Informed Child Welfare Mock Trial (Juris Doctorate and Masters of Social Work students)

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA SCHOOL OF LAW, Athens, Georgia

J.D., *Cum Laude*, GPA 3.53 (Top 20%), May 2011

Honors: Working in the Public Interest Student Achievement Award UGA; Law Equal Justice Foundation Fellow; Equal Justice Works Summer Corps Fellow

EMORY UNIVERSITY, Atlanta, Georgia

B.A. in Comparative Literature and French, GPA 3.85, May 2007

Honors: Emory College Language Center Excellence in Language

Learning French Award; Dean's List; Phi Eta Sigma; Senior Tribute Fund

Book Scholarship; Scholarly Inquiry and Research at Emory (SIRE) Research Scholar

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Civil Statutes of Limitation for Child Sexual Abuse and Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking: A National Survey and Suggestions for Reforms in the State of Georgia, Policy Paper for the 2020 Georgia General Assembly Session (March 11, 2019).

Statute of Limitations for Child Sexual Abuse Civil Lawsuits in Georgia: Update on Case Findings and Opportunities for Reform, Policy Paper for the 2019 Georgia General Assembly Session (January 2019).

Access to the Civil Court System for Survivors of Child Sexual Abuse in Georgia: Observations and Recommendations from the Clinical Legal Education Experience, 53 Ga. L. Rev. Online (April 5, 2019) (Georgia Law Clinics Special 50th Anniversary Issue).

PANELS AND PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Presenter, “Social Welfare in a Time of Crisis,” Ask an Expert webinar series, University of Georgia School of Law

Presented on the impact of COVID-19 on the child welfare system in Georgia and across the United States

Athens, GA, April 2020

Presenter and Conference Organizer, “Trauma-Informed Courtrooms,” Office of State Administrative Hearings Child Abuse Registry CLE Training

Organized and hosted continuing legal education conference for the Office of State Administrative Hearings in Georgia; and

Presented on trauma-informed courtrooms and child testimony

Athens, GA, February 2020

Presenter, “Collaborating with the Media to Amplify a Clinic’s Impact,” Southern Clinical Conference and New Clinicians Workshop

Co-Presented on the benefits of working collaboratively with the media to amplify client stories and the broader impact of our work

New Orleans, LA, October 2019

Presenter, “Developing a Trauma-Informed Courtroom: An Innovative Interprofessional Approach for Improving Outcomes for Child Welfare Involved Children, Families & Professionals,” Council on Social Work Education Annual Program Meeting

Co-Presented on interdisciplinary, trauma-informed approaches to legal education and representation

Orlando, FL, November 2018

Panelist, “#MeToo and the Legal Academy,” Women’s Leadership in Academia Conference
Panelist and subject-matter expert on sexual harassment and assault
Athens, GA, July 2018

Presenter, “Georgia’s Child Abuse Registry: Good Intentions and Unintended Consequences,”
Georgia Summit on Child Welfare Law
*Presented on Child Abuse Registries with Diana Rugh Johnson, JD, CWLS, Attorney,
and Judge Pro Tempore, DeKalb County Juvenile Court*
Atlanta, GA, November 2017

Presenter, “Hidden Registries: Child Abuse Registries and Avoiding the Consequences,”
National Association of Counsel for Children National Child Welfare Law Conference
*Presented on Child Abuse Registries with Diana Rugh Johnson, JD, CWLS, Attorney,
and Judge Pro Tempore, DeKalb County Juvenile Court*
New Orleans, LA, August 2017

Presenter, “Improving Outcomes for Sexually Abused and Exploited Children: An
Interdisciplinary, Trauma-Informed Courtroom Practice,” Georgia Juvenile Court Judges
Conference
*Presented on trauma-informed courtroom practices at annual Juvenile Court Judges
Conference with Professor Jennifer Elkins, School of Social Work*
Athens, GA, October 2017

Speaker, Press Conference at the Georgia Capitol
*Speaker at press conference on proposed legislation to extend the statute of limitations
for survivors of child sexual abuse in Georgia*
Atlanta, GA, August 2017

Moderator, Family Law Society Panel
Panel on Careers in Family Law
Athens, GA, February 2017

Discussant, International Law Colloquium
*“Human Rights Education: Traversing Legal and Geographic Boundaries,” by
Professor Jonathan Todres*
Athens, GA, February 2017

Presenter, “Trauma-Informed Lawyering”
*Conference Organizer and Presenter at Wilbanks Child Endangerment and Sexual
Exploitation Conference*
Athens, GA, January 2017

Presenter, “Child Sex Abuse in Civil Litigation”
Georgia Conference on Children and Families
Augusta, GA, November 2016

Presenter, “Creating a New Clinic from Scratch: A Brainstorming Case Round”
Southern Clinical Conference, Charlotte School of Law
Charlotte, NC, October 2016

Presenter and Organizer, “Same Child Victim, Same Alleged Abuser, Three Courts—The Intersection of - Administrative, Juvenile and Criminal Courts in Child Abuse Cases”
Office of State Administrative Hearings Child Abuse Registry CLE Training
Athens, GA, June 2016

Presenter, “Advocating for Transitioning Youth”
Georgia Youth Law Conference
Atlanta, GA, June 2014

Presenter, “Education and Homeless Youth”
National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth Conference
Atlanta, GA, November 2013

Presenter, “Representing Children and Parents with Disabilities in Juvenile Court”
National Child Welfare Law Conference
Atlanta, GA, August 2013
Georgia Youth Law Conference
Atlanta, GA, March 2013

SELECTED APPELLATE AND AMICUS BRIEFS

Philip Doe v. Archbishop William Gregory, et al., Georgia Supreme Court (forthcoming June 2020) - Co-author, amicus on behalf of Philip Doe

Goldstein, Garber & Salama v. J.B., Georgia Supreme Court (September 2016) -Sole author, amicus on behalf on J.B.

Coreane High v. Taurean R. Lowe, Georgia Court of Appeals (May 2015) -Sole author, attorney for Coreane High

GRANTS COMPLETED

2014 Rapid Re-Housing and Prevention Program

Role: Project Director

Funding Dates: July 2014 - June 2015

Funding Source:

-Sub-Grant from Georgia Department for Community Affairs

-U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Emergency Solutions Grant

Total Funding: \$94,998

LEGAL AND OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

Wilbanks Child Endangerment and Sexual Exploitation Clinic,

University of Georgia School of Law, Athens, GA

Director, December 2015 – Present

The Hetherington Firm, LLC, Atlanta, GA

Principal Attorney, Sept. 2015 – Dec. 2015

Georgia Law Center for the Homeless, Atlanta, GA

Managing Attorney, Dec. 2014 – Aug. 2015

Senior Staff Attorney, Jan. 2012 – Feb. 2014

DeKalb County Child Advocacy Center, Decatur, GA

Senior Child Advocate Attorney, Feb. 2014 – Dec. 2014

Public Interest Fellow and Legal Intern, June 2009 – Dec. 2012

Advocates for Children of New York, New York, NY

Legal Intern, June 2010 – Aug. 2010

Special Education Law Practicum, Athens, GA Law Student

Intern, Aug. 2009 – Dec. 2009

Emory Autism Center, Atlanta, GA

Pre-Kindergarten Coordinator and Family Provider, June 2005 – June 2008

SELECTED CONSULTANCIES

Street Grace

-Human trafficking and illicit massage industry research

Anderson, Tate, & Carr

-Trafficking and Hotel Liability

-Trauma-Informed Practice

The Penn Law Group

-Child Sex Abuse and the Boy Scouts

-Darlington School

Alston and Bird

-Legitimation and the Child Welfare System in Child Sex Abuse Cases

Warshauer Law Group

-Negligence and Homeowner's Insurance Policies in Child Sex Abuse Cases

Shamp, Speed, Jordan & Woodward

-Child Sex Abuse and the Boy Scouts

The Panitch Law Group

-Child Sex Abuse and the Boy Scouts

SELECTED MEDIA APPEARANCES

Atlanta Journal Constitution, March 12, 2020--regarding Georgia House Bill 479, which would amend the civil statute of limitations for claims of child sexual abuse

Fulton County Daily Report, March 12, 2020--regarding the 2020 Wilbanks CEASE Clinic conference on the commercial and sexual exploitation of children, LGBTQ youth in foster care, and civil justice for survivors of child sexual abuse and exploitation

Augusta Chronicle, March 5, 2020--regarding Georgia House Bill 479, which would amend the civil statute of limitations for claims of child sexual abuse

Atlanta Journal Constitution, January 8, 2020--regarding a new federal lawsuit that could provide child sexual abuse survivors a new option for justice against the Boy Scouts of America

WSB-TV, November 20, 2019--featured on WSB-TV regarding sexual assault of students by teachers

Georgia Recorder, October 29, 2019--commenting on the possible revival of Georgia's Hidden Predator Act

USA Today, October 2, 2019--commenting on organizations lobbying against child abuse statutes

Fulton County Daily Report, July 16, 2019—commenting on Jeffrey Epstein and Georgia's civil statute of limitation for child sexual abuse

Atlanta Journal Constitution, July 12, 2019—commenting on Georgia's statute of limitations for child sexual abuse

WUGA Public Media, June 19, 2019—featured in two-part series on trauma-informed courtroom training for lawyers and social workers

WOSU Public Media, June 17, 2019—commenting on mediation in sexual assault litigation

Atlanta Journal Constitution, August 20, 2018—commenting on lawsuits against Boy Scouts of America for child sexual abuse

Athens Banner-Herald, January 30, 2018—commenting on CEASE Clinic Conference and USA Gymnastics

Fulton County Daily Report, November 27, 2017—commenting on the #metoo movement and addition of CEASE Clinic Staff Attorney

Dalton Daily Press, August 7, 2017—report on press conference on Hidden Predator Act legislation and commentary on status of statute of limitations in Georgia

Atlanta Journal Constitution, August 2, 2017—report on press conference on Hidden Predator Act legislation

Associated Press, June 30, 2017—commenting on expiration of Georgia's Hidden Predator Act

Athens Banner-Herald, January 30, 2017—commenting on the first annual Wilbanks CEASE Conference and child sex abuse tort litigation

Macon Telegraph, June 10, 2016—commenting on restitution for victims of child pornography

WUGA-Athens Public Radio, January 20, 2016—commenting on the passage of the Hidden Predator Act and the foundation of the Wilbanks CEASE Clinic

The Verdict, Spring 2016—commenting on the passage of the Hidden Predator Act and the foundation of the Wilbanks CEASE Clinic

LAW SCHOOL SERVICE

Wilbanks Child Endangerment and Sexual Exploitation Conference

Conference Organizer, January 2017, January 2018, and April 2020 (*forthcoming*)

Office of State Administrative Hearings Child Abuse Registry CLE Training

Training Organizer and Presenter, February 2020

Training Organizer and Presenter, June 2016

Equal Justice Foundation Student Organization

Faculty Advisor, August 2017 - Present

Placement Committee

Member, August 2018 - Present

Admissions Committee

Member, August 2017 – May 2018

Placement Committee, UGA School of Law, Athens, GA

Member, September 2016 – May 2017

Clinical Program Development Committee, UGA School of Law, Athens, GA

Member, September 2016 – Present

Clinical Website Committee, UGA School of Law, Athens, GA

Member, January 2016 – May 2017

McClendon Committee, UGA School of Law, Athens, GA

Member, April 2016

COMMUNITY AND OTHER SERVICE

Athens-Clarke County Sex Trafficking Awareness and Response Task Force

Executive Board Member, May 2020 - Present

Member, July 2019 - Present

Georgia State Human Trafficking Task Force, Georgia Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

Member, November 2019 - Present

Work Group #4 Keeping At-Risk Youth Safe Member, November 2019 - Present

Georgia Statewide Commercial and Sexual Exploitation of Children Multidisciplinary Team (CSEC MDT)

Member, October 2019 - Present

House of Cherith Legal Pop-Up Clinic for Survivors of Human Trafficking

Founder, Organizer and Volunteer, January 2020 - Present

Athens Access to Justice Initiative

Volunteer, June 2018 - Present

Georgia House of Representatives and Senate Judiciary Committees

Expert and Commentator on Proposed Legislation, 2019-2020 Legislative Session

Expert and Commentator on Proposed Legislation, 2016-2017 Legislative Session

Court Appointed Special Advocates, Athens, GA

Peer Coordinator and Volunteer Training Presenter, September 2016 – December 2019

Athens Area Homeless Shelter

Board Member, 2017-2018

Advocates for Students with Disabilities Committee for the Young Lawyers

Division of the State Bar of Georgia, Atlanta, GA

Co-Chair, August 2012 – May 2015

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- State Bar of Georgia (member since 11/09/2011)
 - Georgia Court of Appeals
 - Supreme Court of Georgia
 - Northern District of Georgia
- Georgia Trial Lawyers Association
- National Association of Counsel for Children
 - Child Welfare Law Specialist Certification candidate, 2020