

# CHRISTOPHER R. TRUDEAU

651 East Jefferson Ave.  
Detroit, MI 48226  
[trudeacr@udmercy.edu](mailto:trudeacr@udmercy.edu)  
(313) 596-9406

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

### UNIVERSITY OF DETROIT MERCY LAW SCHOOL DETROIT, MICHIGAN

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**Associate Professor of Law**  
**August 2022 – Present**

**Courses taught:** Business Organizations; Property; Applied Legal Theory & Analysis I & II; U.S. & Canadian Property Law (U.S. component)

My responsibilities at Detroit Mercy Law are to engage in high-quality teaching of these diverse subject areas, to engage in service to the school and legal community, and to continue to build out my scholarship on clinical trials regulations and health communication.

### UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS, LITTLE ROCK, WILLIAM H. BOWEN SCHOOL OF LAW LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

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**Associate Professor of Law**  
**August 2017 – June 2022**

**Courses taught:** Research, Writing, & Analysis I & II; Contracts; Contract Drafting; Health Law

My responsibilities at the UALR Bowen School of Law centered around teaching, scholarship, and developing collaborative, inter-professional activities with University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.

- Regarding teaching, I primarily taught Research, Writing, and Analysis I & II to first-year law students, and I taught Contract Drafting to upper-level law students. Additionally, I taught Contracts during the summer term, and I taught the health law elective when scheduling permitted.
- Regarding scholarship, I focused my efforts on creating impactful, interdisciplinary research. I was one of the only faculty members to have received external funding to conduct interdisciplinary research. While there, I published numerous articles with others within the University of Arkansas System and from other Universities. I also published an international study on the public's perception of legal communication with a co-author from the U.K., and I wrote a sole-authored chapter for the second edition of an international anthology on health literacy best practices.
- Regarding service, I was an active member in the law school community and in the Arkansas legal community during my time at Bowen. I was chair of the Law School Rankings committee, and I was a member of the Admissions Committee. I also conducted numerous CLE sessions for the Arkansas Department of Health, the Department of Justice, and the Arkansas Child Support Enforcement Division. On a national level, I also served as an appointed Member of the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine's Roundtable on Health Literacy, the only lawyer to ever be appointed to this Roundtable. I was also a founding member of the International Health Literacy Association, and I recently ended an appointed term on the FDA's Risk Communication Advisory Committee.

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS FOR MEDICAL SCIENCES  
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

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Associate Professor of Medical Humanities & Bioethics

August 2017 – July 2019

Regulatory Knowledge & Support Function Leader, UAMS Translational Research Institute

July 2019 – July 2021

**Courses taught:** Law & Medicine (an elective course for medical students); Health Literacy for Physician's Assistants; Health Law for Physician Assistants; Clear Health Communication modules (for all health professions at UAMS through the inter-professional education curriculum)

During my time at UAMS, my responsibilities revolved around three areas: (1) clear health communication, (2) regulatory affairs and compliance, and (3) health & legal education.

- As an expert in health literacy, health law, and clear health communication, I led major improvement initiatives and research that advanced health communication and engagement efforts at UAMS, throughout Arkansas, and nationwide.
- I also conducted empirical, grant-funded research on improving understanding of informed consent through the UAMS Translational Research Institute (TRI). To that end, in 2019, I was appointed the function group leader for the Regulatory Knowledge and Support function of TRI. During my two years in that role, I led the following efforts:
  - Developed a first-of-its-kind workshop on best practices for complying with the Revised Common Rule. To date, I have presented this workshop for academic medical centers in Massachusetts, Texas, Utah, and for MSU's IRB.
  - Co-chaired a health literacy workgroup to develop tools for clinical trials at the Multi-Regional Clinical Trials Centers at Harvard and Brigham & Women's Hospital.
  - Co-led an effort to update UAMS' Institutional Review Board (IRB) templates to comply with the Revised Common Rule, GDPR, and other regulations, while still being clear and understandable to research participants.
  - Conducted numerous workshops and training sessions on improving informed consent throughout the country.
- In my role as faculty at the UAMS Center for Health Literacy, I developed clear health documents for hospitals, health systems, and government organizations that contract with the Center. Specifically, I led or engaged in the following major projects:
  - Led a major training effort for 50 employees at the Arkansas Department of Human Services regarding clearly communicating Arkansas' Medicaid Work Requirements. I have also consulted with the agency in recreating content for the program.
  - Developed and led a two-day training session for the Arkansas Department of Health on clearly creating press releases and other public disclosures that are understandable and actionable to all Arkansans.
  - Led a nine-month project to recreate and implement UAMS's advance directives to be compatible with UAMS' EMR system while still being clear and easy to fill out for patients of varied health literacy levels.
  - Consulted with the Michigan Health & Hospital Association to develop and design a statewide hospital transparency website – [www.verifymycare.org](http://www.verifymycare.org).
- From a teaching standpoint, I taught legal electives for the College of Medicine, the College of Nursing, and the College of Physician Assistant Studies. I also worked collaboratively with UAMS's Interprofessional Education (IPE) Program. I became a certified IPE educator in Fall 2017, and I taught clear health communication modules as part of this program to student in all UAMS health professions.

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY – THOMAS M. COOLEY LAW SCHOOL,  
LANSING, MICHIGAN

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Professor of Law | August 2005 – August 2017

*Full Professor, 2015-2017; Associate Professor, 2010-2014; Assistant Professor, 2005-2009*

**Courses taught:** Property I & II, Torts I & II, Research & Writing, Advanced Writing, Scholarly and Health Law (for law students and medical students at WMU Homer Stryker School of Medicine).

- For over a decade, I taught every legal-writing course offered at WMU-Cooley Law School. Additionally, over my last few years at WMU-Cooley, I taught Property and Torts. Due to my extensive experience teaching logic and reasoning in legal-writing courses, I developed a unique teaching style that incorporates active-learning principles, such as team-based learning, flipped learning, scaffolding, and using formative and summative assessments.
- Additionally, in 2015 and 2016, I developed and taught a health literacy and law course at WMU's Homer Stryker School of Medicine. This was a collaborative course that used a team-based learning approach to teach medical students to explore health issues from both medical and legal perspectives.
- From a law-school service perspective, I served as Vice-Chair of the Faculty Scholarship Committee and as faculty advisor for both of Cooley's scholarly publications.

## APPOINTED POSITIONS

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- *Member, National Academies of Science, Engineering, & Medicine's Roundtable on Health Literacy* (Term: 2018-Present).
- *Member, FDA's Risk Communication Advisory Committee* (Term: Oct 2018 – Sept 2020).
- *Co-Chair of Harvard and Brigham & Women's Hospital Multi-Regional Clinical Trial Center's Health Literacy Initiative.* (2018-2020).
- *Executive Board Member & Treasurer, International Health Literacy Association* (Term: 2017-2020).

## PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

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### ***PUBLICATIONS: 2012-Present***

- **Christopher R. Trudeau**, *From Reform to Reality: Assessing the Impact of The Revised Common Rule on Informed Consent Forms*, 29 J. of Health Care L. & Pol'y 29 (2026).
- Jonathan P. Bona, Joseph Utecht, Aaron S. Kemp, Jennifer M. Gan, Alison Caballero, **Christopher R. Trudeau**, Mathias Brochhausen, and Laura James. The informed consent form navigator: a tool for producing readable and compliant consent documents. *Journal of Clinical and Translational Science*. 2023;7(1):e3. doi:10.1017/cts.2022.507 (The consent navigator was my idea and I worked on the foundational planning and building of the consent navigator before leaving for Detroit Mercy.)
- Karen J Dickinson, Wendy L Ward, Robert Minarcin, **Christopher Trudeau**, Kathryn K Neill, An Interprofessional medical malpractice mock trial: event evolution and assessment of efficacy, *International Journal of Healthcare Simulation*, Vol. XX, Issue No. XX, <https://ijohs.com/article/doi/10.54531/ZXMK6987>
- **Christopher R. Trudeau**, *Learning from the Past: A Retrospective Analysis of Informed Consent Forms on ClinicalTrials.gov Before the Revised Common Rule*, 46 Law & Psychol. Rev. 189 (2021-2022).
- **Christopher R. Trudeau**, *Health literacy's impact on health law & policy*, in *Health literacy in clinical practice and public health: new initiatives and lessons learned at the intersection with other disciplines* (Rob Logan & Elliott Siegel, eds., IOS Press 2020).

- Purvis R., Eisenberg L., **Trudeau C.**, Long C., and McElfish P, Facilitators, barriers, and recommendations related to the informed consent of Marshallese in a randomized controlled trial, *Journal of Clinical Ethics*, Feb 2, 2020, <https://doi.org/10.1177/1477750920903458>
- Baedorf Kassis, S., S. A. White, L. Myers, **C. Trudeau**, and B. Bierer. 2019. *Advancing health literacy in clinical research: Clear Communications for Every Participant*. NAM Perspectives. Commentary, National Academy of Medicine, Washington, DC. <https://doi.org/10.31478/201910c>
- Hadden, K., Prince, L., Moore, T., James, L., Holland, J., & **Trudeau, C.** *Improving the readability of informed consents for research at an academic medical institution*. *Journal of Clinical and Translational Science*. 2017 Dec; 1(6).
- **Christopher R. Trudeau & Christine Cawthorne**, *The Public Speaks: An International Study of Legal Communication*. 40 U. Ark. Little Rock L. Rev. 249 (2017).
- **Trudeau, C.**, et al., *Where Do We Go from Here?* in *Building the Case for Health Literacy: Proceedings of a Workshop* (Joe Alper, rapporteur, National Academies Press 2018).
- Hadden, K., Prince, L., James, L., & Holland, J., & **Trudeau, C.** *Readability of human subjects training materials for research*. *J of Empirical Research on Human Research Ethics*. 1-7 (Dec 2017).
- **Christopher R. Trudeau**, *Health Literacy: The Missing Link to Reducing Risks & Improving Outcomes*, *Hospital & Health Systems Rx*, vol. 18, no. 3, pp. 1-4 (American Health Lawyers Assn., Nov 2016).
- **Christopher R. Trudeau**, *Plain Language in Healthcare: What Lawyers Need to Know About Health Literacy*, 95 Mich. B.J., no. 10, 36-39 (Oct 2016).
- **Christopher R. Trudeau**, *Health Literacy: What It Is and Why It Matters to Your Practice*, Chapter 5 in ICLE's Health Law Institute Workbook (Mar 2016).
- **Christopher R. Trudeau**, *Establishing Harmony Between the Law & Health Literacy*, pp. 61-74, Institute of Medicine's Informed Consent & Health Literacy Workshop Summary (Joe Alper, rapporteur, National Academies Press 2015).
- *Teaching Law Practice: Preparing the Next Generation of Lawyers* (Charles Cercone, Nelson P. Miller, & **Christopher R. Trudeau**, eds., Vandeplass 2013)
- **Christopher R. Trudeau**, *A Problem-Solving Approach to Legal Analysis Developed through Legal Writing Courses* in *Teaching Law Practice: Preparing the Next Generation of Lawyers* (Charles Cercone, Nelson P. Miller, & Christopher R. Trudeau, eds., Vandeplass 2013).
- **Christopher R. Trudeau**, *The Public Speaks: An Empirical Study of Legal Communication*, 14 Scribes J. Legal Writing, 121 (2012).
- **Christopher R. Trudeau**, *Achieving Clarity: Eight Data-Driven Tips for Legal Communication*, 91 Mich. B.J., no. 9, p. 50 (Sept 2012).

#### **PRESENTATIONS: 2012 to Present**

- *The Impact of Telehealth Regulations on Public Libraries*, National Library of Medicine, Telehealth Workgroup, Jun. 2022. (Invited keynote trainer for the NLM workgroup.)
- *Deposition Skills for Physician Assistants*, Pacific University Physician Assistant Program, Mar. 2022. (Invited guest speaker by the Physician Assistant program.)
- *The Trend Towards Health Literacy in Health Law & Policy*, Colorado Healthcare Coalition, Jun. 2021 (Invited keynote due to the success of my colloquium talk at the University of Maryland in Feb. 2021.)
- *The Trend Towards Health Literacy in Health Law & Policy*, University of Maryland Colloquium Series, Feb. 2021. (Invited keynote)
- *Health Literacy's Impact on Health Law & Policy*, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Policy Lab Speaker Series, Sept. 2020 (invited keynote)
- *Using Policy to Advocate for Health, Equity and Inclusion*, Health Literacy Annual Research Conference, Oct. 2020 (panelist for plenary session)
- *Health Literacy's Impact on Clinical Health Regulations*, Society of Clinical Research Associates Annual Conference, Sept. 2020 (invited keynote)
- *The Common Rule, Consent, & Health Literacy*, Tufts University, Plain Language 4 Health Workshop, April 2020 (plenary session)

- *Examining the Current Regulatory Environment in Clinical Data & Transparency*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Clinical Data Transparency & Disclosure Conference, Aug 2019 (keynote speaker)
- *Convince & Convert: How to Make the Case for Health Literacy in Your Organization*, Minnesota Department of Health, Aug 2019 (keynote speaker).
- *Creating Legal Documents that People Can Understand*, Arkansas Office of Child Support Enforcement CLE, June 2019 (keynote speaker).
- *Creating Health Forms that People Can Understand*, A Day-Long Workshop, Institute for Healthcare Advancement Annual Conference, May 2019 (lead trainer and facilitator)
- *Embedding Health Literacy into the Clinical Trials from the Beginning of the Process to Improve Recruitment and Retention*, National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, Roundtable on Health Literacy Workshop, Apr 2019 (panelist and presenter)
- *Health Literacy and Informed Consent under the Revised Common Rule*, Tufts School of Medicine Plain Language for Health Two-Day Workshop, Mar 2019 (keynote speaker and event co-facilitator)
- *Plan to Understand: Health Literacy, the Law, and End-of-Life Planning*, Partnership for Health Literacy Arkansas Annual Meeting, Jan 2019 (keynote speaker)
- *Integrating Health Literacy in Research at Academic Medical Centers*, Multi-Regional Clinical Trials Center @ Harvard's Annual Meeting, Dec 2018 (plenary session)
- *The Impact of Corporate Practice of Medicine Laws on Healthcare Innovation*, Arkansas Healthcare Symposium, Nov 2018 (panelist for plenary session)
- *The Public Speaks, Again: An International Study of Legal Communication*, Clarity International Conference in Montreal, Canada, Oct 2018 (breakout session)
- *Underserved, Not Undeserved: Health Literacy's Impact on Health Equity & Disparities*, Texas Health Literacy Conference, Oct 2018 (keynote speaker)
- *How to Create Consent Forms that People Can Understand*, Texas Health Literacy Conference, Oct 2018 (breakout session)
- *Health Literacy and Tobacco Cessation*, 2018 Annual Arkansas Prevention Summit, June 2018 (breakout session)
- *Health Literacy and Informed Consent Under the New Common Rule*, Multi-Regional Clinical Trial Center of Brigham & Women's Hospital and Harvard, June 2018 (keynote speaker)
- *Re-Imagining Informed Consent in the Age of Health Literacy*, Pennsylvania Health Literacy Coalition Annual Meeting, May 2018 (keynote speaker)
- *Redesign of Emergency Department Discharge Materials to Improve Patient Understanding*. Poster Presentation at the Western Institute of Nursing, Spokane, WA, Apr 2018. (Colorafi, K., Pande, G., & Trudeau, C.)
- *Re-Imagining Informed Consent in the Age of Health Literacy*, Minnesota Health Literacy Partnership Patient-Safety Week Event, Mar 2018 (keynote speaker)
- *Creating Clear Health Documents that People Can Understand*, National Association of Legal Assistants, Feb 2018 (invited speaker)
- *Making the Case for Health Literacy*, NASEM Roundtable on Health Literacy, Nov 2017 (invited speaker)
- *Understanding the Effect of Health Literacy on Informed Consent*, IDEA States Pediatric Clinical Trial Network, Nov 2017 (plenary session, webinar)
- *The Impact of Health Literacy on Public Health Initiatives in Arkansas*, Arkansas State Board of Health, Oct 2017 (invited speaker)
- *Barriers to Cessation: Patient Communication & Health Literacy*, 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Family Medicine and Tobacco Cessation Conference at UAMS, Oct 2017 (plenary session)
- *Improving the readability of informed consents for research at an academic medical institution*. Poster Presentation at the Health Literacy Annual Research Conference, Oct 2018. (Hadden, K., Prince, L., Moore, T., James, L., Holland, J., & Trudeau, C.)
- *The Impact of Health Literacy on Public Health Initiatives*, Arkansas Dept. of Health, Public Health Grand Rounds, Aug 2017 (keynote speaker)

- *The Sword & Shield of Health Literacy: Integrating Health Literacy Throughout an Organization*, University of Michigan Patient ForUM, May 2017 (keynote speaker)
- *Clearly Communicating Laws, Rules, and Regulations*, NCEH/ATSDR Plain Language Summit, May 2017 (keynote speaker)
- *Convince & Convert: Integrating & Implementing Health Literacy into a Health System*, Health Literacy Wisconsin Summit, Apr 2017 (co-presented with Kim Parsons from Humana)
- *Ten Tips for Creating Clear Health Documents*, National Association of Legal Assistants, Feb & Mar 2017 (delivered this webinar twice due to demand and popularity)
- *The Public Speaks, Again: A Sneak Preview of New, International Data*, Clarity International Plain Language Conference, Wellington, New Zealand, Nov 2016 (plenary session)
- *Integrating Health Literacy into Hospitals & Health Systems*, CEO Forum, Christiana Health System, Oct 2016 (keynote session)
- *Developing Health-Literate Consent Practices*, Nemours Children's Hospital & Christiana Care Health System Joint Symposium, Oct 2016 (co-presented with Cindy Brach, MPH of AHRQ)
- *Making the Legal & Regulatory Case for Integrating Health Literacy in an Organization*, Colorado Health Literacy Coalition Annual Meeting, Oct 2016 (keynote session)
- *Developing Health-Literacy Consent Practices*, Colorado Health Literacy Coalition Annual Meeting, Oct 2016. (breakout session)
- *The Clear Drafter's Toolbox: Ten Tips for Clear Drafting*, Great Lakes Paralegal Association, Oct 2016 (keynote session)
- *Making the Case for Plain Language: How Clear Legal Communication Will Help Your Practice*, Business Law Institute, Minnesota Continuing Legal Education Association, May 2016 (keynote session)
- *Effectively Communicating Risk*, Institute for Healthcare Advancement Annual Conference, May 2016 (breakout session)
- *Ethical Communication in Human-Subjects Research: Informed Consent That Effectively Communicates Risk and Promotes Personal Autonomy*, Western Michigan University Center for Ethics, Mar 2016 (breakout session)
- *Health Literacy: What It Is and Why It Matters to Your Practice*, Health Law Institute, Michigan's Institute for Continuing Legal Education, Mar 2016 (breakout session)
- *Risky Business: Prioritizing Risk Information in FDA-mandated Documents*, FDA Risk Communication Advisory Committee, Feb 2016 (invited speaker)
- *Emerging Issues in Human-Subjects Research*, Health Literacy Missouri 2016 Summit, St. Louis, MO, Oct 2015 (plenary session)
- *Re-Imaging Informed Consent in the Age of Health Literacy*, Western Michigan University Medical-Humanities Conference, Kalamazoo, MI, Sept 2015 (breakout session)
- *Approved: Creating Patient-Friendly Documents That Satisfy Your Legal Department*, Institute for Healthcare Advancement, May 2015 (breakout session)
- *The Patient, the Provider, and the Form: Re-Imaging Informed Consent*, PlainTalk 2015, hosted by Maximus, Mar 2015 (plenary session)
- *Re-Imaging Informed Consent in the Age of Health Literacy*, Clarity International Conference, Antwerp, Belgium, Nov 2014 (breakout session)
- *Establishing Harmony between the Law and Health Literacy*, Institute of Medicine's Informed Consent & Health Literacy Workshop, Jul 2014 (plenary session)
- *Persuasive Evidence for Using Plain Language in the FDA*, U.S. Food & Drug Administration, Jul 2014 (keynote session)
- *Creating Clear, User-Friendly Documents*, 16<sup>th</sup> Biennial Legal Writing Institute, Jun 2014 (plenary session)
- *United. We Write: A Toolkit for Clear Writing*, United Health Group, May 2014 (webinar)
- *Eight Simple Rules for Clear Drafting*, Rocky Mountain Legal Writing Conference, Mar 2014 (plenary session)
- *Working with Lawyers to Create Clear Insurance Documents*, United Health Group, Oct 2013 (webinar)
- *Selling Plain Language*, Plain Language International Conference, Vancouver, BC, Canada, Oct 2013 (breakout session)
- *Challenging Traditional Legal Communications: A Drafting Toolkit for Non-Lawyers*, Institute for Healthcare Advancement, May 2013 (breakout session)

- *Swimming with the Sharks: Strategies for Convincing Lawyers (and Other Guilty Parties) to Use Plain Language*, PlainTalk 2013 Conference hosted by Maximus, Sept 2013 (breakout session)
- *The Public Speaks: An Empirical Study of Legal Communication*, 15<sup>th</sup> Biennial Legal Writing Institute, Palm Springs, California, May 2012 (breakout session)
- *The Public Speaks: An Empirical Study of Legal Communication*, Clarity International Conference, Washington, D.C., May 2012 (plenary session)

## ACCOLADES AND SERVICE ACTIVITIES

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- *Fellow of the American Bar Foundation* (members must be nominated & membership is limited to 1% of U.S. attorneys).
- *Fellow of the Michigan State Bar Foundation* (members must be nominated by other members and are limited to 10% of Michigan attorneys).
- *Awarded the 2016 Lexis/Nexis, Legal Writing Institute & Association of Legal Writing Directors grant* to complete the international empirical study, *The Public Speaks, Again: An International Study on Public Preferences for Legal Communication*.
- *Awarded the 2010 Lexis/Nexis, Legal Writing Institute, & Association of Legal Writing Directors grant* to complete the empirical study, *The Public Speaks: An Empirical Study of Legal Communication*.
- *Named the 2007 Capital Area United Way Volunteer of the Year* for my efforts in developing and running a pro bono legal services clinic in Lansing, Michigan.
- *President of the Thomas M. Cooley Law School Legal Authors' Society*, 2014 – 2017.
- *Vice-Chair of the State Bar of Michigan Publications & Website Development Committee*, 2009-2017, where I personally edited monthly editions of the Michigan Bar Journal that were distributed to over 40,000 Michigan lawyers.
- *Member of the State Bar of Michigan Health Law Section Publications Committee*, 2014 to 2017.

## PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

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### **CRISTO REY COMMUNITY CENTER, LANSING, MICHIGAN**

**PROGRAM CREATOR & PRO BONO ATTORNEY | 2006 – 2010**

- I personally developed a pro bono program to assist the patrons at Cristo Rey Community Center. During the program, I represented over 150 clients in numerous legal matters, such as healthcare matters, divorce and child custody disputes, landlord-tenant disputes, consumer-protection issues, and estate-planning matters. Because of these *pro bono* efforts, I won the 2007 Capital Area United Way Volunteer of the Year Award.

### **PLUNKETT & COONEY, P.C., BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MICHIGAN**

**Associate Attorney | 2002 – 2005**

- I specialized in labor and employment law and complex business litigation. I assisted numerous institutional clients, including many hospitals and health systems, in defending against employment discrimination, unemployment, WPA, ADA, FMLA, and FLSA claims. I drafted, argued, and won numerous motions. Additionally, I drafted and re-drafted numerous contracts and personnel policies, and presented seminars on sexual harassment and other employment-law issues.

## EDUCATION AND BAR ADMISSIONS

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*Juris Doctor, Summa Cum Laude, 2002*

Western Michigan University - Thomas M. Cooley Law School

- *President's Achievement Award – Class Rank 1 of 394.*
- *Managing Editor of Thomas M. Cooley Law Review.*
- *Admitted to the State Bar of Michigan, May 2003; the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, Dec. 2003; and the United States Supreme Court, Mar. 2011*

*Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice, 1999*

Michigan State University