

LAURA MCDONALD DENNIS

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EXPERIENCE

Florida State University, College of Law, Tallahassee, FL

Assistant Dean of Academic Success, January 2026-Present

- Design and implement comprehensive academic success programming for law students, including workshops on exam strategies and time management
- Develop targeted initiatives to support at-risk students
- Monitor progress of students on academic support, including analyzing performance data and conducting regular one-on-one advising meetings
- Provide individualized academic counseling to students

Teaching Faculty, Professional Responsibility, Legal Writing & Research I & II, January 2024-Present

- Prepare course materials such as syllabi, lecture material, and in-class exercises
- Design and implement curriculum covering ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct and key ethical issues in the practice of law
- Create writing assignments designed to build legal research and analysis skills, with a focus on both objective and persuasive legal writing
- Mentor students in legal writing skills, citation proficiency, and critical analysis

Bar Exam Support, January 2024-Present

- Provide targeted bar preparation support through coordination with bar prep providers
- Travel to support graduates during exam administrations, providing on-site logistical support and morale
- Advise bar applicants on effective preparation strategies
- Lead essay writing strategy sessions and provide additional feedback on practice bar essays

Florida State University, Dedman College of Hospitality, Tallahassee, FL

Adjunct Professor, Managing Legal Risks of Hospitality Organizations, August 2025-Present

- Design and facilitate a graduate-level online course focused on legal risk management in the hospitality industry
- Deliver asynchronous lectures and curated case studies to enhance understanding of complex legal issues applied to real-world hospitality scenarios
- Develop and assess assignments and discussion prompts designed to encourage critical thinking and practical application of legal concepts
- Engage students through timely feedback, individualized support, and structured discussions

Radey Law Firm, Tallahassee, FL

Senior Counsel, April 2023-December 2023

Associate Attorney, September 2013-April 2023

- Managed commercial litigation cases, including breach of contract, business torts, and employment discrimination in federal and state courts
- Drafted pleadings and discovery, conducted depositions, and argued complex motions
- Managed administrative law matters, including rule challenges and government procurements
- Advised clients on insurance regulatory matters

U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida, Orlando, FL

Law Clerk to the Honorable Patricia C. Fawsett, November 2011-August 2013

- Managed one-half of Judge's civil docket
- Researched law and drafted proposed orders and memoranda on a variety of complex federal and

state legal issues

- Assisted and advised Judge Fawsett on all matters related to pending cases

Florida First District Court of Appeal, Tallahassee, FL

Judicial Extern in Chambers to Judge James R. Wolf, August 2010-November 2010

- Researched a variety of legal issues
- Prepared case summaries and bench memoranda
- Provided recommendations to Judge Wolf on the disposition of pending cases

United States Securities and Exchange Commission, Atlanta, GA

Summer Intern, May 2010-July 2010

- Investigated violations of Federal Securities Law
- Analyzed factual findings from ongoing investigations
- Prepared memoranda concerning actual and possible prosecutions

Florida State University College of Law, Tallahassee, FL

Legal Writing Student Assistant to Professor JoLen Wolf, August 2009-May 2011

- Created research worksheets
- Facilitated research workshops
- Prepared course materials and graded student assignments
- Assisted first-year law students regarding legal writing assignments

Smith and Associates, Tallahassee, FL

Law Clerk, May 2009-August 2009

- Performed legal research and drafted legal memoranda and proposed recommended orders related to administrative law issues

EDUCATION

Florida State University College of Law, Tallahassee, FL

Juris Doctor, *magna cum laude*, May 2011

- Top 3.5%; GPA: 92.125/100
- *Book Awards* (highest grade in the class): Legal Writing I & II, Civil Procedure, Contracts I, Securities Regulation, Business Economics & Tax Research
- *Honors*: Order of the Coif, Dean's List, Katzentine-Simon Scholarship Recipient 2009-2010/2010-2011 (academic)
- *Florida State University Law Review*: Notes and Comments Editor Volume 37, Articles Editor Volume 38, Law Review Editor of the Year Volumes 37 & 38, Law Review Meritorious Service Award Volume 37

Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL

Bachelor of Science, Finance, *summa cum laude*, April 2008

- GPA 3.9/4.0
- *Honors and Activities*: 21st Century Scholarship Recipient, Bright Futures Scholar, Honors Program, Dean's List, Freshman Interest Group Leader, Financial Management Association

BAR ADMISSIONS

State of Florida

U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Florida

U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida

U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida

U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit

MEMBERSHIPS AND LEADERSHIP ROLES

William H. Stafford Inns of Court

- *Achieving Excellence Chair* 2023-2025
- *Membership Chair* 2025 – Present

Tallahassee Women's Lawyers

- *Treasurer* 2023-Present

PUBLICATIONS

- *The Interpretive Worth of Presidential Signing Statements: A New Form of Legislative History*, 38 Fla. St. U. L. Rev. 179 (2010)
- *Restoring the Balance after the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995*, 38 Fla. St. U. L. Rev. 911 (2011)
- Contributing Author to the Appellate Case Notes section of the Florida Bar Administrative Law Section's Newsletter

PRESENTATIONS

- Presenter at Pat Dore Administrative Law Conference, Case Law Update, 2023

INTERESTS AND ACTIVITIES

- Chapter Leader, She Runs this Town, 2022-Present
- FSU College of Law Moot Court Coach, 2023-Present
- FSU College of Law Moot Court Associate Faculty Advisor 2025-Present