

REBECCA E. WOODMAN
(816) 363-2795
rwoodman@dplclinic.com

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

DEATH PENALTY LITIGATION CLINIC, Kansas City, MO June 2013-Present

Executive Director

- Managing attorney of non-profit law clinic providing training, support and advice to attorneys in capital cases, and representing death row prisoners on direct appeal, state post-conviction, and federal habeas corpus

WASHBURN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, Topeka, KS 2007-2013

Visiting Associate Professor of Law (Fall 2012-Spring 2013)

- Washburn Law Clinic - teaching and supervising clinical law student interns in live-client criminal law litigation clinic representing indigent persons in municipal court, state district court, and on post-conviction

Adjunct Professor of Law (2007-2012)

- Responsible for teaching a Capital Punishment Seminar beginning in 2007 at the invitation of Washburn Law, focusing on the development and structure of modern death penalty law since the Supreme Court's 1972 decision in *Furman v. Georgia*
- Responsible for proposing, developing and teaching a new course on Wrongful Convictions beginning in 2008 at the invitation of Washburn Law, exploring the causes of wrongful convictions and considering systemic reforms, with a quasi-clinical component involving identification and investigation of potential wrongful convictions

CAPITAL APPELLATE DEFENDER OFFICE, Topeka, KS 2002-2012

Capital Appellate Defender

- Responsible for briefing and presenting oral argument on behalf of indigent criminal defendants in direct as well as conflict state and federal habeas appeals and on petitions for *certiorari* in capital cases
- Management responsibility for two-attorney office

Notable Cases Argued:

- *Kansas v. Marsh*, 548 U.S. 163 (2006), 5-4 decision involving the constitutionality of the Kansas death penalty statute (argued twice before the U.S. Supreme Court)
- *State v. Marsh*, 102 P.3d 445 (Kan. 2004), reversing capital murder conviction and granting new trial based on wrongful exclusion of third-party guilt evidence, and finding Kansas death penalty statute unconstitutional

- *State v. Scott*, 183 P.3d 801 (Kan. 2008), reversing death sentence and granting new penalty trial based on failure to instruct jurors that they need not unanimously agree on the existence of mitigating circumstances

APPELLATE DEFENDER OFFICE, Topeka, KS

1997-2002
1990-1995

Assistant Appellate Defender

- Responsible for briefing and presenting oral argument before state appellate courts on behalf of indigent criminal defendants in felony direct appeals and state habeas appeals
- Supervised and mentored less-experienced staff attorneys
- Wrote winning issue in *State v. Kleypas*, 40 P.3d 139 (Kan. 2001), the first death penalty appeal since reinstatement of Kansas death penalty in 1994, resulting in reversal of death sentence and granting of new penalty trial
- Coordinated *amicus* briefs in the *Kleypas* case

KANSAS SENTENCING COMMISSION, Topeka, KS

1995-1997

Staff Attorney

- As staff attorney for the Kansas Sentencing Commission and the Kansas Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, was second in command under the Executive Director, with supervisory responsibility over eight non-lawyer support staff
- Kansas Sentencing Commission – was consulted by judges, attorneys, and court personnel on the interpretation and application of the Kansas Sentencing Guidelines Act (KSGA); drafted revisions and additions to the Kansas Sentencing Guidelines Desk Reference Manual for 1996; conducted legal seminars and training sessions on the KSGA for lawyers and court personnel; introduced legislation and testified before the Kansas Legislature on behalf of the Sentencing Commission
- Kansas Criminal Justice Coordinating Council – was project administrator of the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) project for the State of Kansas; testified before the Kansas Legislature on behalf of the Council in relation to the CJIS project

CARPENTER, WEIR & MYERS, Topeka, KS

1989-1990

Litigation Attorney

- Represented clients in general civil law practice
- Prepared motions, trial and appellate briefs on an array of issues involving contract law, tort law, domestic law; client counseling and negotiations; appeared in court for hearings as needed

ARN, MULLINS, UNRUH, KUHN & WILSON, Wichita, KS

1987-1988

Litigation Attorney

- Represented clients in general civil law practice
- Prepared motions, trial and appellate briefs; client counseling and negotiations; first-chaired successful trial involving landlord/tenant dispute

PUBLICATIONS

- “*The Insanity of the Mens Rea Model: Due Process and the Abolition of the Insanity Defense*,” 28 PACE L. REV. 455 (2008) (co-author)
- “*Legitimizing Error*,” 105 MICH. L. REV. FIRST IMPRESSIONS 73 (2006)
- “*International Miranda? Article 36 of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations*,” 70-Jul. J. Kan. B.A. 41 (2001)

AWARDS/PRESENTATIONS

- Recipient, 2009 Tom and Ann Moore Peace and Justice Award, Lawrence, KS
- Panelist on women in the law, Women’s Legal Forum, Washburn University School of Law, Topeka, KS, 2012
- Panelist, “*Compassion and the Litigator*,” Phi Alpha Delta, Washburn University School of Law, Topeka, KS, 2010
- Panelist, “*Compassion and the Litigator*,” ABA Law Student Division 10th Circuit Spring Meeting, Topeka, KS, 2010
- “*Advocating Before the Supreme Court*,” Lunch & Learn, Washburn University School of Law, Topeka, KS, 2009
- “*Writing to Win in Matters of Life and Death*,” Washburn University School of Law, Topeka, KS, 2007
- “*Arguing before the Supreme Court of the United States*,” Kansas Bar Association Annual Meeting, Overland Park, KS, 2006
- Panelist, Death Penalty Forum sponsored by the ACLU, KU Amnesty International, KU Students for Life, Memorial Union, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, 2005
- Panelist, “*Strategies for Abolition: Recent Developments in Illinois, New York and Kansas*,” Third Annual Conference on Building the Mitigation Case, Washburn University School of Law, Topeka, KS, 2005
- “*State v. Marsh*,” Third Annual Conference on Building the Mitigation Case, Washburn University School of Law, Topeka, KS, 2005
- Panelist, “*Strategies for Abolition: Recent Developments*,” NAACP Legal Defense Fund Capital Punishment Training Conference, Airlie House, Warrenton, VA, 2005
- “*International Law as a Resource for Death Penalty Defense*,” National Capital Defense and Mitigation Skills Training Conference, Washburn University School of Law, Topeka, KS, 2003
- “*International Miranda? Article 36 of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations*,” State Board of Indigents’ Defense Services CLE, Topeka, KS and Wichita, KS, 2002
- Panelist, Death Penalty Forum, sponsored by the KU Greens and KU Amnesty International, Lawrence Public Library, Lawrence, KS, 2001
- “*Case Law Update*,” Kansas Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (KACDL) Criminal Defense Seminar, Topeka, KS, 2000
- “*Proactive Defense: Representing the Mentally Ill Client*,” State Board of Indigents’ Defense Services CLE, Topeka, KS, 1998
- “*Kansas Sentencing Guidelines*,” Washburn 4th Annual Litigation Institute, Washburn University School of Law, Topeka, KS, 1996

EDUCATION

WASHBURN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, Topeka, KS
J.D. 1987

WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY, Wichita, KS
B.A. Political Science 1984
Dean's Honor Roll
Recipient, Terry and D.J. Scanlon Alumni/Faculty Scholarship