

MELISSA L. KIDDER

16060 Beechwood Road
Findlay, OH 45840
(419) 270-0829
m-kidder@onu.edu

BAR ADMISSIONS:

Ohio State Bar, November 2008

EDUCATION:

Ohio Northern University Pettit College of Law, Ada, OH

Juris Doctorate, High Distinction, May 2008, GPA: 3.80, Rank: 1st out of 113

Ohio Northern University, Ada, OH

Bachelor of Fine Arts, Musical Theatre & Criminal Justice, High Distinction, May 2005, GPA: 3.90

EMPLOYMENT:

Ohio Northern University Pettit College of Law, Ada, OH, Director of Legal Clinics & Externships & Assistant Professor of Law, July 2019-Present

Manage the law school's legal clinic and externship programs. Create and teach the classroom components to students involved in legal clinics and externships and teach the Pretrial Litigation skills course to second year and third year law students.

Ohio Northern University Pettit College of Law, Ada, OH, Director of Legal Research & Writing & Lecturer of Law, August 2015-August 2019

Taught a full-year of legal research and writing classes for first year law students and team-taught a legal writing and academic support collaborative class to first year law students. Responsible for curriculum of legal research and writing program at the law school.

Eastman & Smith Ltd., Findlay, OH, Associate, July 2013-July 2015

Advised clients and drafted a variety of estate planning documents from basic wills, durable powers of attorney, healthcare documents, and joint trusts to complex irrevocable trusts for Medicaid planning, special needs trusts for disabled children, and disclaimer trusts for tax planning purposes. Prepared gift tax returns for clients. Drafted real estate deeds and business documents for small local business owners. Performed many aspects of litigation preparation and execution, including witness preparation, second seat trial support for examining attorney, legal research and writing of a wide variety of memorandum of law, motions and briefs for trial. Researched and drafted organization documents for non-profit organizations, including internal policies and procedures for the governing boards of non-profit organizations.

Ohio Northern University Pettit College of Law, Ada, OH, Asst. Director of Academic Support & Lecturer of Law, August 2011-July 2013

Designed and taught a full-year doctrinal Business Organizations class. Class was designed with foundations in academic support principles and offered to second-year law students. Co-designed and taught a January term Legal Problem Solving &

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Analysis class to first-year law students, aimed at strengthening their analytical and test-taking skills. Coordinated the Ohio Third District Court of Appeals' oral arguments session at the law school and created the final written assignment for the Legal Problem Solving & Analysis class using appellate briefs from the cases heard by the Court. Advised law students regarding their exam preparation and analytical skills. Coordinated and executed the law school's jump-start program for first-year law students, entitled the Summer Starter Program. Managed the Clinic program's externship program during the summer of 2012 and conducted tutorials for every law student in judicial and governmental placements, including traveling to Fort Wayne to meet with a government placement supervisor to discuss a student's progress.

Ohio Third District Court of Appeals, Lima, OH, Staff Attorney for the Honorable Vernon Preston, August 2008-August 2011

Analyzed trial and appellate court case files, including summary judgment motions and trial court exhibits pertinent to the appeal. Prepared bench memorandums and drafts of majority, concurring, and dissenting judicial opinions. Conducted legal research for a variety of cases ranging from contract disputes to divorce and child custody cases to questions involving real estate issues.

Ohio Northern University Pettit College of Law, Ada, OH, Adjunct Professor of Academic Support, January 2010-August 2011

Advised law students regarding their exam preparation and analytical skills. Provided a variety of assistance to the Director of Academic Support in Bar-related preparation where the law school had a 92% average bar passage rate from 2010-2013. Created a compilation of Ohio Bar questions and answers for the Director and graded several class assignments for Bar-preparation classes.

West Virginia Public Defender, Weirton, WV, Intern, May 2007-August 2007

Provided legal representation to criminal defendants regarding misdemeanor cases. Created legal documents, including motions for sentencing, and researched legal issues to develop case strategy.

Ohio Northern University Pettit College of Law, Ada, OH, Law Review Student Articles Editor, May 2007-May 2008

Ohio Northern University Pettit College of Law, Ada, OH, Teaching Assistant for Business Organizations & Criminal Law, May 2006-May 2008

Ohio Northern University, Ada, OH, Scene Shop Foreman, Master Carpenter & Welder, May 2003-May 2006

Supervised and assisted in the building of sets for university shows.

PUBLISHED PAPERS:

Comment: Human DNA v. Non-Human DNA: A Look at the General Admissibility of Non-Human DNA in the Courts, 35 Ohio N.U. L. Rev. 397, 397-423 (2009).

Researched and discussed the scientific difference between human DNA and non-human DNA and its current admissibility in the courts, then analyzed the potential future of the admissibility of non-human DNA.

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Ohio Review: State v. Sanchez, 33 Ohio N.U. L. Rev. 1174, 1174-81 (2007).

Analyzed the Ohio Supreme Court's opinion in *Sanchez* in which the Court addressed the effect of an immigration detainer on Ohio's speedy-trial statute.

Case Note: Ayotte v. Planned Parenthood of Northern New England, 33 Ohio N.U. L. Rev. 731, 731-42 (2007).

Researched the United State Supreme Court's opinion in *Ayotte* and analyzed the potential future effects of the decision.

PRESENTATIONS:

Institute for Law Teaching and Learning Summer Conference, Effective Instruction in Online and Hybrid Legal Education, June 11-13, 2020 (postponed to June 10-12, 2021).

Title of Presentation: "Setting Yourself Up for Law School Success."

Ohio Northern University Phi Alpha Delta's Continuing Legal Education Seminar, October 5, 2019

Title of Presentation: "Learning to Become a Professional: Fostering a Lawyer's Professional Identity."

The Findlay-Hancock County Community Foundation Professional Development Staff Training, July 2018

Title of Presentation: "Ways to Improve Your Professional Writing."

Ohio Northern University Phi Alpha Delta's Continuing Legal Education Seminar, September 2017

Title of Presentation: "Good Writing as a Professional Responsibility."

Association of Legal Writing Directors Conference, Minneapolis, Minnesota, July 2017

Title of Presentation: "Lessons Learned: How to Combine Legal Research & Writing and Academic Support."

EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Ohio Northern University Pettit College of Law's Clinic program, Judicial Extern for the late Chief Justice Moyer at the Ohio Supreme Court, August 2007-December 2007

Ohio Northern Alumni Association Ambassadors, August 2002-May 2006

Santiago, Chile, New York City, San Francisco, Dallas, Chicago, Orlando

AWARDS:

2016 Ohio State Bar Foundation Community Service Award for Attorneys Under 40

2015 Carol Lenhart Black Swamp Players' Service Award

2012-2013 Ohio Northern Pettit College of Law Teaching in Excellence Award

2010 Ohio Community Theatre Association, Excellence in Vocal Performance

2008 National Association of Women Lawyers Award

2008 Graduation Recognition Award for Class Rank

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:

Hancock County Bar Association, Member

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Secretary, 2019-present
Law Day Committee Chair, 6 years
Hancock County Legal Education Foundation, Member
Ohio State Bar Association, Member

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

Marilyn's Lifelong Educational Center Board, Member, 2017-present
Hancock County Humane Society Foundation Board, President, 2014-2020
Black Swamp Players Community Theatre Board, Trustee, 2010-2018
Hancock County Leadership, Class of 2015

THEATRE EXPERIENCE:

Wizard of Oz, Assistant Director, Producer, *Jane Eyre*, *Singin' in the Rain*, *Barefoot in the Park*,
Jekyll & Hyde, *Tommy*, *Grease*, *Nunsense*

Writing samples available upon request.