

MELISSA O. HANSON
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Durham, North Carolina 27713
(904) 233-0878 (cell)

EDUCATION **University of Florida College of Law**, Gainesville, Florida
J.D. with High Honors, December 1995

Class Rank: 2
University of Florida Law Review, member
Order of the Coif

University of California, Berkeley
B.S., June 1992

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE **Duke University School of Law**, Durham, North Carolina
Clinical Professor of Law, July 2019 – present

Courses: First-year Legal Analysis, Research, and Writing; Writing for Federal Litigation; Pretrial Litigation; Judicial Writing; Winter Institute on Law, Language, and Culture (2020); Summer Institute on Law, Language, and Culture (2021, 2022, 2023, 2024)

Committee: Judicial Clerkship Committee (2019-2022)

Florida State University College of Law, Tallahassee, Florida
Legal Writing Professor, August 2014 – May 2019

Courses: First-year Legal Writing and Research, Federal Courts, Employment Discrimination, and Employment Law for HR Compliance (for the online JM program)

Committee: Judicial Clerkship Committee

Other roles: Track Director for Legal Risk Management and Human Resources Compliance Track of the online Juris Masters Program, Assistant Advisor to Moot Court Team (2014-2016)

Honors: Recipient of FSU 2016-17 Graduate Teaching Award (University-wide award recognizing excellence in areas such as “providing a positive role model for students, imparting respect for truth and a love of learning, challenging students’ thinking and assumptions, showing respect for all persons, and innovative instructional techniques”)

United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida,
Jacksonville, Florida, July 2003 – July 2014

Career Law Clerk to the Honorable Brian J. Davis, U.S. District Judge, January 2014 – July 2014

- Researched and drafted Orders and Opinions in civil cases for the Judge’s

review and signature

- Conducted legal research on civil and criminal issues to assist the Judge in trials, hearings, and other proceedings
- Established procedures and policies for Chambers operations
- Assisted in establishment of internship program for law school students

Career Law Clerk to the Honorable Monte C. Richardson, U.S. Magistrate Judge, July 2003 – January 2014

- Researched and drafted Orders, Reports and Recommendations, and Opinions for the Judge's review and signature
- Conducted legal research on civil and criminal issues to assist the Judge in trials, hearings, and other proceedings
- Supervised, mentored, and reviewed all written work by law school interns.

Foley & Lardner, Jacksonville, Florida
May 1996 - July 2003

Senior Associate Counsel, Labor & Employment

- Counseled clients on compliance issues
- Trained clients' employees on avoidance of discrimination claims
- Addressed labor and employment issues at seminars for human resources professionals
- Reviewed and drafted employee handbooks and employment contracts
- Litigated in state and federal courts, including:
 - Conducted all phases of discovery, including depositions of plaintiffs and material witnesses
 - Represented clients in mediation
 - Co-chaired seven jury trials in federal court
 - Researched, drafted, and argued dispositive motions
 - Prepared appellate briefs, including two Petitions for Certiorari to the United States Supreme Court

Other Professional Experience:

Finalist for U.S. Magistrate Judge, Middle District of Florida position in 2013

United States District Court Pro Se Subcommittee
July 2013 – December 2020

- Member of subcommittee consisting of judges and attorneys working to improve the assistance provided to pro se litigants in the United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida.

Chapter Coordinator, Elkouri & Elkouri, How Arbitration Works (Alan Miles Ruben ed., Section of Labor and Employment Law, American Bar Association, 6th ed. 2003)