

Donald R. Miller

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of North Texas School of Law

Dallas, Texas

Assistant Professor of Law

Current

- Tenure track position in the Legal Writing Department responsible for teaching two 3.0 credit hour courses including two of the following: Legal Writing I, Legal Writing II, and/or Legal Writing III- Bar to Practice Readiness.
- Legal Writing I and II responsibilities include preparing, reviewing, understanding, and conveying curriculum along with preparing a syllabus, lectures, PowerPoint presentations, and a Canvas page (which requires continued maintenance).
- Legal Writing III – Bar to Practice Readiness responsibilities include developing, designing, refining, and conveying curriculum as well as preparing assignments for the class, a syllabus, lectures, PowerPoint presentations, and a Canvas page (which requires continued maintenance).
- Other responsibilities include the timely grading of students' work product and providing extensive feedback, continually communicating with students and other faculty, conducting office hours for students both scheduled and otherwise, attending faculty and departmental meetings, serving on school committees, conference presentations, and scholarship.

Visiting Professor of Law

2023-2024

- Responsible for teaching two 3.0 credit hour courses twice a week: Legal Writing I and Legal Writing III – Bar to Practice Readiness in the fall and two different 3.0 credit hour sections of Legal Writing II in the spring.

Faculty Adjunct Assistant Professor of Law

2022-2023

- Taught 1.5 credit hour course in Legal Writing I and II in the Fall of 2022 and Spring of 2023 respectively.
- Responsible for reviewing, understanding, and conveying Legal Writing curriculum.
- Timely reviewed students work product and provided extensive feedback when expected.
- Graded multiple projects within each semester including final projects such as a memorandum of law and a response to motion for summary judgment.

Texas A&M University School of Law

Fort Worth, Texas

Bar Preparation Mentor/Grader

2009- 2017

- Responsible for reviewing, commenting, and grading student's practice exams.
- Responsible for conducting individual meetings with students to provide feedback on practice exams.
- Responsible for mentoring students individually on Bar Exam preparation and assisting them with various issues including basic study plans, organization, and questions relating to legal issues presented on the Texas Bar Exam.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- AALS 2024: Presentation regarding my LW III course – Bar to Practice Readiness regarding a program entitled “Enhancing Inclusivity: Reaching More Students Without Reinventing the Wheel.”

SCHOLARSHIP

Current Scholarship under development:

- Requiring Peer-Editing in the 1L classroom: This will explore the idea that, with the proliferation of AI and the continued decline of grammatical skills, students in the first-year classroom should be required to complete a required peer-editing assignment.
- Does the as/is clause in a Texas residential sales contract still have any meaning or should it be removed? This explores the continued creation of exceptions to a Texas residential sales contract and its effects on the as/is clause.

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

W.T. Skip Leake, P.C.

Associate Attorney

Eules, Texas

May 2014- August 2023

A firm of five attorneys plus support staff specializing in general civil business litigation, construction litigation and real estate transactional work. I managed litigation matters (case load of 10-20 cases), supervised new attorneys and law clerks, and assisted with the firm management of billing and support staff.

Roberts Markel Weinberg Butler Hailey P.C.

Associate Attorney

Dallas, Texas

July 2013- April 2014

A mid-size firm of around thirty attorneys specializing in, among other areas, community/homeowner's association law and related real estate transactional work. I handled approximately 10-15 active property owner association litigation cases while also working with associations in a general counsel capacity to analyze and give opinions on governing document compliance and Texas Property Code compliance.

W.T. Skip Leake, P.C.

Associate Attorney

Arlington, Texas

November 2009- June 2013

LEGAL ADMISSIONS/ASSOCIATIONS

- State Bar of Texas
- Northern District of Texas
- Eastern District of Texas
- Member of the Dallas Subcommittee of the Unauthorized Practice of Law Committee
- Past President, Texas A&M Law Alumni Association
- Ex Officio Board Member, Texas A&M Law Alumni Association

REPRESENTATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES, SKILLS, AND EXPERIENCE

- Perform client intake, process facts into pleadings, and keep clients informed on case matters (including status reports to insurance carriers when necessary);
- Draft all forms of correspondence including demand letters and responses to same;
- Draft all forms of pleadings including petitions/complaints and answers;
- Prosecute and defend different causes of action/theories of recovery including breach of contract (and related claims such as quantum meruit, suits on sworn accounts, promissory estoppel, tortious interference), DTPA claims, fraud (common law and statutory), breach of fiduciary duty, conversion, negligence (and related claims of negligent misrepresentation and negligent hiring), theft liability act, and actions for accounting among others;
- Draft and respond to Temporary Restraining Orders and Temporary Injunctions and attend as lead counsel at the hearings concerning same;
- Draft all forms of written discovery and responses to same including requests for admissions, interrogatories, production, disclosures, as well as subpoenas;
- Prepare, take, and defend depositions;

- Attend hearings as lead counsel for motions for summary judgment (traditional and no-evidence), motions to dismiss on various grounds, motions to transfer venue, motions for continuance, joinder motions, motions to appoint receivers, motions to compel, motions for sanctions, and motions for default judgment among others;
- Negotiate settlements, attend mediations, and draft settlement agreements;
- Attend trial, conduct direct examination of witnesses, and conduct cross examination of witnesses;
- Draft appellate briefs and argue same.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- Represented residential construction contractor in payment and lien dispute through summary judgment, appeal of summary judgment, Chapter 7 bankruptcy where permission to complete civil appeal was obtained, and, ultimately through settlement obtaining client full amount of original judgment with interest and fees;
- Successfully obtained summary judgment for hotel developer in dispute involving the sale of a hotel property being sued for fraud in the transaction and related breach of contract claims;
- Represented public works general contractor in lawsuit regarding claims against client's bond for disputed steel purchases and subcontractor's completed work related to same;
- Represented commercial lender in accelerated appeal proceeding and obtained a successful reversal of temporary restraining order on appeal to the 2nd Court of Appeals, Dallas County, Texas;
- Represented hotel developer and its lender in lawsuit concerning both general and subcontractor compliance with construction contracts resulting in favorable settlement after achieving a denial of a temporary injunction;
- As special counsel in an adversary proceeding within a Chapter Thirteen Bankruptcy, achieved favorable settlements for client doctor against insurance company and a lender;
- Represented commercial lender in contractual disputes that resulted in arbitration being compelled on three different occasions in both state and federal court; represented same lender in arbitrations with successful take-nothing awards in two of those same three occasions with a favorable settlement obtained in the third;
- Represented partner in a complex dissolution of a partnership proceeding including an accounting of the financials and valuation of business assets and achieved very favorable settlement through mediation;
- Successfully tried case for commercial property owner in a business lease dispute where client was awarded all damages sought and the recovery of attorney's fees;
- Successfully assisted in the trying of a case to favorable judgment for a Homeowner's Association in a dispute regarding violations of restrictive covenants in Dallas County, District Court;
- Achieved take-nothing judgment for an air-conditioning company after trial in a breach of contract case;
- Achieved partial summary judgment for large Homeowner's Association in lawsuit concerning complex analysis of the Association's governing documents and the permissibility of changes to an owner's home.

EDUCATION

Texas Wesleyan University School of Law (now Texas A&M School of Law), J.D., May 2009, Fort Worth, Texas

University of Texas at Austin, B.A. in Government, May 2003, Austin, Texas