

CHRISTINE POWERS LEATHERBERRY

SMU Dedman School of Law, P.O. Box 750116, Dallas, TX 75275-0116

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EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS

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| Recertification – Texas Board of Legal Specialization: Family Law | 2023 |
| Board Certified – Texas Board of Legal Specialization: Family Law | 2018 |
| Juris Doctor – SMU Dedman School of Law, <i>cum laude</i> | 2006 |
| Bachelor of Journalism – The University of Texas at Austin, <i>high honors</i> | 2003 |

LICENSES

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| State Bar of Texas | November 2006 |
| U.S. District Courts: Northern, Eastern, Western, and Southern Districts of Texas | |

SMU DEDMAN SCHOOL OF LAW ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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| Assistant Dean for Administration and Chief of Staff | August 2022-present |
| Adjunct Professor, Family Law (taught six semesters, scheduled to teach Spring 2025) | 2020-present |
| Co-Advisor to SMU Dedman Women in Law student group | 2022-present |
| VanSickle Family Law Clinic, guest lecturer for trial skills class | 2021-2023 |
| Director of Alumni Relations | 2020-2022 |
| Director of the Jennifer M. Collins Women’s Leadership Initiative | 2021-2022 |

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

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| Partner – Aubrey M. Connatser, P.L.L.C. d/b/a Connatser Family Law | 2019 |
| Attorney – Aubrey M. Connatser, P.L.L.C. d/b/a Connatser Family Law | 2013-2019 |
| Attorney – Kane Russell Coleman & Logan, PC | 2013 |
| Attorney – Hiersche, Hayward, Drakeley & Urbach, P.C. | 2006-2012 |
| Law Clerk – Hill Gilstrap, P.C. | Summer 2005 |
| Law Clerk – Dodge, Anderson, Jones, Bezney & Gillman, P.C. | August 2004-January 2005 |
| Research Assistant – Professor William V. Dorsaneo, III | June 2004-November 2004 |

PROFESSIONAL HONORS

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| The Best Lawyers in America | 2018-2024 |
| Distinguished Faculty Member Award, selected by SMU Dedman Women in Law | 2021 |
| Dallas Magazine – Best Lawyers Under 40 | 2020 |
| Texas Monthly/Super Lawyers – Top 100 Up-and-Coming Lawyers in Texas | 2018-2020 |
| Texas Monthly/Super Lawyers – Top 50 Up-and-Coming Women Lawyers in Texas | 2017-2020 |
| Texas Monthly/Super Lawyers – Texas Rising Stars | 2014-2020 |

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Texas Academy of Family Law Specialists
T. Boone Pickens Leadership Institute class
Moms in Law (joint special interest group of Dallas Bar Association, Dallas Association of Young Lawyers, and Dallas Women Lawyers Association) – Founder and Chair
Archer Center Trust – The University of Texas System, Trustee
Archer Fellow Alumni Association, Founder (2003), Past President (2010-2011)
William “Mac” Taylor Inn of Court, Leadership and Membership Committees, Bencher
Texas Bar Foundation (honor reserved for top 1/3 of 1% of Texas attorneys), Fellow
Dallas Bar Foundation, Fellow

State Bar of Texas, Family Law Section
Dallas Bar Association, Family Law Section
Dallas Women Lawyers Association, Member

FELLOWSHIPS AND INTERNSHIPS

Internship, The Honorable Jay Patterson, 101st District Court, Dallas, Texas 2004
White House Internship, Office of the First Lady, Mrs. Bush's Projects and Policy Office and
one project with the Office of the President of the United States, Chief of Staff's Office 2001
Archer Fellowship, The University of Texas System 2001

ACADEMIC HONORS AND INVOLVEMENT

Board of Advocates Executive Board: Executive Board Member of the Year SMU
Board of Advocates Executive Board: Chair of Intrascholastic Competitions SMU
SMU White Collar Crime Mock Trial Team SMU
Chief Justice for Moot Court Tournament SMU
Criminal Defense Clinic SMU
Beta Alpha Rho Pre-law Fraternity: President, Public Relations Director, Events Director UT Austin
Beta Alpha Rho Pre-law Fraternity: Outstanding Achievement Award UT Austin

SCHOLARSHIPS

Frank and Debbie Branson Trial Advocacy Headliners SMU
Gallup Leadership UT Austin
Ralph E. Frede Public Relations Foundation of Texas UT Austin

PUBLICATIONS

SMU Annual Texas Survey Law Journal: Family Law (Volume 9), co-authored with Professor Joanna Grossman, 2023
SMU Annual Texas Survey Law Journal: Family Law (Volume 8), co-authored with Professor Joanna Grossman, 2022
The Growing Relevance of Online Impersonation in Texas Family Law, *Texas Lawyer* January 2019
Millennials Have Their Own Unique Way to Avoid Divorce, *Texas Lawyer, Law.com* January 2019

EXPERT WITNESS

Expert witness in jury trial regarding Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act 2024

CLE AND OTHER PRESENTATIONS

SMU Dedman Law Orientation, Speaker 2022-2024
Rising Scholars Program, Moderator 2022-2024
The Recent DACA and LGBTQ Supreme Court Decisions: What's Next?, Moderator July 2020
Presentation on Parental Leave Initiative, DAYL Board of Directors, Speaker April 2020
Women's Guide to Building and Protecting Wealth, Speaker on Family Law Issues November 2019
Presentation on Pro Bono Adoptions, DBA Board of Directors, Speaker September 2019
Mentoring Through Ages and Stages of Life, Dallas Area Paralegal Association, Speaker August 2019
How Men Can Be Better Allies to Working Lawyer Moms, Chair, Organizer June 2019
How to Prepare for a Temporary Orders Hearing, DVAP, Speaker July 2018
Divorce with Contested Property Issues, Dallas Area Paralegal Association, Speaker June 2018
How to Make the Legal Profession More Mom-Friendly, Chair, Organizer May 2018
Presentation and Communication Skills, UNT Dallas Law School, Guest Lecturer March 2018
Is There Such a Thing as Work-Life Balance as a Mom in Law?, Chair, Moderator April 2017

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| Divorce with Contested Property Issues, Dallas Volunteer Attorney Program, Speaker | July 2016 |
| Handling Your First Jury Trial, Texas Law Center, Speaker | December 2011 |
| Experience on 9/11, Speaker (rotary clubs and schools) | |

MEDIA

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| The Mom Guilt Is Real, <i>Super Lawyers Magazine</i> | March 2020 |
| 'Moms in Law' Unites Female Lawyers in North Texas, <i>Dallas Innovates</i> | November 2018 |
| In a Divorce, Who Gets Custody of Electronic Data? The Lawyers, <i>The New York Times</i> | October 31, 2016 |
| How to Talk to Children About Divorce (Live On-Air Interview), <i>WFAA TV</i> | September 2014 |
| How Texas Views Measles Vaccinations When Divorced Parents Disagree, <i>KRLD Radio</i> | March 2015 |
| Premarital Agreements, <i>KLIF Radio</i> | May 2014 |

SMU COMMITTEES

American Bar Association Assessment Faculty Committee (ex officio)
 Institutional Effectiveness Faculty Committee (ex officio)
 American Council on Education Internationalization Steering Committee
 American Council on Education International Student Recruitment and Support Subcommittee

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

- Pro bono attorney through SMU Dedman Law and Dallas Volunteer Attorney Program for various pro bono cases in Dallas County and Tarrant County (adoptions, suits affecting parent-child relationship, divorces, terminations) (2008-present)
- Mustang Exchange lawyer mentor to law students (2019-present)
- Feed My Starving Children (2023)
- Lower School Division Chair of the Volunteer Leadership Committee – The Hockaday School (2022-2023)
- Silent Auction Faculty Offerings Captain – Hockaday Parents Association (2022)
- New Family Outreach Volunteer – The Hockaday School (2022-present)
- Class Representative (2021-2022), Leadership Giving Volunteer (2022) – The Hockaday School
- North Texas Food Bank (2021)
- Spearheaded organizing the *Parental Leave Initiative*, a joint DBA/DAYL/Moms in Law project that surveyed the largest Dallas-area law firms' parental leave policies, which was reported in *The Dallas Morning News* (2019-2020)
- Volunteer Voter Protection Attorney in the 2020 and 2008 General Presidential Elections
- Alumni Chair (2019-2020), Teacher Appreciation Chair (2018-2019) – The da Vinci School
- Centennial Archives Chair (2021-2022), Centennial Committee (2018-2022), Grants for Innovative Teaching Committee (2014-2018), Education Committee (2013-2014) – Junior League of Dallas
- Chair (2014), Big Sister (2005-2016) – Big Brothers Big Sisters Dallas Junior Board
- Dallas Texas Exes Mentorship Program (2010-2014)
- Methodist Dallas Medical Center NICU (2012-2013)
- Ronald McDonald House of Dallas (2011-2012)
- Education is Freedom (2010-2011)
- Conducted mock interviews of students at SMU Dedman Law
- Volunteered to judge at high school, undergraduate, and law school mock trial, moot court, and debate tournaments
- Hurricane Katrina victim assistance (2005)
- Salvation Army
- Capital Area Food Bank