

C.V.

E. Carol Spruill

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Home Address:

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Education:

J.D., 1975, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Book Award for Remedies
Summer Study at Oxford University

B.A., 1971, American Studies, with honors, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Second major in Political Science
Inducted into the Valkyries Society and the Order of the Old Well

Professional Experience:

1991 to present - Duke Law School

Current Title: Senior Lecturing Fellow, 1991 to present

Previous Duke Law School Titles:

2001 to 2008 - Associate Dean for Public Interest and Pro Bono
2000 to 2001 - Associate Dean for Public Interest, Pro Bono and Special Projects
1998 to 2000 - Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
1996 to 1998 - Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs
1993 to the present - Instructor, Poverty Law
1993 to 1999 - Director of Public Interest & Pro Bono
1991-1993 - Pro Bono Coordinator - Established Duke Law School's Pro Bono Project

Prior Employment:

1991-1996 Consultant for the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation Sabbatical Program

1991-1993 - Consultant to Legal Services programs in North Carolina, New Jersey, and Ohio; management trainer for the Southeast Training Center based in Arkansas; and instructor for the National Institute of Trial Advocacy

1984-1991- Deputy Director of Legal Services of North Carolina (LSNC)
Raleigh, NC

LSNC (now called Legal Aid of North Carolina) is a statewide Legal Services program which at that time was composed of 15 field programs; special client programs for migrants, prisoners and people with mental disabilities; a state resource center; and a central administrative office. Duties included program development and management; serving on a management team formulating strategic and long-range planning for the organization; intervening in problem areas; writing grant applications and reports; developing policies for local compliance with federal regulations; evaluating field programs; promoting the organization with lawyers, bar associations, the client community and the public; addressing complaints from the public; co-editing bi-weekly community education columns, a weekly newsletter and other publications; training attorneys and staff; and public speaking for the organization.

1978-1984 - Staff Attorney, East Central Community Legal Services
Raleigh, NC

Represented low-income clients in a generalized poverty law practice, specializing at various times in Bankruptcy and Consumer Law, and Public Benefits Law; did reform litigation and legislative advocacy in the areas of child support enforcement, domestic violence prevention, consumer judgment collections and child day care standards.

1976-1978 - Staff Attorney, The Legal Aid Society of Northwest North Carolina
Winston-Salem, NC

1976-1978 - Recipient of Reginald Heber Smith Community Lawyer Fellowship

1975-1976 - Law Clerk to the Superior Court Judges of the Commonwealth of
Massachusetts, Boston, MA

Summer, 1973 - Coordinator, NC Institute of Government (now School of Government)
State Government Summer Intern Program, Raleigh, NC

1971-1972 - Research Director, North Carolina Gubernatorial Campaign of Hargrove
"Skipper" Bowles

Awards and Recognitions:

Duke Bar Association award for distinguished service to the Duke Law community, presented April 21, 2009

Duke Law Alumni Association's A. Kenneth Pye Award, presented April 17, 2009

Duke University's Blue Ribbon Diversity Award, presented November 1, 2006

Recipient, Women of Wisdom Award from the NC Association of Women Attorneys, Asheville, NC, October 14, 2006

Outstanding Service Award from the Mordecai Society, Duke Law School (1995)

Public Service Award of the NC Association of Women Attorneys (later renamed the Gwyneth B. Davis Award) (1984)

Reginald Heber Smith Community Lawyer Fellowship (1976)

Certificates of Appreciation, Honors, or Merit from:

- the NC Center for Nonprofits (as founding Board Chair, 1993)
- the North Carolina Bar Association (for service as Vice-President, 1998-1999; as Co-Chair of the Law School Liaison Committee, 1999-2002; and for ten years of service as a legal aid attorney, 1986)
- the Wake County Bar Association and 10th Judicial District Bar (for service on the judicial district board of directors, 1988-1989)
- Project Directors of Legal Services of North Carolina (for service as Deputy Director of Legal Service of NC, 1984-1991)
- Southeast (Legal Services) Project Directors Award of Merit (1991)
- Commonwealth of Massachusetts (for service as a law clerk, 1975-1976).

College Honorary Organizations – Order of the Old Well (1970) and Valkyries (1971)

Current Civic and Bar Activities:

North Carolina Equal Access to Justice Commission; Appointed by North Carolina Chief Justice I. Beverly Lake, January, 2006, and reappointed by Chief Justice Sarah Parker; Past Chair of its Education Working Group and Pro Bono Committee; Organizer of its Civil Access to Justice Summit, October 12, 2007, and presenter on debt load of legal aid attorneys; Organizer of its Large Law Firm Pro Bono Summit, October 14, 2009, and moderator of panel "Overview of Pro Bono Models and Signature Projects"; Co-Author of its Initial Report of the North Carolina Equal Access to Justice Commission, May 2008, available at <http://www.ncbar.org/featuredItems/1/3047/index.aspx>

Women's Forum of North Carolina, Board Member and Nominating Committee Chair

Democratic Women of Wake County, Board Member, 3rd Vice-President and Program Chair, Presided at forum debate of five Democratic Party candidates for the U.S. Senate, March 24, 2010

North Carolina Bar Association: Member of the Law School Liaison Committee, since 1999 and former Chair and Co-Chair

Legal Aid of North Carolina Strategic Planning Committee

Bar Memberships: the North Carolina State Bar; the Tenth Judicial District Bar Association; the American Bar Association; the North Carolina Bar Association; the North Carolina Association of Women Attorneys

Past Civic and Bar Activities:

National Advisory Committee of Equal Justice Works (formerly the National Association for Public Interest Law), 2004-2008

North Carolina Editorial Forum, Board Member, 2007 to present (currently inactive)

North Carolina Bar Association, previous positions:

- Vice President of the NCBA Board of Governors, 1998-1999
- Member of the NC Bar Association's first two years of the 4All Task Force and Chair of its 4All Loan Repayment Assistance Committee, 2007-2008
- Member of the Task Force on Legal Education to respond to the American Bar Association's "MacCrate Report," North Carolina Bar Association, 1991-1993
- Member of the Lawyer Referral Service Committee, the Communications Committee, and the Public Service Advisory Committee

Board Member, Carolina Legal Assistance, a legal organization for people with mental disabilities, 1996 to 2004; Vice-Chair, 1997-1999

North Carolina Child Day Care Commission, appointed by Lt. Gov. Robert Jordan, 1985-1989; Vice-Chair of Commission, 1988-1989

North Carolina Day Care Licensing Commission, appointed by Gov. James Hunt, 1982-1985

Incorporator and founding Board Chair of the North Carolina Center for Nonprofit Organizations, 1991-1992

Member of the Steering Committee which incorporated the North Carolina Association of Women Attorneys, 1977-1978; Member, Education Committee, 1996-1997 and in the early 1980s

Advisory Board member of the North Carolina Fellows Program, an undergraduate leadership program at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 1985-1991, Board Chair in 1990-91

Steering Committee and Faculty Course Participant for the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation's "Women's Leadership and Grassroots Activism" Grant to Duke University, 1995-1996

Member, Foundations and the Poor Council of the North Carolina Poverty Project

Advisory Board member of North Carolina Equity's Women's Legal Project

Board Member of the Tenth Judicial District Board of Governors; Co-Chair of its Endowment Committee, 1988-1989

Member of the National Board of Directors of the Reginald Heber Smith Community Lawyer Fellowship Program, early 1980s

Member of the Steering Committee and founding member of the Board of Directors to create a domestic violence prevention program in Wake County, NC; Member of the Steering Committee to create a domestic violence prevention program in Forsyth County, NC

Wake County Commission on Women, 1995-96, Secretary

Choir Member, Christ Episcopal Church, 1985 to 2002

Member, Wake County Women's Political Caucus, late 1970s

Selected Presentations:

May 16, 2008, "The Poverty IQ Test," CLE presentation for consumer bankruptcy attorneys of the Mecklenburg County Bar, Charlotte, NC

Presenter, "Way Out Yonder: Rural Poverty in North Carolina," Legal Aid of North Carolina Annual Statewide Meeting, Cary, NC, April 2, 2008

Presenter, "The Poverty IQ Test," North Carolina Bar Association Board of Governors Meeting, Blowing Rock, North Carolina, October, 27, 2007

Guest Lecturer, Cornell Law School, Social Justice Class, "The Poverty IQ Test," September 24, 2007

Keynote Speaker, "Celebrating Gains & Recognizing Challenges: Advances in Laws Affecting Women Over the Last Thirty Years," NC Women's Forum 30th Anniversary Convention, Winston-Salem, NC, November 10, 2006

Presenter, "The Poverty IQ Test," North Carolina Pro Bono Institute, NC Bar Association, Cary, NC, November 2, 2006

Presenter, "The Oprah Carol Show: Sexual Harassment among Attorneys," NC Association of Women Attorneys Annual Convention, Asheville, NC, October 13, 2006

Presenter, "The Law School's Role in Equal Access to Justice," Initial Meeting, Equal Access to Justice Commission, North Carolina Bar Center, Cary, NC, April 27, 2006

Presenter, "The Effect of FY 2007 Proposed Budget Cuts on Legal Services Clients," 2006 Legal Services Statewide Conference, Legal Aid of North Carolina, Durham, NC, March 15, 2006

Presenter, "The Sally Jesse Oprah Carol Show: Two Generations of Female Attorneys Tell Their Stories," North Carolina Association of Women Attorneys Conference, Wrightsville Beach, NC, September 30, 2005

Presenter for Opening Plenary Session, "Law School Pro Bono Today" at the American Bar Association/NLADA Equal Justice Conference on Celebrating the Pro Bono and Legal Services Partnership, Pre-Conference "Celebrating Law School Pro Bono – Insights from the Journey and Visions for the Future," May 4, 2005, Austin, Texas

Presenter, "Hiring and Keeping Great Attorneys without an HR Department" at the American Bar Association/NLADA Equal Justice Conference on Celebrating the Pro Bono and Legal Services Partnership, May 5, 2005, Austin, Texas

Presenter at the first meeting of the Equal Access to Justice Roundtable – an assembly of people invited by Chief Justice I. Beverly Lake to address the problems of access to the civil justice system in North Carolina. North Carolina Bar Association Annual Convention, June 24, 2005, Asheville, NC

Speaker, "The Poverty IQ Test: A Study of Poverty and Government Programs in the United States," Training for WUNC Radio Reporters, Chapel Hill, NC, November 17, 2004

Panelist, "Law School Pro Bono Resources," NC Pro Bono Coordinators Institute, Cary, NC, November 3, 2004

Guest Lecturer, "The Poverty IQ Test: A Study of Poverty and Government Programs in the United States," Presentation to Peace College students, Raleigh, NC, October 6, 2004

Speaker, "The Poverty IQ Test: A Study of Poverty and Government Programs in the United States," 2004 NC Legal Services Statewide Conference, April 24, 2004

Presenter, "The Poverty IQ Test: A Study of Poverty and Government Programs in the United States," annual conference of the NC Association of Women Attorneys, Wrightsville Beach, NC, October 2003

Panelist, *NALP Legends Share Their Best Ideas*, joint meeting of PSLawNet and the National Association of Law Placements' Public Service Committee, Washington, DC, October 2003

Publications:

Co-author with Kenneth Schorr, Initial Report of the North Carolina Equal Access to Justice Commission, May 2008, *available at*
<http://www.ncbar.org/featuredItems/1/3047/index.aspx>

Op Ed, "Severe Poverty Hiding Behind the Brighter Headlines," issued September 16, 2008 by the American Forum and published by the News & Observer as "Inside poverty percentages are real people," *available at*
<http://www.mediaforum.org/states/PageDisplay.cfm?ALindex=1&State=nc>

Op Ed, "Carolina Citizens Need Access to Lawyers in Civil Cases," issued October 30, 2007 by the American Forum and published by the Asheville Citizen-Times, November 1, 2007, and other newspapers, *available at*
<http://www.mediaforum.org/states/PageDisplay.cfm?ALindex=11&State=nc>

Poverty Lawyers, in Encyclopedia of World Poverty (Mehmet Odekon ed., Sage Publications 2006)

Co-author with William Finger, "A Guide to Small Claims Court in North Carolina," Legal Services of North Carolina, Inc., May 1990, *a 2007 version updated by others is available at*
http://www.legalaidnc.org/public/learn/publications/Small_Claims_Court/default.aspx

Co-editor of bi-weekly community education column sent to editors across North Carolina and published by Legal Services of North Carolina as "The Law and You," 1991

Co-author with Richard Taylor, "Management Objectives for Conducting Program Evaluations," "Management Information Exchange, July, 1989

Quoted:

National Law Journal, "Law schools take a pass on Harvard's third-year tuition forgiveness plan," Peter Page, March 21, 2008

Carolina Alumni Review, January/February 2008 edition, "Four Years Forty Years Ago" by Kathleen Kearns article on conditions for female students at UNC-Chapel Hill in the 1970s

News & Observer, "More spats land in Small Claims," Vickie Lee Parker, August 26, 2007

News & Observer, "Legal service says poor turned away," Sarah Ovaska, July 17, 2007

Washington Daily News, editorial, "Law school dean makes a difference," October 25, 2006, available at <http://www.wdnweb.com/articles/2006/10/26/opinion/editorial01.txt>

Family:

Married to Jack Nichols, an attorney practicing in Raleigh, NC; two sons, Jackson Nichols, a 2006 Duke Law alumnus, and Charles Nichols, a 2005 Colorado College alumnus and NC State MPA candidate