



MEMORANDUM

Council Meeting June 5, 2008

TO: Members of City Council
FROM: Mayor Rick Baker *Rick Baker*
RE: Appointment as Code Enforcement Special Magistrate

I respectfully request that Council appoint Cynthia G. Hawkins-Leon as Code Enforcement Special Magistrate to serve the remainder of a three-year term ending December 31, 2010.

Attached is a copy of Professor Hawkins-Leon's resume for your information.

RB/ea

Attachment

cc: D. Metz, Deputy Mayor Neighborhood Services
T. Yost, Codes Compliance and Assistance Director

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING CYNTHIA G.
HAWKINS-LEON AS A SPECIAL MAGISTRATE
TO EXERCISE THE POWERS OF A MUNICIPAL
CODE ENFORCEMENT BOARD AS PROVIDED
IN CHAPTER 162, FLORIDA STATUTES, AND
IN ACCORDANCE WITH ORDINANCE 699-G;
AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of St. Petersburg, Florida, that Ordinance 699-G provides for the appointment of a Special Magistrate having the powers and duties of the Code Enforcement Board, pursuant to Part I of Chapter 162, Florida Statutes, and Ordinance 699-G.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Cynthia G. Hawkins-Leon is a resident of the City and is otherwise qualified for appointment to the office of Special Magistrate.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this Council hereby appoints Cynthia G. Hawkins-Leon as Special Magistrate to serve the remainder of a three-year term ending December 31, 2010.

This resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

Approved as to form and content

City Attorney or (Designee)

CYNTHIA G. HAWKINS-LEÓN

Stetson University College of Law
1401 – 61st Street South ** Gulfport, FL 33707
(727) 562-7885 ** chawkins@law.stetson.edu

Home Address: 2503 Green Way S. (33712)

EDUCATION

Harvard Law School Cambridge, MA

Research Assistant to Professor Martha Minow, Summer & Fall 1983. Juris Doctor, 1985

Wellesley College Wellesley, MA

Bachelor of Arts, Psychology, 1981 (*cum laude* equivalent: B+ overall average; A- in major)

LAW TEACHING EXPERIENCE

PROFESSOR

08/06-present

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

01/04-07/06

Stetson University College of Law

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

07/00-12/03

New England School of Law

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

01/00-07/00

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

07/97-01/00

Syracuse University College of Law

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF LAW

07/95-07/97

Duquesne University School of Law

LEGAL SCHOLARLY ARTICLES

"Colonial White Mater Privilege:" The Above-Ground Railroad & Legal Route to Freedom for the U.S. Mulatto, circa. 1650-1850 (work in progress) – the author has discovered and coined the phrase for a little-known legal alternative for the descendants of freed slaves and indentured servants to reclaim real property and win their freedom

10 Years Out-of-Step & Out-Of-Line: Florida's Ban on LesbianGay Adoption Violates the (Federal) Adoption & Safe Families Act of 1997 ("ASFA") (work in progress)

"Race and Transracial Adoption" (book chapter) in **CRITICAL RACE REALISM: INTERSECTION OF PSYCHOLOGY, RACE, AND THE LAW**, Jonathan Cardi, Shayne Jones, and Gregory Parks (eds.), New York: The New Press (2008)(forthcoming).

Race and Transracial Adoption: The Answer is Neither Simply Black or White Nor Right or Wrong (primary author – co-authored), 51 CATH. U. L. REV. 1227 (2002) – in a novel interdisciplinary research approach, this two-part article reviews the evolution of the transracial adoption of African-American children by Caucasian families from both a legal perspective (through an analysis of federal legislation – namely, MEPA, IEPA and ASFA – and case law) and a literature review of case studies conducted by social workers and psychologists from a counseling perspective.

Transracial Adoption: A Legal and Counseling Perspective (co-authored), 80 J. OF COUNSELING & DEV. 433 (2002) – the second of a two-part interdisciplinary discussion of race and transracial adoption (see description above).

“Literature As Law”: The History of the Insanity Plea and a Fictional Application Within the Law & Literature Canon, 72 TEMP. L. REV. 383 (1999) -- article provides the history of the insanity defense and utilizing the newly-coined “literature as law” approach hypothetically determines whether the insanity defense would prevail given the facts as presented in the subject-novel *WOMAN ON THE EDGE OF TIME*, by Marge Piercy.

The Socratic Method-Problem Method Dichotomy: The Debate Over Teaching Method Continues, 1998 B.Y.U. EDUC. & L. J. 1 (1998)(lead article) -- article compares the problem method with the Socratic or case method of teaching from both the historical and practical perspective and their affect upon the quality of legal education.

The Indian Child Welfare Act and the African American Tribe: Facing the Adoption Crisis, 36 BRANDEIS J. FAM. L. 201 (1996/1997) – article discusses the adoption crisis facing the African American family today and looks for potential solutions through application of the ICWA and other options.

Other Scholarly Publications

“Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.”; “Marches and Demonstrations”; “National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)”; ***“David Walker”;*** ***and “Zoning & Religious Entities”*** (5 separate entries) in Paul Finkelman (Ed.), *ENCYCLOPEDIA OF AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES*, 3 vols., New York: Routledge (2006).

“Pan-Africanism” in Molefi Kete Asante and Ama Mazama (Eds.), *ENCYCLOPEDIA OF BLACK STUDIES*, Sage Publications (2004).

Book Review: UNEVEN GROUND AMERICAN INDIAN SOVEREIGNTY AND FEDERAL LAW, by David E. Wilkins and K. Tsianina Lomawaima, 13 L. & POLITICS BOOK REV. __ (March, 2003)(this issue has unassigned pages numbers).

Book Review: BATTERED WOMEN & FEMINIST LAWMAKING, by Elizabeth M. Schneider, 11 L. & POLITICS BOOK REV. 80 (February, 2001).

Book Review: TO PROMOTE THE GENERAL WELFARE: A COMMUNITARIAN LEGAL READER, by David Carney (Ed.), 10 L. & POLITICS BOOK REV. 383 (June, 2000).

“Pan-Africanism” in Waldo Martin, Jr. and Patricia Sullivan (Eds.), Volume 2, *ENCYCLOPEDIA OF CIVIL RIGHTS IN THE UNITED STATES*, MacMillan Reference (2000).

Book Review: CRIMINAL JUSTICE IN SCOTLAND, by Peter Duff and Neil Hutton (Eds.), 9 L. & POLITICS BOOK REV. 554 (December, 1999).

Book Review: GENDER PERCEPTIONS AND THE LAW, by Christine R. Barker, Elizabeth A. Kirk and Monica Sah (Eds.), 9 L. & POLITICS BOOK REV. 288 (July, 1999).

Books Submitted for Publication

“MASTERING PROPERTY” (co-author with Professor Darryl C. Wilson)(Carolina Academic Press, 2008)(forthcoming)

ADOPTION LAW READER (editor & author)(under submission to publishers).

Legal Scholarly Presentations

Invited Presenter, *Written Laws, Spoken Words, Whispered Passion: Interracial Marriage & Land Reclamation Claims from Slavery to Freedom in Maryland, Virginia, and Washington, D.C.*, Women in Legal History Conference, University of Akron School of Law, Akron, OH, October 2007.

Moderator, *"The Law School of the Future – Deans' Viewpoints"* Panel, SEALS Annual Conference, Amelia Island, FL, July/August 2007.

Invited Moderator, *"Adoption & Safe Families Act of 1997"* Panel, NACAC 30th Annual Conference, Tampa, FL, July 2007.

Forum Organizer, Diversity Discussion Group, *What is Diversity & How is it Achieved?*, AFCC Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, May/June 2007.

Presenter, *Mediators "Walking the Talk"* Panel, National Mediation Diversity Forum, ABA – ADR Section Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, April 2007.

Symposium Organizer & Panel Moderator, *The Lofton Case: The State of Gay & Lesbian Adoption in Florida*, co-sponsored – Brigham Young Law School & Stetson College of Law, Tampa, FL, November 2005.

Keynote Speaker, *International Adoption Law Issues*, Stetson Law Asian American Law Students Association, Gulfport, FL, October 2005.

Presenter, *Property Law Overview* (8 hours), Law Preview Program, University of Miami School of Law, Miami, FL, June 2005.

Faculty Advisor & Participant, *Interdisciplinary Law and Forensic Psychiatry/Psychology Program*, University of South Florida Conflict Resolution Collaborative, Tampa, FL, February 2005.

Keynote Speaker, *Transracial Adoption: Getting Beyond Issues of Black and White*, Stetson Law Honors Program, Gulfport, FL, November 2004.

Faculty Advisor & Participant, *Interdisciplinary Law and Forensic Psychiatry/Psychology Program*, University of South Florida Conflict Resolution Collaborative, Tampa, FL, February 2004.

Keynote Speaker, *Interracial Marriage from Slavery through Loving*, Stetson College of Law Works-In-Progress Faculty Colloquium, Gulfport, FL, Summer 2003.

Presenter, *Transracial Adoption: Not Simply a Matter of Black and White*, National Association of African American Studies (NAAAS) Annual Conference, Houston, TX, February 2002.

Presenter, *Kinship Clans & Care and Family Formation*, Conference on Foster Care and Adoption, University of South Carolina, Department of Social Work, Conference on Foster Care and Adoption, Myrtle Beach, SC, March 2001.

Presenter, *How the Policies and Procedures of ICWA Can Be Applied to Kinship Groups*, National Family Heritage Coalition Meeting, Chicago, IL, January 2001.

Presenter, *Transracial Adoption: The Federal Law and Its Potential Affects on African American Adoptees*, SE/SW Law Professors of Color Scholarship Conference, South Texas College of Law, Houston, TX, March 2000.

Keynote Speaker, *Different, Challenged, but Determined*, Forum for Legal and Medical Professionals of Color, University of London, Maudsley Psychiatric Hospital, Denmark Hill, London, England, September 1999.

Presenter, *Laying Socrates' Phantom to Rest: Bringing CLS and the Problem Method Out of the Shadows and Into the Classroom*, 1999 International Critical Legal Studies Conference, University of London, Birkbeck College, Department of Law, London, England, September 1999.

Presenter, *Female Madness & the Insanity Plea*, XXIVth International Congress on Law and Mental Health, Toronto, Canada, June 1999.

Presenter, *Kinship Clans or Care and Family Formation: Lessons to be Learned from the Indian Child Welfare Act*, International Society of Family Law, North American Regional Conference, Albuquerque, NM, June 1999.

Presenter, *Law, Literature & Female Madness*, Faculty Presentation, Syracuse University College of Law, Syracuse, NY, April 1999.

Presenter, *The Indian Child Welfare Act and the African American Tribe: Facing the Adoption Crisis*, 26th Annual Conference on the Black Family, University of Louisville School of Education, Louisville, KY, March 1999.

Panelist, *The Foster Care and Adoption Crisis Within the African American Community*, Community Talk Show Radio Program, WLLV 1240AM Radio, Louisville, KY, March 1999.

Keynote Speaker, *Updates on Adoption Law and New Ideas for the Future*, The Dunbar Association's National Adoption Month Luncheon, Syracuse, NY, November 1998.

Presenter, *The Indian Child Welfare Act and the African American Tribe: Facing the Adoption Crisis*, International Critical Legal Studies Conference, University of Lancaster, Lancaster, England, September 1998.

Presenter, "Literature As Law": *The History of the Insanity Plea and a Fictional Application Within the Law & Literature Canon*, International Critical Legal Studies Conference, University of Lancaster, Lancaster, England, September 1998.

Guest Lecturer, *The History of the Insanity Plea in the United States*, SUNY Health Sciences Center, Forensic Fellows Program, Syracuse, NY, April 1998.

Panelist, *Trapped by the Law – Constructing (Criminal) Identities*, 4th Mid-Atlantic Law Professors of Color Legal Scholarship Conference, Rutgers University School of Law, Camden, NJ, February 1998.

Presenter, *The Indian Child Welfare Act and the African American Tribe: Facing the Adoption Crisis*, 3rd Mid-Atlantic Law Professors of Color Legal Scholarship Conference, University of Louisville School of Law, Louisville, KY, February 1997.

Keynote Speaker, *Opportunities for Women in Law Teaching*, Lawrence County Women's Bar Association Annual Luncheon, Pittsburgh, PA, April 1996.

PROFESSIONAL LEGAL EXPERIENCE

ADMINISTRATIVE/MAGISTRATE JUDGE

Contract Appeals Board, D.C.

07/93-07/95

Appointed Administrative/Magistrate Judge, in specialty area of government contracts, by the Mayor of the District of Columbia with the consent of the Council of the District of Columbia and approval by the US House & Senate. The Board is a trial-level administrative law tribunal. Heard, considered and decided: appeals from final decisions of the Director of

the Department of Administrative Services and other independent agency heads; and protests of solicitations or awards of contracts by actual or prospective bidders or aggrieved contractors. All decisions issued by the Board are the final decisions of the D.C. Government and are appealed directly to the D.C. Court of Appeals. Decisions are published verbatim in the *D.C. Register* for use as precedent in other cases, including Federal Boards of Contract Appeals.

GENERAL COUNSEL

Department of Administrative Services; Government of the District of Columbia

05/92-07/93

Agency is central procurement agency for the District of Columbia. Chief legal advisor for the Department; advised the Director and other Administrators on all legal matters, including the issuance and administration of government contracts, the agency's government-wide contract audit/compliance function, the sale and lease of District-owned real estate and agency personnel matters. Supervised a staff of ten, including staff attorneys. Administered the claims process for contract disputes filed by contractors and adjudicated claims disputes; supervised the Procurement Review Committee which reviewed contracts for executive agencies city-wide. Developed, implemented and managed office's fiscal year appropriated budget on an on-going basis. Served as Freedom of Information Act Officer for the Department. Prepared and delivered testimony before the Council of the District of Columbia; chief liaison between the Council and the Department.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL AND STAFF DIRECTOR

Committee on Government Operations; Council of the District of Columbia

01/91-05/92

Responsible for developing, reviewing, coordinating and managing all legislative, budget and programmatic oversight activities pertaining to Executive Branch agencies under the Committee's jurisdiction whose responsibilities included government contracting, employee benefits, elections and the general administration of the Government of the District of Columbia. Drafted and presented legislative proposals and Committee reports at Committee meetings and responded to Councilmembers' inquiries; developed expert knowledge, particularly of government contracts, by interpretation of D.C. laws and regulations, agencies' organization, functions and programs.

VICE PRESIDENT FOR GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS & IN-HOUSE GENERAL COUNSEL

Washington, D.C. Association of Realtors®

02/90-01/91

Lead lobbyist for 4200 member real estate trade association. Created and built government affairs program; Secretary for the association's Political Action Committee throughout the 1990 Mayoral election. Served as In-House General Counsel to provide advice and research on issues involving real estate and corporate law.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

Councilmember James E. Nathanson

Council of the District of Columbia

01/87-02/90

Sole legislative assistant and counsel. Established agenda for freshman member; drafted legislation for introduction; interpreted the effect and intent of proposed legislation, rules and regulations; analyzed budget documents and made recommendations for budgetary action. Staffmember responsible for covering the four Committees to which member was assigned: Consumer and Regulatory Affairs; Judiciary; Public Services; and Education and Libraries. Monitored legislation; attended hearings; prepared questions and analyses; briefed member; conducted legal legislative research.

ASSOCIATE

Wyman, Bautzer, Rothman, Kuchel & Silbert

06/85-11/86

Researched and wrote motions, briefs, interrogatories, admissions, complaints, answers and legal memoranda relating to general civil litigation.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Lecturer, *Real Property Law*, LawPreview, LLC (a national law-school-prep service for admitted law students), Summer 2005

- CALI Family Law Fellow, recipient of competitive 9-month fellowship to draft interactive computer-aided teaching lessons in family law to be accessed and utilized by law schools nationwide, 01/06-09/06
- Panelist & Contributor: PBS-TV (WEDU) -- Weekly Roundup Show; Fox13-TV -- Kathy Fountain Show (live, call-in); FOX13-TV -- The Lightening Round Show, 2004 – present (intermittent)

BAR ADMITTANCE AND MEMBERSHIPS

- Supreme Court of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Admitted 1986.
- Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia. Admitted 1988.
- United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. Admitted 1993.
- Florida Bar Association; Law Faculty Affiliate Member (2004-present)
- American Bar Association
- D.C. Bar Association
- Association of Trial Lawyers of America (ATLA) -- Advocate designation

PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Executive Board Member, Community Law Program (CLP), 06/07-present
- Committee Co-Chair, Parents' Association, Canterbury School of Florida, 06/07-present
- Chair, 01/07-01/08
Chair-Elect, 01/06-01/07
Treasurer, 01/05-01/06
Executive Board Member, 01/05-01/08
Association of American Law Schools ("AALS"), Women in Legal Education Section ("WLE")
- Executive Board member, Florida Chapter, Association of Family and Conciliation Courts ("FLAFCC"), 01/07-present
- Member, Pinellas Community Church (PCC), St. Petersburg, FL, 09/05-present.
- Editorial Board Member, FAMILY COURT REVIEW (an interdisciplinary journal sponsored by the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts & published in cooperation with Hofstra University School of Law), 03/04 – present
- Member, Florida Adoption Council (a multidisciplinary organization of adoption professionals), 01/05-present
- Member, Association of Family & Conciliation Courts ("AFCC"), 02/04 – present
- Member, Lakewood Estates Citizens Crime Watch (St. Petersburg, FL), 04/04 – present
- Editor, ADOPTION & CHILD WELFARE LAW QUARTERLY (published by the Center for Adoption Research at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, MA), 06/03 – 06/05
- Executive Board Member, Association of American Law Schools ("AALS") Minority Groups Section, 01/02 – 12/06; Chair-Elect, 01/06-01/07 (declined Chair position to serve as WLE Chair)
- Executive Board Member, Massachusetts Black Women Attorneys, 04/02 – 12/04; Secretary, 06/03 – 12/04
- Member/Candidate, Fulbright Senior Specialists Roster, J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Program, 07/01 – 07/06
- Member, National Family Heritage Coalition, 1999-2005
- Member, The Dunbar Center (New York State-certified adoption agency), Advisory Board, 1998-2000
- Member, New York State (Central Region) Commission on Foster Care Reform, 1998-2000
- Publications Chair, Mid-Atlantic Law Professors of Color Legal Scholarship Conference(s), 1997-2001
- Special Events Co-Coordinator, National Law Professors of Color Legal Scholarship Conference, 1998-1999
- Duquesne University Family Institute Senior Fellow, 1995-1998
- Member, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., "Silver Soror" designation, 1979-present

WRITING SAMPLES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST