

CHRISTOPHER D. HEARD
University of Houston Law Center
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of Houston Law Center, Houston, Texas

Clinical Professor of Legal Practice (September 2024–Present)
Assistant Dean of Clinical Programs (September 2023–Present)
Director of the Entrepreneurship and Community Development Clinic (July 2016–Present)
Director of Clinical Programs (September 2021–August 2023)
Clinical Associate Professor of Legal Practice (September 2020–August 2024)
Clinical Assistant Professor of Legal Practice (September 2017–August 2020)
Visiting Assistant Professor (July 2016–August 2017)

Courses Taught: Entrepreneurship and Community Development Clinic I and II (2016–Present).

- Supervise and train law students representing entrepreneurs, small businesses, and nonprofit organizations in connection with transactional business law matters. This includes supervising client meetings, commenting on students' written work product, meeting with students to provide feedback and guidance, and overseeing law practice management for the clinic.
- Teach a weekly classroom component that combines lecture with interactive discussions, case rounds, and drafting exercises.
- Cultivate and maintain working relationships with the clinic's community partners.
- Support current and former students in their pursuit of legal employment by bringing opportunities to their attention; reviewing resumes and cover letters; discussing interview strategies; writing letters of recommendation; and acting as a reference.
- Serve as a mentor and resource to law students in the areas of course selection, the practice of law, and professionalism.

Administrative Duties: Oversee the operations of the University of Houston Law Center's clinical programs, including oversight of grant funding, program budget and expenditures, human resources matters, law practice management, program marketing, student success, and implementation of new clinical course offerings.

Law Center Committee Service:

- Curriculum Committee (2021–Present).
- Post Tenure/CEA Review Committee (for NTT review; 2022–Present).
- Faculty Appointments Committee (for NTT hires; 2021–2023).
- Promotion, Tenure, and CEA Committee (clinical advisor; 2021–2023).
- Executive Committee (2020–2022).
- Student Scholarship Committee (2017–2021).
- Library Committee (2017–2020).
- Clinical Promotion and CEA Committee (2017–2018).
- Other Faculty Committee (2017–2018).

Service to the University of Houston and Professional Organizations:

- Clinician Crew Co-Facilitator for Association of American Law Schools Section on Clinical Legal Education Membership, Outreach & Training Committee (2021–2024).
- Law School Liaison to Houston Volunteer Lawyers Board of Directors (2021–2022).
- University of Houston Cougar Chairs Leadership Academy (2020–2021).

Student Service: Support students at the University of Houston Law Center by:

- Serving as the faculty advisor for the Clinical and Lawyering Enrichment Organization, a student organization that promotes student pro bono opportunities and the Law Center's clinical programs (2018–2023).
- Volunteering as a faculty mentor for a section of first-year law students (2017–2022).
- Attending trainings that promote student safety and well-being such as American Red Cross Adult CPR/AED, Pediatric CPR and First Aid Certification (2018, 2023); Faculty Safety & Emergency Preparedness Symposium (2018); Trauma Kit Training (2018); Mental Health First Aid Certification (2017).

PRESENTATIONS

Conference Presentations on Clinical Legal Education

- *Biennial Empire State Legal Writing Conference* at New York Law School, presenting the topic: *Cultivating Professional Judgment in Law Students*, May 17, 2019.
- *Teaching Transactional Law and Skills Sixth Biennial Conference: To Teach is to Learn Twice: Fostering Excellence in Transactional Law and Skills Education* at Emory University School of Law, presenting the topic: *Teaching Law Practice Management in a Transactional Clinic Using Student-Led Projects*, June 1, 2018.

Community and Guest Speaker Presentations

- Emancipation Economic Development Council Third Ward Resilient Entrepreneur Small Business Training Program on the topic *Legal Entity Formation and Contract Basics*, May 14, 2019, November 12, 2019, April 18, 2023, November 7, 2023, and July 16, 2024.
- Moderator for *SURE Entrepreneur Academy/Brainstorming to Bankrolling: Beyond the Classroom* at C.T. Bauer College of Business, presenting on small business law, April 15, 2017, November 11, 2017, April 7, 2018, November 17, 2018, March 30, 2019, November 9, 2019, November 14, 2020, April 12, 2021, November 15, 2021, and April 11, 2021, November 15, 2021, April 11, 2022, November 14, 2022, April 17, 2023, November 13, 2023, and April 15, 2024.
- Panelist for UHLC Admissions Ask The Experts Admitted Student Webinar Series - UHLC Legal Clinic, February 16, 2022.
- *Next GEN ENERGY X Innovation & Entrepreneurship Program* for University of Houston and Texas Southern University students on the topic *Essential Resources for Entrepreneurs*, June 21, 2018, June 7, 2019, and June 11, 2021.
- Panelist for *To sign or not to sign* presented by University of Houston Career Services on the topic of noncompete agreements and nondisclosure agreements, April 22, 2021.
- Guest panelist for *LAW 6207: Lawyering Skills and Strategies* at University of Houston Law Center, presenting on contract drafting and transactional law practice, January 23, 2020 and January 27, 2021.
- Organizer and moderator for *COVID-19: Legal Implications for Small Businesses* webinar at University of Houston Law Center, April 15, 2020.
- Clinical and Lawyering Enrichment Organization at University of Houston Law Center on the topic *Cultivating Professional Judgment During Law School*, April 24, 2019.
- *Third Ward Community Legal Fair* at Trinity East United Methodist Church, presenting on small business and nonprofit law, May 12, 2018.
- *Navigating Nonprofit Legalities: Regulation and Compliance* at University of St. Thomas, presenting on applying for 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status, May 7, 2018.
- Guest lecturer for *ENTR 7336: Entrepreneurship Overview* at C.T. Bauer College of Business, October 11, 2016.

- *People's Law School* at the University of Houston Law Center, presenting on business law, October 1, 2016.
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PUBLICATIONS

Teaching Law Practice Management in a Transactional Clinic Using Student-Led Projects, 20 TENN. J. BUS. L. 369 (2019), Author.

Syndicated Lending Update: Defaulting Lender Issues, 126 BANKING L.J. 165 (2009), Co-Author.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Bracewell LLP, Houston, Texas

Senior Counsel (May 2013–June 2016)

Associate (September 2004–May 2013)

Summer Associate (Summer 2003)

- Represented domestic and foreign lending institutions and borrowers in connection with the structuring, negotiation, and documentation of a wide array of senior, subordinated, secured, second lien, and unsecured commercial lending transactions, including complex syndicated credits, asset-based loans, acquisition and working capital facilities, letter of credit facilities, oil and gas secured financings, as well as loan restructures and workouts. Transaction sizes ranged from \$5 million to \$4 billion.
 - Supervised, trained, and mentored associate attorneys in the finance practice group.
 - Managed client relationships, including business development, billing, and collections.
 - Representative clients included: Amegy Bank; JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.; MUFG Union Bank, N.A.; Societe Generale; and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association.
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EDUCATION

Georgetown University Law Center, Washington, DC

Juris Doctor, May 2004

Honors: Dean's List (2002–2003).

Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee

Bachelor of Arts, *magna cum laude*, with majors in Economics, Philosophy, and Psychology, May 2001

Honors: Mortar Board national senior honor society, Psi Chi national psychology honor society, Omicron Delta Epsilon national economics honor society, and Commodore Yearbook's Keystone Award.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Bar Admission and Professional Licenses

- Admitted to practice law in Texas (November 2004–Present).
- Admitted to practice law in New York (April 2010–Present).
- Licensed Texas real estate broker - inactive status (October 2012–Present).

Volunteer Positions

- Boy Scouts of America, Sam Houston Area Council (2017–Present).
- Zoning Board of Adjustment, City of West University Place (2015–2017).

Awards

- Ethel M. Baker Award, given in recognition of faculty activities that promote interchange between the UH Law Center and the greater community to encourage a relationship of mutual benefit (April 2024)
- District Award of Merit from Boy Scouts of America, Sam Houston Area Council, Twin Bayou District (February 2020)
- Certificate of Appreciation from Emancipation Economic Development Council (June 2019).
- Thomson Reuters Texas Super Lawyers Rising Star (2013, 2014, 2015, 2016).