

Pamela DeFanti Robinson

EDUCATION:

Legal: University of South Carolina School of Law, Juris Doctor, May 1986
Admitted to practice, S. C. November 1986
Admitted to practice, US Supreme Court, April 2012

Undergraduate: Clemson University, B. A., Elementary Education, December 1973

EMPLOYMENT

Present: Director, University of South Carolina School of Law Pro Bono Program, 1989-

Past: Law Clerk for Dean Harry M. Lightsey, Jr.
USC School of Law, 1984-1986

Children and Young Adult Services Librarian
Kershaw County Library, Camden, SC, 1981-83

Docent, Smithsonian Institution- Museum of American History, January 1978-
June 1980

Public Education Coordinator for U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
7th District, 1976-1978, directed "Water and Kids" water safety education
program for Atlanta School System

Part-time and full-time teaching positions
1973-1981; Atlanta, Ga., Alexandria, Va., and Camden, SC

PRESENT ACTIVITIES:

American Association of Law Schools, Section on Pro Bono and Public
Service Opportunities, Communications Director, 2009-
Children's Justice Act Task Force
Board member, 2013-
Clemson University Humanities Advancement Board
Board member, 2013-
International Journal of Volunteer Administration,
Editorial Board Member, Secretary, 2006-
The International Journal of Volunteer Administration,
Reviewer, 2000-
Post-DOMA Litigation Task Force, SC Equality
Board Member, 2013-
Richland County CASA Program
Volunteer, 1988-
SC Department of Juvenile Justice
Trainer, *Choices: Court Diversion Program*, 1991-
SC Bar Children's Committee
Member, 1993-
SC Bar Pro Bono Program
Volunteer, 1986-

SC Bar *Senior Lawyers Division*
Pro Bono Committee Chair: 2017-
SC Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts
Founding member, 2010-

PAST ACTIVITIES:

American Association of Law Schools, Public Services and Pro Bono
Opportunities Section, Chair, 2008-2009; Secretary, 2003-2004,
Treasurer, 2005-2006, Past-Chair, 2007-2008
Children's Justice Act Task Force
Immediate Past-Chair, 2012-2018
Clemson University Humanities Advancement Board
Immediate Past-Chair, 2013-2018
Citizen's Advisory Council, Watkin's Pre-Release Center. SC Department of
Corrections, Member, 1990-1999
Council for Certification in Volunteer Administration,
Secretary/Treasurer- 2006-2010; Board member., 2010-2012
COCES, USC Coordinating Office for Community Engagement and
Service Leadership Council, Member, 2008, 2013
Digna Ochoa Center for Immigration Legal Services,
Secretary, 2007-2018
Justice 360 (Formerly the Death Penalty Resource & Defense Center)
Board Member, 2014-2019
Midlands Affiliate, S. C. Association for Volunteer Administration,
President, 1993-1995
National High School Mock Trial, Judge, 1989-1991
National High School Mock Trial Championship, Executive Committee,
1993
Project Literacy, Alexandria Community Y, Director,
Alexandria, VA. 1979-81
Protection and Advocacy for
Individuals with Mental Illness Advisory Council, (PAIMI), Member,
2002-2010
Richland County Guardian *ad Litem* Board, 1993-95, Vice-Chair,
1996-97; Chair, 1997-98, Treasurer
Richland County CASA Program Board Member. 2009-2011
S. C. Association for Volunteer Administration,
Vice-President, 1994-95; President, 1995-97
Newsletter Editor, 1993- 2007
SC Bar Access to Justice Committee, Chair, 2001-02 Member, 1987-07
SC Bar Lawyers Caring About Lawyers Committee, Member, 1987-2002
SC Bar Representation of Children Subcommittee- Chair, 1997-2000-
Reporter, *Guidelines for Guardians ad Litem in Family Court*
SC Bar Pro Bono Committee, Member, 2005-2007
SC Bar Mock Trial Committee, Chair, 1989-1991
SC Bar *Senior Lawyers Division*
At -Large Executive Council member, 2010-2012
Secretary, Executive Council, 2014
Immediate Past Chair, 2017
SC Complete Count Committee, US Census, 1999-2000
Women in Law, USC Law School
Faculty Advisor, 1997-2016
Women's Committee of the National Symphony, Member,
Washington, DC, 1979-81

WRJA, SC ETV, Volunteer book reviewer, 1983-2002

MEMBERSHIPS:

American Bar Association
Association for American Law Schools-
Section on Public Services and Pro Bono Opportunities
National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges- Associate Member
SC Bar
SC Women Lawyers Association

AWARDS:

1991 *Volunteer of the Year*, Richland County Guardian *ad Litem* Project
1992 *Volunteer of the Year*, SC Department of Juvenile Justice
1992 *Pro Bono Service Award*, SC Bar
1997 *OASIS Award (Outstanding Achievement in Service to Indigent South Carolina)* presented on the 10th Anniversary of the SC Bar Pro Bono Program
1997 *Volunteer Administrator of the Year*
SC Association for Volunteer Administration, Midlands Affiliate
1998 *USC Faculty Advisor of the Year*
1999 *Volunteer Administrator of the Year*
SC Association of Volunteer Administration,
2000 *Governor's Volunteer Award- Volunteer Administrator category*
2005 *IMPACT Award*, Richland County Guardian *ad Litem* Program
2005 *National Volunteer Administrator of the Year*,
International Association for Volunteer Administration
2007 *Lifetime Achievement Award*, Richland County CASA Program
2009 USC Ambassador of Service Award
2009 Women In Law, *Outstanding Attorney Mentor Award*
2010 USC MLK Day *Social Justice Award*
2012 *Spencer Award- Protection and Advocacy for People with Disabilities*
2013 Guest at the White House 5,000 Point of Light Celebration, July 19
Named a "Champion for Children" by the SC Department of Juvenile Justice, September
2014 *Martha Browning Dicus Award for Public Interest Law*,
SC Women Lawyers Association Foundation
2014 Civic Star Award, Richland County Bar Association
2016 SC Lawyers Weekly "Leadership In Law" recipient
SC Lawyers Weekly "SC Lawyer of the Year"
SC Campus Compact- SC Civic Engagement Professional Award
2018 SC Lawyers Weekly "Hall of Fame" Inaugural class of honorees

PUBLICATIONS:

"Insurmountable Opportunities or Innovative Choices- The Pro Bono Experience at the University of South Carolina School of Law."
42 S.C. Law Review, Summer 1991

"Choices- Legal Awareness Sessions for Juveniles"

Co-authored with Mike Gannon, SC Department of Juvenile Justice, 1989, updates 1996, 2004, 2018

“The Volunteer Protection Act of 1997: An Analysis and Synopsis”, for the
S.C. Association for Volunteer Administration, August, 1997

“A is for Awareness: A Framework for Presenting Legal Issues”, *Journal of
Volunteer Administration*, Vol. 23, No. 3, 2005

WORKSHOP TOPICS:

“Volunteers and the Law”, SC, NC and generic versions
“Preventing Burnout in a Non-Profit Organization”
“Risk Management for Non-Profit Organizations”
“9 1/2 Things Every Volunteer Manager Needs to Know about the Law”
“Effective Screening of Volunteers”
“Virtual Volunteering”
“Got Leadership?” A survey of leadership styles
“Follow the Leaders”
An extended workshop for law school student leaders
“ The Role of the Guardian *ad Litem* in Abuse and Neglect Cases in SC”
“The Role of the Guardian *ad Litem* in Custody Cases in SC”
“ The Challenges of Managing a Law School Pro Bono Program”
“ What New Law School Pro Bono Program Managers Need to Know”
“ The Fine Art of Collaboration”
“We Have a Winner...or Do We? - Writing and Evaluating Awards
“ Cultural Competency Awareness” Based on SC Bar training material
“ The ABC’s of Starting a Law School Pro Bono Program”
“Utilizing the *Choices* Curriculum to Address the Needs of At-Risk Youth”
“Integrating Law School Pro Bono into the Wider Access to Justice Arena”
“Experience Matters: Growing a Law School Pro Bono Program”
“ Practice Ready: Incorporating Skills into the Pro Bono Program”

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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LinkedIN Group USCLaw Pro Bono

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Columbia, SC 29208

REFERENCES: By request only