

KENYA J.H. SMITH

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EDUCATION

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN LAW SCHOOL

J.D., May 1999

- *Member* - American Bar Associations House of Delegates
- *Member* - Council to the American Bar Association Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar
- *Member* - American Bar Association Law Student Division Board of Governors
- Legal Education Opportunities Program Student of the Year
- Andrew Saltoun Award for Academic Excellence
- *Law School Alumni Relations Coordinator*

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AT NEW ORLEANS

B.A. (Political Science), cum laude May 1996

- *Chair* - Louisiana Council of Student Body Presidents
- *President* - Student Government Association
- *Vice President* - Student Government Association

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER

Baton Rouge, LA

Associate Professor of Law (Tenured), 2019-Present

Courses Assigned

- Business Associations I & II
- Contracts
- Obligations

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER

Baton Rouge, LA

Judge Freddie Pitcher, Jr. Endowed Professor, 2021-2024

Associate Professor of Law, 2019-2024; Tenure awarded 2021

Visiting Professor of Law, 2018-2019

Courses Taught

- Business Entities
- Contracts
- Commercial Paper
- Obligations
- Special Problems in Business Law

UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO COLLEGE OF LAW

Moscow, ID

Visiting Faculty, Fall 2022

Course Taught

- Business Associations
- Special Problems in Business Law

**ACADEMIC
EXPERIENCE
(CONT'D)**

**DREXEL UNIVERSITY THOMAS R. KLINE SCHOOL OF LAW
Philadelphia, PA**

Adjunct Professor of Law, Summer 2020

Course Taught

- Contracts

**ST. THOMAS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW
Miami Gardens, FL**

Associate Professor of Law, 2016-2018

Voted Professor of the Year (2017-2018)

Courses Taught

- Business Associations
- Contracts
- Interviewing, Counseling and Negotiation
- Payment Systems

**ARIZONA SUMMIT LAW SCHOOL
(FORMERLY PHOENIX SCHOOL OF LAW)
Phoenix, AZ**

Associate Professor of Law, 2015- 2016

Assistant Professor of Law, 2012-2015

Voted Professor of the Year (2015-2016)

Courses Taught

- Federal Income Tax
- Business Associations
- Negotiable Instruments
- Contracts (Common Law and UCC Sales)
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Cross-Border Institute - Mexico City, Mexico

Interim Assistant Dean of Admissions, Fall 2013

Provided vision and leadership for the JD Admissions program. Worked collaboratively with the faculty, students, alumni and administration to develop and implement data-driven, comprehensive marketing and recruitment strategies designed to build enrollment while strengthening the academic quality and diversity of the law school student body.

PUBLICATIONS

ARTICLES

Pardon My Stat(e)us: Exploring Applicability of the Gubernatorial Pardon Power to Corporation, 53 Stetson L. Rev. 341 (2024)

Death of a Corporation: How a Seemingly Innocuous Probate Provision Can Fundamentally Undermine the Corporate Form, 14 Wm. & Mary Bus. L. Rev. 413 (2023)

Climbing Back into the Conundrum Cauldron: Revisiting the SMLLC Pro Se Prohibition, 23 U. PA. J. BUS. L. 1018 (2021)

**PUBLICATIONS
(CONT'D)**

Purposeful Ambiguity: A Case for Greater Clarity in State Law Treatment of the Nonprofit Limited Liability Company (as viewed through permitted purpose provisions), 95 Tul. L. Rev 601 (2021)

Hobby Lobby's Conflated Corporate Tax Exemption and Its Impact on IRC Section 501(c)(3), 71 Rutgers L. Rev. 135 (2018)

Incomplete Sentences: Hobby Lobby's Corporate Religious Rights, the Criminally Culpable Corporate Soul, and the Case for Greater Alignment of Organizational and Individual Sentencing, 77 La. L. Rev. 75 (2016)

Charitable Choices: The Need for a Uniform Limited Liability Company Act (UNLLCA), 49 U. MICH. J.L. REFORM 405 (2016)

Papa's Brand New Bag: The Need for IRS Recognition of an Independent Nonprofit Limited Liability Company, 98 MARQ. L. REV. 1695 (2015)

BOOK CHAPTER

Introduction to Transaction Practice I (Mitchell Fleischmann, Stephen Gerst, Diana Lopez Jones, Kenya Smith, Shandrea Williams eds., Aspen Custom Publishing Series, 2013), *selections reprinted from* Brian A. Blum & Amy C. Bushaw, *Contracts: Cases, Discussion, and Problems* (3d ed., Wolters Kluwer Law and Business, 2012).

WORKS IN PROGRESS

- *Desegregation Symbolism Revisited: T.J. Smith v. St. Tammany Parish School Board*
- *The Partnership Probate Predicament*

**SCHOLARLY
PRESENTATIONS**

Discussant - Business Law Workshop Market Jurisprudence: Teaching Market Alternatives to Traditional Economic Analysis of Law
Southeastern Association of Law Schools 2023 Annual Conference
Boca Raton, Florida, July 27, 2023

Discussant - Business Law Workshop: ESG Intersections in Business Law
Southeastern Association of Law Schools 2023 Annual Conference
Boca Raton, Florida, July 26, 2023

Moderator - New Scholars Workshop: Your Next Article
Southeastern Association of Law Schools 2023 Annual Conference
Boca Raton, Florida, July 24, 2023

Presenter – Pardon My Stat(e)us: Exploring Applicability of the Gubernatorial Pardon Power to Corporation
2023 Stetson Law Review Symposium: Elon Musk and the Law
Stetson University College of Law
Gulfport, Florida, March 24, 2023

Moderator - New Scholars Workshop: Your Next Article
Southeastern Association of Law Schools 2023 Annual Conference
Sandestin, Florida, August 2, 2022

**SCHOLARLY
PRESENTATIONS
(CONT'D)**

Discussant - Business Law Workshop: Elon Musk and the Law
Southeastern Association of Law Schools 2020 Annual Conference
Sandestin, Florida, August 1, 2022

*Discussant - Teaching Workshop: "Comparative Solutions": Using
Comparative Law to Achieve Law Reforms*
Southeastern Association of Law Schools 2020 Annual Conference
Sandestin, Florida, July 31, 2022

*Discussant - Business Law Workshop: Pressure on and Backlash against
Corporations as Political Actors*
Southeastern Association of Law Schools 2020 Annual Conference
Sandestin, Florida, July 30, 2022

Discussant - The Future of Inclusivity
Southeastern Association of Law Schools 2020 Annual Conference
Virtual Meeting, August 2, 2020

*Discussant - Inter-topical Problem-solving:
The Curious Case of the Estate of Jeffrey Epstein*
Southeastern Association of Law Schools 2020 Annual Conference
Virtual Meeting, August 2, 2020

Discussant - Black Lives, Systemic Racism & the Academy
Southeastern Association of Law Schools 2020 Annual Conference
Virtual Meeting, July 31, 2020

Discussant - Mapping Academic Opportunities
Southeastern Association of Law Schools 2020 Annual Conference
Virtual Meeting, July 31, 2020

*Discussant - Benefit Corporation (or Not)?
Establishing and Maintaining Social Impact Business Firms*
Southeastern Association of Law Schools 2019 Annual Conference
Boca Raton, Florida, August 1, 2019

Discussant – 7th Annual John Mercer Langston Writing Workshop
Howard University School of Law
Washington D.C., July 18-21, 2019

Presenter – Louisiana's Nonprofit LLC
Southern University Law Center End of Year CLE
Southern University Law Center
Baton Rouge, Louisiana, December 07, 2018

Presenter – Hobby Lobby's Impact on IRC Section 501(c)(3)
ClassCrits X: Mobilizing for Resistance, Solidarity and Justice
Tulane University School of Law
New Orleans, Louisiana, November 11, 2017

**SCHOLARLY
PRESENTATIONS
(CONT'D)**

Discussant – 8th Annual John Mercer Langston Writing Workshop
Drexel University Thomas R. Kline School of Law
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, July 7-8, 2017

*Discussant – Southeast Southwest People of Color
Legal Scholarship Conference*
Southern University Law Center
Baton Rouge, Louisiana, March 30 – April 2, 2017

Discussant – 7th Annual John Mercer Langston Writing Workshop
University of Miami School of Law
Miami, Florida, July 8-9, 2016

*Presenter – Incomplete Sentences: Aligning Federal Organizational and
Individual Sentencing Guidelines Post Citizens United and Hobby Lobby*
Louisiana State University Law Symposium on Sentencing
Baton Rouge, Louisiana, January 22, 2016

*Panelist – State Emergencies and the Constitution: Lessons from the Tenth
Anniversary of Hurricane Katrina*
Southeastern Association of Law Schools 2015 Annual Conference
Boca Raton, Florida, August 1, 2015

Discussant - Hot Topics in Financial Institutions Law and Regulation
Southeastern Association of Law Schools 2015 Annual Conference
Boca Raton, Florida, August 1, 2015

*Presenter - “Are We There Yet? The Need for a Uniform Nonprofit Limited
Liability Company Act”*
Arizona State University College of Law Legal Scholars Conference
Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law
Tempe, Arizona, March 14, 2015

*Invited Discussant - Hot Topics in Financial Institutions
Law and Regulation*
Southeastern Association of Law Schools 2014 Annual Conference
Amelia Island, Florida, August 3, 2014

*Panelist - “Supreme Court 2013: An In-Depth Review of the Practical
Implications of the Blockbuster Civil Rights Decisions”*
American Bar Association/Young Lawyers Division
Fall 2013 Conference
Phoenix, Arizona, October 10, 2013

*Invited Discussant - Business Law Workshop: Corporate Responsibility (or
Irresponsibility) in a Recessionary America*
Southeastern Association of Law Schools 2013 Annual Conference
Palm Beach, Florida, August 9, 2013

**SCHOLARLY
PRESENTATIONS
(CONT'D)**

Presenter - "A Case for Broader Application of the Nonprofit Limited Liability Company Concept"
The Fourth John Mercer Langston Black Male Faculty Writing Workshop,
Denver University- Sturm College of Law
Denver, Colorado, July 13, 2013

Presenter - "Papa's Brand New Bag: The Nonprofit Limited Liability Company"
2013 Southeast/Southwest people of Color Legal Scholarship Conference
University of Arkansas at Little Rock William H. Bowen School of Law
Little Rock, Arkansas, April 6, 2013

Guest Lecturer - "Post Hurricane Katrina Recovery and Rebuilding"
University of New Orleans – Humanities Department
Professional Practice Course
New Orleans, Louisiana, Spring 2009, Fall 2009

Guest Lecturer - "Post Hurricane Katrina Recovery and Politics"
Tulane University - Political Science Department
Big Easy Politics Course
New Orleans, Louisiana, Fall 2006, Spring 2007

Guest Lecturer - "Managing the Early Years of Practice"
University of Wisconsin Law School
Lawyering Skills Program
Madison, Wisconsin, Spring 2001, Spring 2002

**PROFESSIONAL
EXPERIENCE**

BP/GULF COAST RESTORATION ORGANIZATION Houston, TX
BP/GULF COAST INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM New Orleans, LA
Supplier Diversity Manager, 2011-2012

Incident Command Liaison Officer, 2010-2011
Advised BP's Gulf Coast Recovery Organization Procurement Supply Chain Management (GCRO/PSCM) leadership team concerning supplier diversity laws, best practices and procurement policies. Worked with legal team in advising BP incident management and recovery colleagues regarding environmental and economic restoration efforts. Assisted BP/GCRO state external relations teams in developing and implementing strategic business, recovery and governmental relations plans.

CITY OF NEW ORLEANS/OFFICE OF THE MAYOR New Orleans, LA
Deputy Mayor for Community Development, 2009 - 2010

Directed largest city government agency comprised of a diverse administrative and professional staff in planning, implementing and monitoring federal and state grant funded programs, leveraged to create affordable housing, neighborhood stabilization, economic development and other community focused programs and initiatives.

**PROFESSIONAL
EXPERIENCE
(CONT'D)**

CITY OF NEW ORLEANS (CONT'D)

Deputy Mayor for Intergovernmental Relations, 2005 - 2008

Led coordinated lobbying efforts of City of New Orleans, Sewerage & Water Board (SW&B) and Regional Transit Authority (RTA), working with White House and Congress to secure emergency and long-term recovery funding for public, residential, and commercial infrastructure repairs and enhancements, *Go Zone Act* and other economic development incentive programs to stimulate investment in key City recovery areas.

Executive Counsel to the Mayor, 2003 – 2005

Advised Mayor regarding various business, intergovernmental, and community matters. Drafted executive orders and administrative rules. Led negotiation of finance and construction documents regarding capital improvements to city infrastructure and facilities.

ADAMS AND REESE, LLP New Orleans, LA

Attorney, 1999 - 2003

Facilitated corporate reorganization of Harrah's New Orleans Casino, redesigning corporate diversity program. Represented Bollinger Shipyards Inc. in acquisition of maritime vessel repair yards in Texas and Louisiana. Represented local, regional, and national clients in tax, real estate, energy, general commercial and corporate governance matters.

**ACADEMIC &
COMMUNITY
SERVICE**

**JOHN MERCER LANGSTON BLACK MALE LAW FACULTY
WRITING WORKSHOP**

- *Member* – New Scholars Program Planning Committee, 2019 – Present
- *Member* - National Planning Committee, 2014 – Present

UNIFORM LAW COMMISSION

- *Observer* – LLC Protected Series Drafting Committee, 2016 - 2017

**SOUTHEAST/SOUTHWEST PEOPLE OF COLOR
LEGAL SCHOLARSHIP CONFERENCE**

- *Member* - Executive Planning Committee, 2014 – Present

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER

- *Lead Facilitator* – SULC | Facebook Level Up HBCU Initiative, 2019 – Present
- *Lead Planner* – SULC | Louisiana Department of Insurance | University of Connecticut Insurance Law Conference, Spring 2019
- *Chancellor's Designee* – Louisiana Statewide Business Court Task Force, Fall 2019
- *Chair* – Grade Appeals Board, 2019 - 2022
- *Vice Chair* – Code of Student Conduct Appeals Board, 2019 – 2022
- *Member* – Faculty Appointment, Retention, Promotion and Tenure, 2021 - Present
- *Member* – Academic Affairs Committee, 2019 - Present
- *Member* – Lecture Series Committee, 2019 - 2022

**ACADEMIC &
COMMUNITY
SERVICE
(CONT'D)**

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER (CONT'D)

- *Member* – Performance After Graduation Committee, 2019 - 2022
- *Member* – Faculty Development Committee, 2018 - 2022
- *Member* – Foreign Studies Committee, 2018 - 2022
- *Member* – Intellectual Property Committee, 2018 - 2022
- *Member* – Strategic Planning and Institutional Effectiveness Committee, 2018 - 2022

ST. THOMAS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

- *Guest Lecturer* – Introduction to Legal Skills Program, Summer 2017, Summer 2016
- *Moderator* – BLSA “Pathways to Partnership” Lunch and Learn, Spring 2017
- *Coordinator* – U.S. Presidential Miami Gardens Visit, Fall 2016

ARIZONA SUMMIT LAW SCHOOL

- *Liaison to the State Bar of Arizona Tax Law Section Executive Council*, 2015-2016
- *Member* - Academic Standards Committee, 2015-2016, 2013
- *Chair* - Diversity Committee, 2014-2015
- *Keynote Speaker* - Arizona Summit Law School Diversity Day, 2014
- *Alumni Affairs Liaison*, 2013
- *Dean's Representative to the Arizona State Bar Association Board of Governors*, 2013
- *Member* - Introduction to Transactional Practice Curriculum Design Workgroup, 2013
- *Member* - Second and Third Year Program Curriculum Design Committee, 2013
- *Member* - Subcommittee on Fundamental and Integrated Courses, 2013

NEW ORLEANS REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

- *Member* - Board of Commissioners, 2009 - 2012
- *Member* - Executive Committee, 2009 - 2012

AMERICAN RED CROSS/SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA CHAPTER

- *Member* - Executive Committee, 2001 - 2004
- *Chair* - Bylaws Committee, 2002 - 2003

YOUNG LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

- *Project Leader* - Academies of Entrepreneurship (Tulane University Levy-Rosenblum Institute for Entrepreneurship), 2000 - 2003
- *Member* – DiverCity, 2001 – 2002

**BAR
ADMISSIONS**

LOUISIANA & WISCONSIN (1999)

ALL LOUISIANA FEDERAL COURTS (1999)

U.S. DISTRICT COURT, WESTERN DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN (1999)

REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST