

MARGARET B. YORK

P.O. Box 117; South Royalton, Vermont 05068 • (802) 831-1500 • myork@vermontlaw.edu

BAR ADMISSION

Vermont, Admitted in 2015.

Memberships

- Vermont Bar Association
- Windham County Bar Association
- American Bar Association
- National Lawyers Guild
- Animal Legal Defense Fund

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

South Royalton Legal Clinic at Vermont Law School, South Royalton, VT, *Staff Attorney & Assistant Professor*, 2020–present.

- Represents clients through the Children First! Legal Advocacy Project and the Domestic Violence Project at the South Royalton Legal Clinic. Provides legal representation to children in high-conflict family law cases and to victims of domestic violence in divorce, parentage, and Relief From Abuse proceedings in Windsor, Orange, and Washington Counties. Supervises and mentors Vermont Law School students as they work on these active cases, providing substantive family law instruction.

York Law, Guilford, VT, *Solo Practitioner, LGBTQ Law, Juvenile Law, & Nonprofit Law*, 2016–present.

- Assists private clients in creating known donor contracts, obtaining second parent adoptions, parentage orders, legal name changes, and guardianships. Provides additional community assistance as needed, including taking pro-bono/low-bono juvenile cases at the Court's request. Working by contract with various nonprofits.

Windham Law, PLC, Brattleboro, VT, *Associate Attorney*, 2018.

- Associate in established General Service law firm, focusing on family matters, parentage, divorce, custody disputes, LGBTQ legal issues, and relief from abuse. Presented Continuing Legal Education (CLE) lecture on Vermont's new Parentage Law.

Mercy For Animals, Los Angeles, CA, *Staff Attorney*, 2017–2018

- Remote, full-time staff attorney facilitating undercover investigations on factory farms. Responsible for providing legal support to the investigations department by conducting necessary research into state, federal, and international laws and regulations and addressing any legal issues arising during the course of investigations; assist in the organization's requests for criminal prosecutions of animal abusers by reviewing investigative footage and field notes, drafting legal petitions, meeting with counsel and law enforcement; witness and trial preparation; media, public speaking, and law school lectures.

Office of the Defender General, Brattleboro, VT, *Juvenile Defense Attorney*, 2016–2017.

- Contract through the Vermont Defender General's Office to handle the juvenile caseload in Windham County, including abuse and neglect cases, delinquency proceedings, children in need of supervision, modification of orders, termination of parental rights, and miscellaneous proceedings. Handled a docket consisting of 128 cases at a time. Worked directly with child clients.

Kramer & Vangel, PC, Brattleboro, VT, *Associate Attorney*, 2015–2016.

- Managed all aspects of a diverse caseload including criminal defense work, landlord/tenant matters, personal injury, real estate, and probate matters. Counseled clients and negotiated with opposing counsel. Appeared in both criminal and civil court.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE & INTERESTS

Vermont Law School, South Royalton, VT, *Assistant Professor*, 2020–present.

- Assistant family law professor in the South Royalton Legal Clinic. Seminar and project-based learning.

Neighborhood Schoolhouse, Brattleboro, VT, *Teacher*, 2019.

- Teaching Humanities to middle school students while simultaneously operating my legal practice.

Teaching Interests: Family Law, Juvenile Law, LGBTQ Law, Probate Matters, Research and Writing, Legal Clinics.

PUBLICATIONS

- When It's Apparent You're a Parent: Understanding Vermont's New Recognition of De Facto Parentage, *Brattleboro Reformer*, September 26, 2018.
- Legal Considerations for LGBTQ Families, *Brattleboro Reformer*, August 5, 2018.
- Progressive Stagnation: How Vermont's Laws Provide Uncertainty for Children of Same-Sex Couples, *Vermont Bar Journal*, Winter 2017.

EDUCATION

Vermont Law School, South Royalton, Vermont

Juris Doctor, *magna cum laude*, May 2015

- National Moot Court Competition: Closing Argument, *first place*; Legislative Drafting, *best bill & fact sheet*; Lobbying, *finalist*
- Law Review: Associate Editor.
- Student Organizations: National Lawyers Guild, Alliance (LGBT group), Student Animal Legal Defense Fund.
- Research Assistant: Implementing the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child: Article 3, Best Interests Standard.
- Visiting Student: Lewis & Clark Law School, Portland, Oregon, 2013–2014.
- Summer Study Abroad: Worked with magistrate judges and local attorneys on criminal issues in Nairobi, Kenya.

Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park, California

Bachelor of Arts, *cum laude*, December 2010

- Double Major: Women's and Gender Studies, *with distinction* & Liberal Studies (Hutchins School), *with distinction*.
- Teaching Assistant: "Critical Thinking," "English 5," "Literacy, Language & Pedagogy."
- Research & Editing Assistant: *Routledge History of Childhood in the Western World*; *Project Censored Top 25 Censored Stories*.
- Study Abroad: Capitol Normal University, Beijing, China; Wuhan Finance College, Wuhan, China; Ibaraki University, Ibaraki, Japan; Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia.

STUDENT/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Speaking Engagements

- Lecturer, Careers in Law for Social Justice Advocates, Sonoma State University, 2019.
- Presenter, Offering a CLE for Windham County Attorneys on Vermont's new Parentage Law, 2018.
- Panelist, LGBTQ issues in Vermont at Rural Pride, hosted by the National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR), 2018.
- Lecturer, LGBTQ and Parentage Issues in Vermont, 2018.

-
- Lecturer, Farmed Animal Law & Lawyering, Vermont Law School, 2018.
 - Lecturer, Canadian Farmed Animal Law at Windsor Law School in Ontario, Canada, 2017.

Board Involvement

- Youth Services, serving at-risk youth in Brattleboro, Vermont, 2018–2019.
- Groundworks Collaborative, meeting basic needs with dignity and respect in Brattleboro Vermont, 2018–2019.

Service

- Volunteer Interviewer, 1L Mock Interview Program at VLS in 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2020.
- Volunteer, Out in the Open (LGBTQ+), Women’s Freedom Center, and The Root Social Justice Center in Brattleboro, Vermont.
- Coach, National Law Competition at Harvard Law School (student awarded second place), 2016.
- Organizer, law symposiums 2012, 2013, 2015.
- Undergraduate Teaching Assistant, 2009 and 2010.