

Vita
Sandra (Sandy) Bowers Self, J.D.

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POSITION: Director of Legal Studies and Associate Professor of Political Science
Hardin-Simmons University

EDUCATION:

Texas Tech University School of Law
Doctorate of Jurisprudence, May 1986

The University of Texas at Austin
Bachelor of Journalism, August 1983

The University of Colorado at Boulder
August 1979 thru May 1981

LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS:

Licensed to practice law by the State Bar of Texas

Licensed to practice law in the Federal Northern District of Texas; The Fifth
Circuit Court of Appeals; and, the United States Supreme Court

Board Certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization in Criminal Law (*inactive*)

PUBLICATIONS AND PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS:

Prepared textbook review for publisher Thomson/Wadsworth: *Criminal Evidence Principles and Cases 5th Edition*, by Thomas J. Gardner & Terry M. Anderson. Spring 2005.

American Association of University Women Membership Tea:

Speaker – *The Nineteenth Amendment*

Fall 2006

Advanced Family Law Seminar:

Speaker/Presenter - *Direct and Cross-Examination of Expert Witnesses in the Wake of Daubert v. Merrell Dow Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*

Advanced Criminal Law Seminar:

Speaker/Presenter –*Preparing for and Passing the Texas Legal Specialization Exam*

Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services Annual Meeting:

Speaker/Presenter – *Termination of Parental Rights: Trial Tips, Tricks, and Traps*

Prosecution of Child Abuse Cases, Workshop for Child Abuse Professionals:

Speaker/Presenter – *Shaken Baby Syndrome: Evidentiary Considerations and Concerns*

TDPRS Special Litigation Unit Annual Meeting/Workshop:

Speaker/Presenter – *Voir Dire in Termination of Parental Rights Trials: How to Select the Best Possible Jury for Your Case*

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Hardin-Simmons University

Director of Legal Studies and Associate Professor of Political Science: since 2003

Adjunct Professor: 2001

Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services: 1999-2003

Attorney: Special Litigation Unit

Represented the Department in complex litigation seeking termination of parental rights in cases involving abuse and neglect of children.

Special Prosecutor, Lamb County, Texas: 1998

Successfully prosecuted a capital murder case which occurred in Littlefield.

Law Offices of Sandy Self: 1998

Private practice consisting of criminal law; family law, including child custody and divorce; contracts; real estate; juvenile law; business litigation; First Amendment and privacy issues; dog mauling; wills and trusts. Experience includes pursuing a defamation and invasion of privacy case in federal court against a major television network; and appellate experience in the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. Also includes filing a Writ of Certiorari in the Supreme Court of the United States.

First Assistant Criminal District Attorney, Taylor County: 1987 – 1997

Prosecuted in excess of 100 jury trials, non-jury trials, motions to revoke probation, and suppression hearings, in all Taylor County Criminal Courts. Including but not limited to: Capital Murder, Murder, Manslaughter, Sexual Assault, Indecency with a Child, Kidnapping, Robbery, Burglary, Theft, Perjury, Forgery, Welfare Fraud, Credit Card Abuse, Escape, Assault, Possession/Sale and Distribution of Controlled Substances, and Driving While Intoxicated. Evaluated cases and issued arrest warrants on behalf of the following law enforcement agencies: the Abilene, Merkel, and Tye Police Departments, Taylor County Sheriff's Office, the Department of Public Safety, the West Texas Interlocal Drug Task Force. Conducted Grand Jury proceedings. Briefed cases and presented oral argument in the Eastland Court of Appeals, including two cases before the Court of Criminal Appeals; a capital murder appeal and a drug related appeal.

Associate Attorney, Law Offices of O. Henry Young: 1986 – 1987

General office practice and civil litigation.

Associate Attorney, Vial, Hamilton, Koch & Knox:

General civil litigation with an emphasis on insurance defense.

COURSES TAUGHT AT HARDIN-SIMMONS UNIVERSITY:

American Government	Law School Admissions Test Preparation
State and Local Government	Scope and Methods of Political Science
Legal Systems and Processes	Introduction to Law
Criminal Law	Modern Legal and Political Thought
Moot Court Team Workshop	Legal Ethics
Constitutional Law	
Evidence	

HONORS AND AWARDS:

Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services Legal Division:
“Firefighter Award
Abilene Young Lawyers Association: Outstanding Young Lawyer

PROFESSIONAL/CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS AND ACTIVITIES:

Current

Abilene Civil Service Commission:	Board Member and Current Chairman
HSU Grade Appeal and Academic Misconduct Committee:	Chair and 2 nd -Year Member
HSU Safety, Accessibility, and Health Committee:	2 nd -Year Member
American Association of University Women:	Member
Southwest Assn. of Pre-Law Advisors (SWAPLA):	Member
Texas Undergraduate Moot Court Association (TUMCA):	Advisory Board Member
Day Nursery of Abilene:	Board of Directors, Member of the Human Resources Committee
Abilene South Junior/Senior Baseball League:	Player Agent/All Star Team Coordinator
Power Shack:	Certified Fitness Instructor
Abilene High School Booster Club:	Member
Lincoln Middle School PTA:	Member
Junior League of Abilene:	Sustaining Member
Kappa Kappa Gamma Alumni Assn.:	Member
Abilene Panhellenic Association:	Member

Previous

Abilene Police Dpt. Citizens Academy:	2005 Graduate
HSU Adopt-A-School Committee:	Member
Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Abilene:	Board of Directors
Better Business Bureau:	Board of Directors
Noah Project:	Board of Directors & Advisory Board
Teen Court:	Judge and Trainer
Taylor County Child Advocacy Center:	Project Chairman

Junior League of Abilene:	President; Community Vice-President; Provisional Chairman; Chairman of Public Affairs Committee.
Junior Leagues of Texas:	Treasurer
HSU Moot Court Teams:	Coach and tournament judge
Crime Victims Crisis Center:	Instructor
DWI School for probationers:	Instructor
Abilene Bar Association:	Board of Directors
Abilene Young Lawyers:	President and Board Member
Abilene Police Academy:	Instructor
For the Children 2000:	Board Member
I am Your Child:	Mayor's planning committee
United Way of Abilene:	Chairman - Professional Division
Dixie Little League:	Board of Directors and Player Agent
Magic Mirror:	Fitness Instructor
American Association of Fitness Instructors (AFFA):	Certification
Texas Association of District and County Attorneys (TDCAA):	Member

SPECIAL STUDY, CONFERENCES, AND CONVENTIONS:

Advanced Family Law Seminar, State Bar of Texas
Advanced Criminal Law Seminar, State Bar of Texas
Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services Annual Meeting
Prosecution of Child Abuse Cases, Workshop for Child Abuse Professional
TDPRS Special Litigation Unit Annual Meeting/Workshop
Multiple Texas District and County Attorney Association Prosecution Seminars
Advanced Evidence and Discovery Seminar
Multiple Legislative Update Seminars
Advanced Civil Litigation Seminar
Association of Junior Leagues International: National Conferences/Seminars
2006 Association of Pre-Law Advisors Conference – Washington DC

RELIGIOUS AFFILIATIONS AND ACTIVITIES:

Highland Church of Christ, Abilene

PERSONAL:

Married to Charles Clark Self, III
Children: Hayden Taylor Self and Hunter Weston Self