

Sean McLernon

University of Pittsburgh School of Law
3900 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15260

LEGAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Pittsburgh School of Law, Pittsburgh, PA

Assistant Professor of Legal Writing teaching Legal Analysis & Writing: July 2026-Present

Cornell Law School, Ithaca, NY

Visiting Assistant Clinical Professor teaching Lawyering: July 2024-June 2026

Yale Law School, New Haven, CT

Adjunct Instructor teaching Intro to Legal Analysis & Writing: Aug. 2023-Oct. 2023

Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, New York, NY

Adjunct Professor teaching Lawyering & Legal Writing: Aug. 2021-May 2024

LEGAL PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

Kelley Drye & Warren LLP, New York, NY

Senior Associate: Sept. 2023-April 2024

Associate: Sept. 2017-Aug. 2023

Summer Associate: May 2016-Aug. 2016

Represented a wide range of clients in a variety of civil litigation matters, including bankruptcy, intellectual property, employment, estates, consumer class actions, and commercial contract disputes. Client successes included drafting a motion to dismiss defeating a novel statutory interpretation argument in a consumer class action case, securing total victory for large restaurant chain client; providing key contributions to a summary judgment win for multinational spirits corporation in major federal trademark lawsuit, including conducting pivotal research on likelihood of confusion factors, managing selection of supporting exhibits, and drafting evidentiary objections; and helping secure temporary restraining order for medical partnership and managed subsequent expedited discovery process before preliminary injunction hearing. Worked on several pro bono matters, including a refugee family separation case against the U.S., advising victims of police misconduct, and a Guantanamo detainee's habeas corpus challenge.

United States Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, DC

Honors Law Clerk: Sept. 2015-Nov. 2015

Drafted show cause letters to regulated entities, conducted research for departmental guidance documents and otherwise provided support to the air pollution enforcement team

Common Cause, Washington, DC

National Legal Intern: May 2015-Aug. 2015

Worked on election law and democracy issues, crafting a model campaign finance disclosure statute and drafting legal memoranda on population apportionment and other election law issues

JOURNALISM EXPERIENCE

Law360, New York, NY

Senior Reporter: June 2013-Aug. 2014

Reporter: Jan. 2012-June 2013

Directed national and global environmental news coverage, writing in-depth feature and analysis pieces on major court decisions and regulatory developments; covered breaking news on a variety of legal and policy topics and reported on high-profile trials, including the trial concerning the 2010 BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico.

York Daily Record/Sunday News, York, PA

Sports Reporter: Oct. 2007-Jun. 2009

Earned 1st-place writing awards from Pennsylvania Newspaper Association and Pennsylvania Associated Press Managing Editors while covering 200+ sports teams from 22 high schools.

Charlottesville Daily Progress, Charlottesville, VA

Copy Editor/Reporter: May 2006-Oct. 2007

Earned 1st-place writing awards from the Virginia Press Association for event coverage and sports writing portfolio while editing articles and reporting on high school and college sports.

GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCE**United States Peace Corps Response, Kingston, Jamaica**

Youth Outreach Advisor: Mar. 2011-Sept. 2011

Collaborated with youth development teams to implement projects and provided program support for Caribbean-wide youth employability/entrepreneurship initiative.

United States Peace Corps, Dungass, Niger

Municipal/Community Development Agent: July 2009-Jan. 2011

Worked with government officials in the West African state of Niger on technology training for municipal workers, created girls' athletics organization, and led sanitation education programs.

EDUCATION**Georgetown University Law Center, Washington, DC (J.D. cum laude, 2017)**

2L Law Fellow, Legal Practice Program

3L Senior Writing Fellow, Georgetown Law Writing Center

Senior Editor, Georgetown Journal on Poverty Law and Policy

University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA (B.A. History, 2006)

Dean's List Fall '02, Spring '03, Fall '04, Spring '05

Cavalier Daily Sports Editor

SELECT ARTICLES/PUBLICATIONS

Why Courts Need to Embrace Plain Language, 24 Geo. J. Poverty Law & Pol'y 381 (2017)

Searching For Climate Justice, Thinking C21, Center for 21st Century Studies, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (2014)

Supreme Court Dissents Gain Power from Twitter Tirades, Law360 (July 9, 2014)

Early Power Plan Rule Scuffle Gives EPA Peek at Main Event, Law360 (June 19, 2014)

Liability Fears, Financing Stymie EPA's Renewables Push, Law360 (May 15, 2014)

Scalia's Correction Exposes High Court's Transparency Problem, Law360 (May 6, 2014)

Hazardous Waste Rule Threatens to Expose Trade Secrets, Law360 (Feb. 7, 2014)

EPA Policy Shift Leaves Daunting Enforcement Void, Law360 (Nov. 26, 2013)