## **Curriculum Vita**

Eileen M. Blackwood, Esq. Kohn Rath Blackwood & Danon, LLP P.O. Box 340 Hinesburg, VT 05461

### **Formal Education**

September 1983 to June 1986 J.D. cum laude
Cornell Law School Ithaca, New York

September 1976 to June 1980 A.B.

Dartmouth College Hanover, New Hampshire

Special Major in Women and Education

## Licensing

Licensed by Vermont Supreme Court as attorney through June 30, 2012. License #1953

### **Legal Employment**

January 2009 to present

Attorney (Partner)

Kohn Rath Blackwood & Danon, LLP

General practice concentrating in employment, education, LGBT, non-profit, and civil rights law, estate and disability planning, and mediation.

May 1992 to present

Attorney (Shareholder/Owner)

Blackwood & Danon, P.C. Burlington, Vermont

formerly Blackwood Associates, P.C. and Blackwood and Kraynak, P.C.

general practice concentrating in employment, education, LGBT, non-profit, and civil rights law and mediation; litigation practice involves primarily state and federal civil courts and probate courts; administrative practice involves primarily Vermont Dept. of Education special education hearings.

June 1997 to present Hearing Officer

State of Vermont Occupational Safety and Health Review Board

October 1987 to May 1992 Attorney (Associate)

Paul, Frank & Collins, Inc. Burlington, Vermont general practice concentrating in employment and education law

August 1986 to August 1987 Judicial Law Clerk

The Hon. Franklin S. Billings, Jr.

U.S. District Court, District of Vermont Rutland, Vermont

researched and helped prepare opinions in many areas of federal law

June 1985 to August 1985

Perkins, Coie

Summer Associate
Seattle, Washington

primarily legal research in areas ranging from antitrust to employment to probate

June 1984 to August 1984 Student Assistant

Cornell Law School

Dean of Admissions Office Ithaca, New York

# **Other Employment**

summers, 1999-2008

University of Vermont

taught Special Education Law as Continuing Education class

fall 2004 Adjunct Professor

**Union University** 

Taught legal issues for child care directors

April 1993 to June 2007 Women's Lacrosse Official officiated high school girls' and college women's lacrosse games in Vermont and New

Hampshire as a USWLA/USL rated official.

February 1993 to June 2000 Women's Lacrosse Coach
St. Michael's College Colchester, Vermont

Assistant coach for 5 years; became co-head coach in 1997 of Division II program.

September 1980 to November 1996 Field Hockey Official

officiated high school and college field hockey games in New England and NY as

USFHA rated official.

August 1981 to June 1983 Elementary School Teacher

Randolph Center Elementary School Randolph Center, Vermont

Taught fourth and fifth grades.

January 1981 to June 1981 Elementary School Teacher

Georgia Elementary School Georgia, Vermont

Taught fifth grade.

September 1980 to January 1981 Title I-Migrant Tutor
Georgia Elementary School Georgia, Vermont

Tutored children of migrant farm workers.

summer jobs included chambermaid, farm laborer, and running a summer drug and alcohol recreation program.

### **Organizational Activities**

Member, Access to Justice Committee, fall 2010 to present

Member, United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit Committee on Admissions and Grievances, 2007 – present

Member, Vermont Commission on Judicial Operations, fall 2008 to summer 2010

Town of Williston Planning Commission member (including terms as Vice Chair and Chair), 1990 - 2002

Member, Judicial Nominating Board, February 1997-2003

Member, Plain English Civil Jury Instructions Committee, 2004-2008

Member, Early Neutral Evaluator Panel, U.S. District Court, 1994 - present

Member, Vermont Professional Responsibility Board Hearing Panel, 2002 - 2008

Member, Northern Lake Champlain Advisory Committee, 2004-05

#### Vermont Bar Association

President, Sept. 2009 – Sept. 2010 (also served one year as President-Elect and one year as Past President)

Board of Managers member, 2004 - 2011

Pro Bono Committee Co-Chair, 2007 - present

Women's Division member, 1987 – present

Former Vice Chair, Chair & CLE Committee Chair

Employment Law Committee, 1996 - present

Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee, 2001 – present

Disability Law Committee member, 2001 – present

Roundtable on the Profession, 2007- present

Continuing Legal Education Committee member, 1990-2000

Ad Hoc Committee on Gender Bias in the Legal Profession, 1994-95

Ad Hoc Committee on Professionalism, 2008

Samara Foundation of Vermont, Board member (including Secretary), 1998-2003

### U. S. Lacrosse, Inc., various positions, 2001-2007

Women's Division Executive Committee At-Large member

Women's Division Safety Education Committee Chair

Upper New England Region, Officials Council Chair

Vermont Chapter, Local Rules Interpreter

## American Civil Liberties Union of Vermont

Cooperating Attorney, 1987 - present

Formerly Board member, including Vice President

Child Care Resource & Referral Center, Williston, Vermont Board member, approx. 1988-1992

## Bar and professional associations:

*Vermont Bar Association (see above)* 

American Bar Association

Member, 1988 to present

Chittenden County Bar Association Member, fall 1987 – present

Rutland County Bar Association Honorary Member, fall 2009

Vermont Employment Lawyers Association Member 1993 – present

Vermont Volunteer Lawyers Project

Member (unsure of starting date) to present

Education Law Association Member, 2005 - present

Vermont Association for Justice

Member, (unsure of starting date) to present

National Employment Lawyers Association Member until 2007

Vermont School Board Attorney's Association Member, (including President), 1987-92

Vermont Businesses for Social Responsibility

Member, (unsure of starting date) to present

Lake Champlain Regional Chamber of Commerce Member, (unsure of starting date) to present

#### **Other Activities**

U.S. District Court for the District of Vermont Early Neutral Evaluation Panel serve as early neutral evaluator for cases filed in federal court

Vermont Superior Courts mediation panels serve as mediator for civil cases

#### Private mediator

provide private mediation services, particularly in employment-related disputes

#### Licensed auctioneer

volunteer as auctioneer for charity auctions

#### **Publications**

Revised fall 2010, Primary Author, *Employment Law Section*, *Vermont Guide to Health Care Law*, project of Vermont Medical Society, <a href="http://www.vtmd.org/employment-law">http://www.vtmd.org/employment-law</a>.

Summer 2006, Author, "Special Education: Will the "Improvements" Decrease Protections for Parents and Students?" Vol. 32, No. 2, Vermont Bar Journal 52.

June 2002, Author, "Discipline for Students with Disabilities: Ensuring Both School Safety and Access to Education," Vol. 28, No. 2, Vermont Bar Journal 44.

July 1995, Co-Editor, "Gender and the Legal Profession: Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Gender Bias in the Legal Profession", A Project of the Women's Section of the Vermont Bar Association and the Vermont Bar Association.

Spring 1992, Author, "The Reasonable Woman in Sexual Harassment Law and the Case for Subjectivity," 16 Vermont Law Review 1005 (1992).

1991, Co-Author, "Disabilities and Employment in Vermont: A Guide to State and Federal Laws Affecting Employers and Employees," pamphlet published by the Vermont Bar Association Young Lawyers Section and The Vermont Chapter, National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

November 1985, Author, "Race as a Factor in Child Custody and Adoption Disputes: Palmore v. Sidoti," 71 Cornell Law Review 209 (1985).