



JAMES W. SPENCER

james@brothershenderson.com

EDUCATION

Seattle University School of Law

Juris Doctor, cum laude

May 2005

The Evergreen State College

Bachelor of Arts with an emphasis in writing and media

June 1995

EXPERIENCE

Brothers & Henderson, P.S.

Associate Attorney

August 2016 – Present

Deliver legal services to individuals, families, and fiduciaries in trusts and estates, benefits planning, guardianships, and related litigation.

Seattle University School of Law

Adjunct Professor

January 2012 – May 2017

Developed and delivered curriculum to graduate law students in Community Property, Law Practice Planning & Management, and Law Firm Business Planning, a cross-disciplinary course in law practice and entrepreneurship. Developed and maintained relationships with community professionals and legal marketplace service providers to provide third-party perspective to law practice. Mentored and advised students in their academic and professional pursuits. Coordinated all elements of curriculum delivery, including use of Microsoft office suite and Internet-based course management applications, as well as student evaluation, including implementation of systems to monitor participation and performance of students.

Edmonds Community College

Adjunct Professor

January 2016 – December 2016

Developed and delivered curriculum to paralegal students in Real Estate Transactions, Landlord Tenant Law, Real Estate and Property Law, and Community Property. Mentored and advised students in their academic and professional pursuits. Delivered curriculum through technology platforms including the Microsoft Office suite and Canvas course management applications.

Spectra Law PS

Principal

September 2012 – August 2016

Implemented evolving, PC-based technology to deliver quality legal services to individuals and families in real estate, consumer protection, and trusts and estates, and to entrepreneurs in business entity selection, formation, and general counsel representation, including lease and contract drafting, review and negotiation. Managed busy practice and outreach calendar, negotiated and procured services from vendors, and developed marketing and client outreach with outside contractors. Supervised attorney staff and provided overall firm management and oversight. Developed and delivered curricula to other legal practitioners through bar-sponsored CLEs in practice areas related to estate planning, community property, and LGBT law.

The Spencer Law Group PS

Principal

October 2010 – August 2012

Led a team of four attorneys and one staff to deliver legal services to an eclectic mix of individuals, families, and small businesses. Provided a plug-and-play office environment for other practitioners, including vendor and services management. Managed outreach and practice calendar, along with marketing processes including web development, print advertisement design, and social media outreach.

Spencer Anderson & Buhr, PLLC

Managing Partner

November 2005 - September 2010

Developed firm as a managing partner, including marketing, networking, business & professional development, client management, and vendor relations. Served a broad spectrum of clients in diverse matters including landlord-tenant, property, consumer protection, small business, and family law matters. Supervised attorney and non-attorney staff of thirteen. Represented organization to outside interests.

Seattle University School of Law, Ronald A. Peterson Law Clinic

Rule 9 Legal Intern, Civil Practice Clinic

August 2004 - May 2005

Represented a low-income client as plaintiff in a civil case regarding predatory lending practices. Managed, with intern partner and supervising attorney, all aspects of pre-trial litigation: client interviews and correspondence, pleading, interrogatories and requests for production, pretrial motions, and settlement negotiations.

Seattle University School of Law, Academic Resource Center

Teaching Assistant

September 2003 - May 2005

Created lessons and learning materials on discrete areas of property law and taught the lessons to groups of six to sixty students every three weeks. Wrote hypothetical property law questions and critiqued student responses. Helped students understand complex doctrine through group and individual counseling.

Seattle University School of Law, Ronald A. Peterson Law Clinic

Legal Intern, Trusts & Estates Clinic

January 2004 - May 2004

Developed an estate plan for a low-income client, including client interviews and correspondence, drafting of durable powers of attorney, a health care directive, and a will.

Bastyr University

Assistant Director of Admissions

July 1999 - January 2004

Grew enrollment in new undergraduate programs, including an increase from 17 Bachelor of Science in Psychology students in 2000 to 40 students in 2003. Recruited six candidates to the first Doctor of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine class in the United States. Worked closely with Master of Science in Nutrition program faculty to hit record enrollment and become the most selective program at the institution. Managed migration of over one-hundred students from a local acupuncture school into Bastyr programs to minimize the interruption of their education when that school closed its doors, working with the students, the registrars of both institutions, financial aid, faculty, academic standards, and local accrediting bodies. Conducted local and national recruiting.

The Evergreen State College

Coordinator of Community College Relations

October 1997 - July 1999

Conducted local and national recruiting and advising for prospective students. Marketed institutional programs to community college faculty, advisors, and students.

PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

The Dialog Gap: Helping Clients Understand the Creative Process that is Estate Planning Seattle University School of Law Just Enough to be Dangerous CLE	2016
Planning for Blended Families Issues KCBA Personal Estate Planning for the 99% CLE	2015
Community Property Concerns in Guardianships KCBA Advanced Guardianship Issues CLE	2015
Get Your Sh*t Together: Presentation with Chanel Reynolds Solid Ground Public Presentation	2014
Legal Considerations for Gay & Lesbian Servicemembers LAMP Admission to Practice Rule 8(g) Training Program/CLE	2012, 2013, 2014
Almost Equal: Protecting Same-Sex Families in Today's Legal Patchwork BECU Trust Company Public Presentation	2011
Basic Estate Planning for Unmarried Couples Revisions to Legal Voice Publication	2011
The Ethics of the Half-Hour Consultation: A Discussion of the Rules of Professional Conduct In the Context of Community Legal Clinics GLBT Law from A to Z: Issue Spotting for Pro Se Legal Clinic Clients CLE	2010
Estate Planning for Domestic Partners Seminar BECU Trust Company Public Presentation	2010
The Estate Planning, Probate and Tax Implications of Washington's Domestic Partnership Law Seattle University Domestic Partnership Law CLE	2009
The Ins and Outs of Starting Up (and Growing) Your Own (LGBT) Law Firm National LGBT Bar Association Annual Career Fair & Conference	2009
'Til Death Do Us Part – Washington's Domestic Partnership Registry Gay City University	2008
Washington's Enhanced Domestic Partnership Registry Private Presentation	2008
Estate Planning Basics for Same-Sex Couples CAMP 2007	2007

PROFESSIONAL AND VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Greater Seattle Business Association <i>Member</i>	2006 - present
Washington State Bar Association <i>Member</i>	2005 - present
Three Dollar Bill Cinema <i>Board Member, Secretary</i>	2013 - 2017
Washington State Future Business Leaders of America <i>Board Member, Chairman</i>	2015 - 2016
Washington Trails Association <i>Volunteer Trail Crew Member</i>	2005, 2013, 2014
Pride Foundation <i>Grant Selection Committee</i>	2010, 2011
QLaw Foundation <i>Board Member</i>	2009 - 2011
Washington State Bar Association Professionalism Committee <i>Committee Member</i>	2009 - 2010
Leadership Tomorrow Class of 2009 <i>Coach</i>	2008 - 2009
Leadership Tomorrow Class of 2008 <i>Graduate</i>	2007 - 2008
Seattle University School of Law Outlaws <i>Board Member</i>	2002 - 2005
Seattle University School of Law Academic Conduct Board <i>Board Member</i>	2001 - 2005
Inter-College Relations Commission, Washington Council on High School/College Relations <i>Representative</i>	1997 - 1999, 2001 - 2002
State Board of Community & Technical Colleges, Transfer by Major Program <i>Steering Committee Member</i>	1998 - 1999