

**Sarah J. Orr**

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**EDUCATION**

**University of Wisconsin Law School**

**Madison, WI**

Juris Doctor

December 1993

Dean's List; Project Assistant Merit Award

Bar Admissions: United States Supreme Court, 2001; New York, 1995

Wisconsin and U.S. District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin, 1994

**University of Wisconsin**

**Madison, WI**

Bachelor of Science, Secondary Education, *with Distinction*

May 1987

English Major, Spanish Minor

**EXPERIENCE**

**University of Wisconsin Law School**

**Madison, WI**

Assistant Clinical Professor, Director of Consumer Law Clinic

May 2010 - Present

Clinical Instructor, Director of Consumer Law Clinic

May 2008 – May 2010

Direct the activities of the Consumer Law Clinic, including teaching and supervising students in the areas of fraud and misrepresentation, unfair trade practices, mandatory arbitration, high-cost credit, illegal debt collection practices and foreclosure. Create timely curriculum for discussion in weekly class sessions. Oversee case acceptance process to select cases that meet clinical legal education goals and advance consumer rights. Hold regular private supervision sessions guided by individual student's agenda. Supervise students in representing clients in individual and class-action cases. Engage in litigation as cases dictate, including drafting pleadings, conducting discovery, briefing motions, appearing at hearings and representing clients at trial. Direct free drop-in legal clinic in which students and volunteer attorneys assist homeowners in foreclosure. Partner with Department of Justice and private attorneys as appropriate. Serve as *amicus curiae* on consumer protection issues. Advocate for Wisconsin consumers in the legislative process. Supervise students in community outreach and education efforts. Convene quarterly meetings of the Consumer Law Clinic Advisory Board. Serve on Steering Committee of Dane County Foreclosure Prevention Taskforce.

**Coalition of Wisconsin Aging Groups**

**Madison, WI**

Managing Attorney, Legal Services Department

April 2007 – May 2008

Supervising Attorney, Elderly Benefit Specialist Program

July 1998 – April 2007

Held positions of increasing responsibility. Established policies and procedures to ensure quality legal assistance to older persons across the state. Hired, trained and supervised staff attorneys and non-attorney advocates. Represented clients in administrative appeals and cases requiring judicial review. Maintained expertise in federal and state administrative law, public benefit programs, housing and consumer issues. Co-authored brief in Medicaid case on appeal to United States Supreme Court and prepared lead counsel for oral argument. Served as member of state-level work groups to implement regulatory changes and improve access to benefits and services for older people. Served as speaker at numerous Wisconsin elder law seminars, national conferences and community education events.

**The Family Center**  
Senior Staff Attorney

**New York, NY**  
February 1996 – July 1998

Developed and implemented innovative multi-disciplinary approach to family law matters for terminally ill parents seeking to establish future custody arrangements for their children. Trained and supervised legal staff. Counseled and represented clients in court actions. Prepared advance health care directives for clients throughout New York City. Conducted regular training sessions for attorneys and non-attorneys in the field of permanency planning.

**Law Office of Daniel P. Dunn**  
Law Clerk

**Madison, WI**  
August 1993 – February 1994

Researched and prepared memoranda, motions and briefs on a variety of issues including juvenile law and evidentiary matters.

**Hon. Gerald C. Nichol, Dane County Circuit Court**  
Judicial Intern

**Madison, WI**  
Summer 1993

Prepared draft memoranda and judicial opinions in areas of domestic relations, juvenile law and procedural issues.

**Center for Public Representation**  
Legal Intern and Project Assistant

**Madison, WI**  
May 1992 – June 1993

Researched and drafted successful class action certification brief. Researched and co-wrote appellate brief seeking expansion of the scope of the Wisconsin Consumer Act. Received Project Assistant Merit Award for outstanding performance.

**Madison Metropolitan School District**  
English Teacher

**Madison, WI**  
September 1987 – June 1991

Taught English at all secondary education levels throughout Madison schools, including advanced literature and writing courses.

### **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Charter Member, Dane County Foreclosure Prevention Taskforce	April 2009 - Present
Chair-Elect; Chair, State Bar of Wisconsin Elder Law Section Board of Directors	July 2006 – May 2008
Faculty, State Bar of Wisconsin Annual Continuing Legal Education Seminars	1998 – April 2008
University of Wisconsin Law School Economic Justice Institute Advisory Board Member, Consumer Law Litigation Clinic	June 2000 – April 2008

### **VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE**

Mock Trial Coach, LaFollette High School	2004 and 2005 Competitions
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