

Nina B. Couch
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March 7, 2022

JoAnne Sweeny, Ph.D.
Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Professor of Law
Brandeis School of Law
University of Louisville
Louisville, Kentucky, 40292
joanne.sweeny@louisville.edu.

Dear Dean Sweeny,

I am a 2013 graduate of the Louis D. Brandeis School of Law at the University of Louisville and an attorney licensed to practice law in Kentucky. I am also an adjunct professor at the University of Louisville College of Business, teaching commercial law and introduction to taxation. I would like to be considered for the visiting associate professor position.

I graduated from Bellarmine University with a degree in accounting, and then worked at Ernst & Young, LLP in their healthcare auditing division and tax department. Later, I co-founded Newmarket Financial Mortgage Corporation and operated as the Chief Financial Officer.

Following graduation from law school, I worked as an associate at Frost Brown Todd in their regulated business practice group. I researched and wrote about fiduciary duty issues for corporate directors, drafted transactional documents, including corporate governance documents, purchase agreements, closing documents, employment contracts, and severance agreements. I worked closely with other lawyers to identify complex legal issues and develop legal arguments. I also assisted in identifying copyright and trademark due diligence issues and assisted in drafting recording contracts.

Since 2015, I have been in private practice. I am a partner at Taylor Couch, PLLC, where my practice is primarily focused on various tort and business law issues. I also litigate matters related to consumer protection. In my practice, I have had many opportunities to advance legal theories and research and write legal briefs on emerging areas of law and areas of unsettled law.

In addition to managing my law practice, in January 2022, I began teaching at the University of Louisville College of Business as an adjunct professor. I am currently teaching commercial law and introduction to taxation.

The practice of law has given me a deeper understanding of the value of my law school education. In law school, my professors and peers helped me form a strong foundation of professional ethics, justice, fellowship, and intellectual curiosity, which have been instrumental in my legal career. In law school, I learned how to form legal mentorships and to become a thoughtful and progressive student of the law. One of my goals as a law professor, would be to help develop this strong foundation in future lawyers.

I would appreciate the opportunity to speak with you about the visiting associate professor position. I can be contacted at 502-550-4933 or by e-mail at ninabccouch@gmail.com. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,



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EDUCATION

University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law, Louisville, Kentucky
Juris Doctor, Magna Cum Laude, December 2013 (Licensed in Kentucky)

- Book Awards in Constitutional Law I (Fall 2012), Medicine, Bioethics and the Law (Spring 2013), Negotiable Instruments (Fall 2013), and Selected Problems in Civil Procedure (Fall 2013); Member of the Women's Law Caucus (2011-2013) and the Student Health Law Association (2011-2013); Public Service Intern for the Kentucky Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty (December 2012); Outstanding Graduate Award (2013); Brandeis Honor Society (2013).

Bellarmino University, Louisville, Kentucky
Bachelor of Arts, Accounting, December 2003

- Vice President of Professional Events, Bellarmine University Accounting Association (2003)

CERTIFICATIONS

Harvard Law School, Program on Negotiation, Cambridge, Massachusetts
Certificate, Mediating Disputes, Fall 2021

Northwestern University, Chicago, Illinois
Certificate, Mediation Skills Training, Spring 2021

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Louisville College of Business, Louisville, Kentucky, ***Adjunct Professor***, January 2022 - present

- Teaching Commercial Law and Introduction to Taxation classes.

PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

Taylor Couch, PLLC, Louisville, Kentucky, ***Member***, February 2016 - Present

- Manage law practice focused on trial practice of personal injury and consumer protection claims. Assist clients with business organization and business litigation.

Couch Law, PLLC, Louisville, Kentucky, ***Member***, February 2015 - January 2016

- Drafted documents, pleadings, motions, and briefs for litigation. Drafted documents for business transactions.

Frost Brown Todd LLC, Louisville, Kentucky, ***Associate in Regulated Business Practice Group (Banking & Franchise)***, March 2014 - January 2015

- Performed due diligence for mergers and acquisitions, researched and advised on issues regarding fiduciary duties of directors; drafted purchase agreements and other closing documents, researched bank regulatory issues, drafted and filed bank regulatory applications, evaluated bank procedures for compliance, updated franchise disclosure documents for franchisors, drafted corporate governance documents, drafted SEC filings for public bank, conducted internal investigation for litigation matter.

Seiller Waterman LLC, Louisville, Kentucky, ***Summer Law Clerk***, May 2013 - August 2013

- Drafted pleadings and motions for litigation as well as assisted with discovery. Drafted transactional documents. Performed legal research and writing of memoranda for litigation, intellectual property (trademark and copyright), real estate, bankruptcy, tax and estate practices.

Churchill Downs Inc., Louisville, Kentucky, *Legal Intern*, January 2013 - April 2013

- Performed legal research and writing of memoranda concerning current law and pending legislation, including such topics as SEC requirements, electronic discovery, ADA, FMLA, and the Bank Secrecy Act. Assisted with trademark dilution issues, drafted cease & desist letters and monitor use of trademarks in social media, web advertising and domain name usage. Monitored and researched copyright issues. Performed due diligence for litigation related issues, drafted contracts for review and research law for contract matters.

BUSINESS EXPERIENCE

Rosa Mosaic & Tile Company, Louisville, Kentucky, *Project Coordinator*, January 2010 - May 2011

- Managed commercial construction projects such as the KFC Yum! Center Arena. Estimated cost of commercial construction projects by utilizing architectural drawings.

Newmarket Financial Mortgage, Louisville, Kentucky, *Chief Financial Officer*, May 2006 - Dec. 2009

- Established and executed the company's business plan and conducted internal audits. Planned for the annual external audit, payroll, and all accounting systems and processes. Managed local and federal tax filings and filings for state licensing for the company.

Ernst & Young, LLP, Louisville, Kentucky, *Staff Accountant*, January 2004 - January 2005

- Worked in the Assurance and Advisory Business Services and Tax Compliance Practice. Validated balance sheet accounts, such as inventory, cash, and receivables for health care audits. Interacted with client accounting, finance and legal departments.

ASSOCIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

- Brandeis Inn of Court, Barrister
- Kentucky Justice Association Women's Law Caucus; Secretary (2022-2023); Treasurer (2020-2021)
- Kentucky Justice Association Leadership Academy Graduate (2019)
- Sacred Heart Schools Board of Trustees (2016-2018); Finance Committee Chair (2017-2018)
- Legal Aid Society Apprenticeship Program (2016)
- Co-Chair for Interlude at Sacred Heart Schools (2016-2017)
- Kentucky Bar Association
- Louisville Bar Association

RECENT & UPCOMING PRESENTATIONS

- Consumer Protection Law in Kentucky, Kentucky Justice Association Continuing Legal Education (Upcoming, May 2022).
- Brandeis Panel Discussion at the University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law (August 2021).
- Getting Responsive Information Through Discovery, Kentucky Justice Association Continuing Legal Education (April 23, 2021).
- What Makes a Great Summer Law Clerk, Video Clip Presentation, University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law (April 2021).

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REFERENCES

Dean Susan Duncan

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Professor Les Abramson

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Nick Craddock

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