

Prof. Del Wright Jr.

LSU Law Center

ProfWright@lsu.edu

EDUCATION

Harvard University: The John F. Kennedy School of Government Cambridge, MA
Master in Public Policy awarded June 1997, concentration in international finance.

University of Chicago: The Law School Chicago, IL
Juris Doctor awarded June 1996.

University of Maryland College Park, MD
Bachelor of Science in psychology awarded May 1992.

ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP

Books

LEGAL ISSUES IN BLOCKCHAIN & CRYPTO – IN A NUTSHELL. West Academic Publishers (expected Fall 2025).

A SHORT AND HAPPY GUIDE TO BITCOIN, BLOCKCHAIN AND CRYPTO. West Academic Publishers (Summer 2020).

Articles

BROKEN INFRASTRUCTURE, 90 University of Missouri Kansas City Law Review 861, Vol. 90.4, (2022).

QUADRATIC VOTING AND BLOCKCHAIN GOVERNANCE, 88 University of Missouri Kansas City Law Review 475, Blockchain Symposium Issue, Vol. 88.2 (Fall 2019).

IMPROPERLY BURDENED: THE UNCERTAIN AND SOMETIMES UNFAIR APPLICATION OF TAX PENALTIES, Virginia Tax Review, Vol 35, No. 1 (Summer 2015).

BOGUS REFUNDS AND BAD PENALTIES: THE FECKLESS AND FIXABLE REFUND PENALTY SYSTEM, Akron Law Review, Vol. 48, No. 3 (Fall 2015).

FINANCIAL ALCHEMY: HOW TAX SHELTERS PROMOTERS USE FINANCIAL PRODUCTS TO BEDEVIL THE IRS (AND HOW THE IRS HELPS THEM), Arizona St. L. J., Vol. 45, Issue 2 (Summer 2013).

REACHING BEYOND ITS GRASP: THE LATEST SETBACK FOR TREASURY’S USE OF RETROACTIVE REGULATIONS TO ATTACK SON-OF-BOSS TRANSACTIONS, BNA Tax Management Real Estate Journal, Vol. 25, No. 11 (November 4, 2009).

COURSES TAUGHT (2024-2026 courses underlined)

Federal Income Taxation

Business & Personal Finance

Securities Regulation

Corporate Taxation

Partnership Tax

International Financial Regulation

Criminal Procedure

Real Estate Transactions (Practicum)

Business Associations

Business Planning

Blockchain & Crypto Law

Federal Tax Controversy & Procedure

Transactional Law Lab

Taxation of Trusts & Estates

Evidence

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

LSU Law Center

Professor of Law

July 2024 – present

- Teach upper-level tax, securities, business, and crypto courses

University of Missouri -Kansas City

Professor of Law

Kansas City, MO

August 2017 – May 2024

- Selected to Fulbright Specialist Program
- Former Director: China Law Program
- Transactional Team Coach
 - ★ Transactional LawMeet National Champion – 2018
 - ★ Transactional LawMeet Best Brief – 2021

Valparaiso University Law School

Professor of Law

Valparaiso, IN

September 2010 – July 2017

- Publish scholarship on tax and financial legal issues
- Teach upper-level tax, finance, business and litigation law courses

Step toe & Johnson LLP

Associate: Business Solutions Group

Washington, DC

January 2008 – June 2010

- Advised clients on tax-advantaged business structures and operations
- Represented financial institutions and individuals in civil and criminal tax matters
- Manage US Tax Court litigation for firm clients

United States Department of Justice

Trial Attorney: Tax Division

Washington, DC

January 2003 – January 2008

- Prosecuted white collar crimes and oversaw federal investigations
- Reviewed prosecution recommendations from IRS Agents
- Served on Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force 2006-2007
 - ★ Received Outstanding Attorney Award in 2004 and Special Service Award in 2007

Bank of America Securities LLC

Assistant General Counsel: Global Markets Group

Charlotte, NC

July 2002 – December 2002

- Structured and reviewed proposals for Credit Products and Capital Markets groups
- Negotiated ISDA documents for derivative products

Vice President: Structured Capital Markets

April 2000 – January 2002

- Structured derivatives-based financial products
- Reviewed tax aspects of financial transactions

Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP

Associate: Tax & Banking Groups

Washington, DC

September 1998 – March 2000

- Drafted tax opinions for financial products
- Drafted and reviewed operating agreements and related documents for clients
- Advised financial institutions on development and use of new financial products

BankBoston, NA (acquired by Bank of America, NA)

Associate: Structured Derivatives Group

Boston, MA

May 1997 – June 1998

- Researched legal, credit and pricing issues for credit default swaps
- Structured and negotiated ISDA documents for derivative products
- Advised traders on legal and tax issues for financial products

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS & PANELS

Practicing Law Institute (PLI)

- Moderator: Blockchains and the Law *Fall 2021-present*
- Selected Presenter: Blockchain Patents in Africa and Asia *Fall 2019*

Black Blockchain Summit

- Selected Panelist: Cryptocurrency Regulation & Enforcement *Fall 2023-present*

Registered Investment Advisors Digital Asset Council

- Faculty for financial advisor certification program on digital assets *2021-present*

NYU Tax Controversy Forum

- Selected Panelist: Cryptocurrency Regulation & Enforcement *Summer 2023*

University of the Western Cape (South Africa)

- Weeklong presentations on blockchain and blockchain-based supply chains *Summer 2022*
- Presentation: Blockchain, Smart Contracts and Supply Chain *Fall 2020*

Harvard Law School Alumni Association

- Selected Panelist: Regulatory Landscape and Recent Developments in Crypto *Spring 2022*

National Association of District Export Councils

- Selected Panelist: Crypto and Blockchain for Use in International Trade *Spring 2022*

Wyoming Select Committee on Blockchain, Financial Technology and Digital Innovation

- Testified regarding recently-enacted blockchain DAO LLC law *Fall 2021*

Africa Law Tech Festival

- Selected Presenter: International Regulation of Crypto *Summer 2021*

International Symposium on Social Governance and Rule-of-law Development (Nanjing, China)

- Selected Presenter: Blockchain & Distributed Governance *Fall 2019, 2020*

SEALS Annual Conference

Panel Presentations: *2013 - 2020*

- Blockchain & Crypto (2018 – 2020, 2023)
- Tax Policy (2013 – 2015)

George Washington Univ. Center for Law, Economics & Finance (C-LEAF)

- Selected Presenter: *Financial Alchemy* *February 2012*

Continuing Legal Education and Community Courses

- Veterans Law Association: Life after Service
- Hot Topics in Federal Taxation
- Bitcoin and Blockchain Overview (multiple community groups and law firms)
- Non-Fungible Tokens and Applications in the Law
- US Army Judge Advocate General Corps
- Law Firms: Tax and Blockchain/Crypto Presentations

PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS

American Bar Association: Vice-Chair, Tax Section Practice and Procedure Committee

Wyoming Legislative Working Group on Blockchain and Crypto Regulation

Indiana Supreme Court Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure

National Bar Association Assistant General Counsel

Sixth US Circuit Court of Appeals

US Tax Court

District of Columbia Bar

High School Referee (Basketball)

United States Marine Corps Reserve (retired)

LANGUAGES

Spanish B2, Mandarin A1/2

TRIAL EXPERIENCE

US Tax Court

- ★ Managed litigation and negotiated settlements in over 30 US Tax Court cases, with amounts in controversy over \$1 billion.

United States v. May

Served as second chair in a one-defendant, six-week tax fraud trial in Dayton, Ohio.

- ★ Defendant convicted.

United States v. Vasilakos, et al.

Served as second chair in a four-defendant, five-week conspiracy, tax fraud, and money laundering trial in Columbus, Ohio.

- ★ Three of four defendants convicted.

United States v. Daulton

Served as first chair in a one-defendant, two-week white-collar fraud trial in Cincinnati, Ohio.

- ★ Defendant convicted.

Drafted portion of Government's response to defendant's appeal to the Sixth Circuit.

- ★ Conviction upheld.

United States v. Pender

Served as second chair in a one-defendant, one-week drug distribution trial in Maryland.

- ★ Defendant convicted.

United States v. Mozee

Served as second chair in a one-defendant, one-week bank fraud trial in Maryland.

- ★ Defendant convicted.

United States v. Hall and Handy

Served as second chair in two-week third retrial of two defendants in multi-million-dollar cross-country drug distribution scheme in Maryland.

- ★ Defendants convicted.

United States v. Ray

Served as first chair in a one-defendant, two-week drug distribution trial in Maryland.

- ★ Defendant convicted.