

**TARA L. SMITH**  
Attorney at Law  
WALLING, BERG & DEBELE, P.A.  
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## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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Walling, Berg & Debele, P.A., Minneapolis, Minnesota

**Associate Attorney, November 2009 – Present**

**Law Clerk, March 2009 – October 2009**

**Legal Intern, January 2008 – April 2008**

- Practice devoted to family law matters, including dissolution and custody, as well as all aspects of estate planning, including wills, trusts, health care directives, and powers of attorney

Law Office of Thomas T. Inkelaar, L.L.C., Omaha, Nebraska

**Law Clerk, May 2008 – August 2008**

- Researched, investigated and prepared legal documents for family law, personal injury and criminal law-related matters

Second Judicial District, Ramsey County, Saint Paul, Minnesota

**Guardian ad Litem, March 2007 – May 2008**

- Advocated for the best interests of children in protective services

Stewart D. Walker, Inc., Saint Paul, Minnesota

**Manufacturers' Representative and Office Manager, January 1997 – May 2009**

- Negotiated contracts for the distribution of several commercial-construction product lines to the six-state, upper Midwest territory

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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- Member, American Bar Association (2009 to present)
- Member, Minnesota State Bar Association (2009 to present)
- Member, Hennepin County Bar Association (2009 to present)
- Member, Ramsey County Bar Association (2009 to present)
- Founding Member, Cooperative Practice Network (2009 to present)
- Member, Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (2010 to present)
- Member, Minnesota Women Lawyers (2010 to present)

## **PUBLICATION**

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She Is Strong, She Is Invincible, and She Outearns Him: Husbands Seeking Spousal Maintenance in the Modern Era, *Family Law Forum*, (A Publication of the Minnesota State Bar Association Family Law Section), Vol. 18, No. 3, Summer 2010.

## **EDUCATION**

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William Mitchell College of Law, Saint Paul, Minnesota

**Juris Doctor, May 2009**

- Minnesota Justice Foundation Volunteer / Achievement in Public Service

University of Minnesota – Twin Cities, Minneapolis, Minnesota

**Bachelor of Arts, *Summa Cum Laude*, May 2006**

- Major: English Honors
- Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP) grant for collaborative effort with website featuring women writers of color; project featured in *CLA Today*

Normandale Community College, Bloomington, Minnesota

**Associate of Arts, Highest Honors, December 2003**

- Phi Theta Kappa

## **BAR ADMISSION**

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State of Minnesota, October 2009

## **PERSONAL BACKGROUND**

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- Married parent of one child
- Pianist for over thirty years and aspiring classical guitarist