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**EDUCATIONAL
BACKGROUND:**

University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota, J.D., 1972.

American University, Washington, D.C., Bachelor of Arts in history, 1969.

**BAR
ADMISSIONS:**

State of Minnesota, 1972.

United States District Court, District of Minnesota, 1972.

United States Court of Appeals, Eight Circuit, 1977.

Supreme Court of the United States of America, 1992.

**EMPLOYMENT
HISTORY:**

Walling, Berg & Debele, P.A., 1991-present, Past President and Managing partner. Practice limited to family law including adoption, custody, dissolution, litigation, juvenile law, and mediation. Qualified Neutral Under Rule 114, Family & Civil Mediator.

Director of Hennepin County Guardian ad Litem Attorney Panel, 1980-1994. Developed and managed attorney representation of volunteer guardian ad litem in juvenile court.

Mahoney, Walling & Kelley, 1987-1991, shareholder. President 1988-1989; directed litigation division. Practiced in all areas of family and commercial litigation.

Wright S. Walling & Associates, 1985-1987, owner. General practice concentrating in juvenile and family law litigation.

Hennepin County Bar Association, LRIS Commitment Defense Panel Attorney Director, 1981-1983. First attorney director setting initial policy guidelines and billing procedures. Managed 40-50 attorneys on panel defending people in involuntary commitment proceedings.

Kuduk & Walling, 1978-1985, managing partner. General practice.

Hennepin County Public Defender's Office, 1973-1978. Chief of Juvenile Division, 1977-1978. Supervised 10-15 lawyers in all aspects of juvenile court.

Rider, Bennett, Egan, Johnson & Arundel, 1972-1973, associate attorney. Practiced insurance defense trial work.

The Honorable Lindsey G. Arthur, Sr., 1970-1972, law clerk. Clerk for Hennepin County Juvenile Court Judge.

**AWARDS AND
HONORS:**

2005 Voices from the Heart Award; North American Council on Adoptable Children.

2004 Angel in Adoption Award; Congressional Coalition on Adoption.

Best Lawyer in America; beginning of survey through 2006.

Minnesota Super Lawyers; Minnesota Law and Politics survey, commencement of survey through 2006.

**PROFESSIONAL
ASSOCIATIONS
AND
COMMITTEES:**

North American Council on Adoptable Children; Board Member 2006-Present.

American Academy of Adoption Attorneys; President 2004-2005; Charter Fellow, 1990-present. Member of the Board of Trustees 2000-2006. Chair, Board of Grievances and Discipline, 2006-present.

Minnesota Academy of Adoption Attorneys; Fellow; 1998-2002.

Minnesota Supreme Court Juvenile Protection Rules Committee; Member, 1997 – 2001.

Minnesota Children Law Center; Member of the Advisory Board, 1994-present.

Minnesota Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Rules of Civil Appellate Procedure; Member, February 24, 1997 – January 30, 1998.

Minnesota Supreme Court Foster Care and Adoption Task Force; Member, 1995 – 1996.

Minnesota Commissioner of Human Services Advisory Board on Adoptions; Member, 1993.

Who's Who in American Law; 9th Edition Marquis Who's Who - 1995.

Hennepin County Bar Association; member, 1972-present.
Mental Health Commitment Defense Panel Adversary
Committee; chairman 1990-1994.
Juvenile Law Committee; chairman 1979-1984.
Governing Council Member, 1979-1984.

Minnesota Bar Association; member, 1972-present.

American Bar Association; member, 1977-present.

Minnesota Trial Lawyer Association; member, Board of Governor, 1985-1988.

SELECTED
PUBLICATIONS:

Ask an Attorney: Homestudy 101; Adoptive Families Magazine, July/August 2004.

100 Years of Juvenile Court in Minnesota: a Historical Overview and Perspective; William Mitchell College of Law, Law Review, Volume 32, Number 3 (2006).

Recent Legislation Facilitating Adoption; Family Building, Volume IV, Issue #1, Autumn 2004.

Adoption and Birth Fathers: A Balancing of Interests; July-August, 2003, 72 Hennepin Lawyer 7.

Parenting Through Adoption: A Brief Summary of Minnesota Adoptions; Co-authored with Jody Ollyver DeSmidt, Esq., Minnesota Institute of Legal Education Adoption Law Seminar, February 19, 2003.

Birth Father's Rights in Adoption: A Minnesota Perspective; Co-authored with The Honorable Stephen L. Muehlberg and Jessica J.W. Maher, Esq.; Minnesota Institute of Legal Education Adoption Law Seminar, February 19, 2003.

Adoption Mediation: Solving Problems and Developing Good Communications for Adoptions Manual; Association for Conflict Resolution Conference, Toronto, Canada, October 10, 2001 – October 13, 2001.

American Academy of Adoption Attorney Mediation Training Manual; 2001 American Academy of Adoption Attorneys Mediation Training, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, February, 2001.

Overview of the Legal Issues Related to Children and Mental Health Questions; Medical Educational Services, Inc. Mental Health and the Law in Minnesota Seminar, August 21, 2001.

Overview of the Legal Issues Related to Children and Mental Health Questions; Medical Educational Services, Inc. Mental Health and the Law in Minnesota Seminar, August 23, 2000.

Mediation and Other Forms of Alternative Dispute Resolution as Applied to Disputes Involving Adoption; 2000 Annual Meeting of American Academy of Adoption Attorneys, Perdido Beach Resort, Alabama, April, 2000.

AAA Mediation Committee Training Session; 1999 Mid-Year American Academy of Adoption Attorneys Meeting, Estes Park, Colorado, September, 1999.

Juvenile Court Issues, Third Party Issues, Grandparent Issues, and Other Unusual Family Law Matters; Minnesota Institute Legal Education ADR and Family Law Replacing Litigation with Communication Seminar, December 3, 1998.

Parenting Through Adoption, A Brief Summary of Minnesota Adoptions; Resolve of the Twin Cities Parenting Through Adoption Workshop, October 17, 1998.

Adoptions - Can We Ensure They Are For Life?; National Association of Legal Secretaries (NALS) 1998 Annual Forum/Education Task Force, October 10, 1998.

Representing Children and The Role of the Guardian ad Litem: Practice and Ethical Issues; Medical Educational Services, Inc. Children and Mental Health in Minnesota Seminar, September 25, 1998.

Process and Procedures In Adoption, Legal and Social Work Practice, The Basics, Minnesota Department of Human Services Adoption Conference, June 24, 1998 through June 25, 1998.

Mediation in Adoption: Its Time Has Come; Adoption Assistance Simplistic Confusion; International Adoption Current Issues and Development; Minnesota Institute Legal Education Adoption Law Seminar, May 21, 1998.

Parenting Through Adoption, A Brief Summary of Minnesota Adoptions; Resolve of the Twin Cities Parenting Through Adoption Workshop, November 1, 1997.

Child Welfare, Juvenile Justice and Law Enforcement Records; Children and Mental Health in Minnesota, Medical Educational Services, Inc. Seminar, June 19, 1997.

Parenting Through Adoption, A Brief Summary of Minnesota Adoptions; Resolve of the Twin Cities Parenting Through Adoption Workshop, 1996.

Child Welfare, Juvenile Justice and Law Enforcement Records; Medical Educational Services, Inc. Confidentiality of Children's Records, April 22, 1996.

Problem Solving in Non-Dissolution Family Court; Minnesota Institute Legal Education "It's Not Just About Divorce Anymore" Family Law Seminar, March 21, 1996.

Best Interests of the Child Do We Have a Clue; Adoption Option Committee Article, Fall 1995 Newsletter.

Parenting Through Adoption, A Brief Summary of Minnesota Adoptions; Resolve of the Twin Cities Parenting Through Adoption Workshop, November 4, 1995.

Issues of Specialized Courts - Mastering Minnesota Appellate Practice; Minnesota Institute Legal Education Seminar, October 20, 1995.

Minnesota Institute Legal Education "It's Not Just Divorce Anymore" Family Law Seminar; June 15 and 16, 1995.

Dealing With Third Party Custody; 16th Annual Family Law Institute, Minnesota State Bar Association, Continuing Legal Education, April 1995.

Child Welfare, Juvenile Justice and Law Enforcement Records; Confidentiality of Records for Children In Need, Medical Educational Services, Inc. Seminar, February 24, 1995.

Child Welfare, Juvenile Justice and Law Enforcement Records; Confidentiality of Children's Medical Records in Minnesota, Medical Educational Services, Inc. Seminar, January 1995.

Children in Need of Protection or Service: A Historical Treatment of Dependent, Neglected and Chipped Children; William Mitchell College of Law, Law Review, Volume 20, No. 3 (1994).

Relative and Non-Relative Rights to Adoption and Custody; Family Law, It Is Not Just Divorce Anymore, Minnesota Institute of Legal Education, May 1994.

Relative and Non-Relative Rights to Adoption and Custody; Minnesota Institute Legal Education "It's Not Just Divorce Anymore" Family Law Seminar, May 17 and 18, 1994.

Juvenile Court Handbook, A Practitioner's Guide to Juvenile Court Practice in Minnesota; Butterworth's Legal Publication, 1984. (Update 1992).

Discovery and Treatment of Child Abuse; May-June, 1978, 47 Hennepin Lawyer 8.

Juvenile Court Accomplishments; Co-authored with The Honorable Lindsey G. Arthur, January-February, 1972, 40 Hennepin Lawyer 20.

SELECTED
LECTURES
AND
TEACHING
EXPERIENCE:

St. Thomas School of Law; advanced seminar on Adoption Law, Spring semester 2006.

Frequent presentations to various law school seminars – on going.

North American Council on Adoptable Children in Vancouver, Canada; presenter regarding Ask the Lawyers, August 6, 2003 – August 9, 2003.

Minnesota Institute of Legal Education Adoption Law Seminar; faculty member, February 19, 2003.

Association for Conflict Resolution Conference in Toronto, Canada; presenter regarding Adoption Mediation: Solving Problems and Developing Good Communications for Adoptions, October 10, 2001 - October 13, 2001.

Medical Educational Services, Inc. Mental Health And the Law in Minnesota Seminar; presenter regarding Balancing the Rights of Minors, Parents and the Provider, August 21 2001.

American Academy of Adoption Attorneys Mediation Training in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida; presenter regarding Mediation Training, February 17 – 19, 2001.

Anoka County Foster Care Conference; presenter regarding Legal Aspects in Foster Care, October 10, 2000.

Medical Educational Services, Inc. Mental Health And the Law in Minnesota Seminar; presenter regarding Balancing the Rights of Minors, Parents and the Provider, August 23, 2000.

Professional Association of Treatment Homes (PATH) Workshop; presenter regarding Legal Aspects of Adoption in Foster Care, May 11, 2000.

American Academy of Adoption Attorneys Annual Conference in Alabama; presenter regarding Mediation and Other Forms of Alternative Dispute Resolution as Applied to Disputes Involving Adoption, April 26 – 30, 2000.

Resolve of the Twin Cities Parenting Through Adoption Workshop; panel discussion, October 30, 1999.

American Academy of Adoption Attorneys Mid-Year Conference in Estes Park, Colorado; presenter regarding Mediation Committee Training Session, September 23 – 26, 1999.

Medical Educational Services, Inc. Children and Mental Health in Minnesota Seminar; presenter, September 17, 1999.

Permanency In Minnesota: Achieving Stability and Safety for Children; faculty member, June 23 - 24, 1999. (sponsored by The Minnesota Supreme Court and The Minnesota Department of Human Services).

Minnesota Social Service Association 106th Annual Training Conference and Expo: Many Voices One Community; speaker, March 24 - 26, 1999.

Minnesota Institute Legal Education ADR and Family Law Replacing Litigation with Communication Seminar; faculty member, December 3, 1998.

Faegre & Benson LLP's Justice For Kids – State Wards Advocacy Training; presenter/panelist, November 10, 1998.

Resolve of the Twin Cities Parenting Through Adoption Workshop; panel discussion, October 17, 1998.

National Association of Legal Secretaries (NALS) 1998 Annual Forum/Education Task Force – “Adoptions - Can We Ensure They Are For Life?”; speaker, October 10, 1998.

Medical Educational Services, Inc. Children and Mental Health in Minnesota Seminar; presenter, September 25, 1998.

Minnesota Department of Human Services Adoption Conference; June 24, 1998 through June 25, 1998.

Minnesota Institute Legal Education Adoption Law Seminar; course co-chair, May 21, 1998.

Resolve of the Twin Cities Parenting Through Adoption Workshop; key presenter, November 1, 1997.

Medical Educational Services, Inc. Children and Mental Health in Minnesota Seminars; speaker, June 19, 1997.

American Experiment Forum “Why Liberals and Conservatives Should Agree on Adoption”; participant April 14, 1997.

American Experiment Forum “Why Aren’t There More Adoptions in Minnesota”; participant, March 12, 1997.

Resolve of the Twin Cities Parenting Through Adoption Workshop; key presenter, 1996.

Minnesota Conference of Chief Judges; 1996.

Minnesota’s Journal of Law and Politics Family Law CLE Seminar; Adoption Law Update, faculty member, December 9, 1996.

Hamline School of Law, Adjunct Professor; Winter Semesters 1992 and 1996, taught Family Law, supervise clinical students on an ongoing basis.

Medical Educational Services, Inc. Confidentiality of Children’s Records; presenter, April 22, 1996.

Hamline University School of Law Indian Child Welfare Act Panel Discussion; panel discussion, March 26, 1996.

Minnesota Institute Legal Education “It’s Not Just About Divorce Anymore” Family Law Seminar; course co-chair, March 21, 1996.

Resolve of the Twin Cities Parenting Through Adoption Workshop; presenter, November 4, 1995.

Minnesota Institute Legal Education “Mastering Minnesota Appellate Practice” Seminar; faculty member, October 20, 1995.

Adoption Law Update; Family Law Section Meeting, Minnesota State Bar Association Annual Convention, June 1995.

Minnesota Institute Legal Education “It’s Not Just Divorce Anymore” Family Law Seminar; course chair, June 15 and 16, 1995.

16th Annual Family Law Institute; Minnesota State Bar Association Continuing Legal Education, April 1995.

Child Welfare, Juvenile Justice and Law Enforcement Records, Confidentiality of Children’s Medical Records, Medical Educational seminar, February 24, 1995.

Child Welfare, Juvenile Justice and Law Enforcement Records, Confidentiality of Children’s Medical Records in Minnesota, Medical Educational Seminar, January 1995.

What Every Family Law Attorney Should Know about Juvenile Court Practice, Minnesota State Bar Association Family Law Committee, November 12, 1994.

Family Law: Its not Just About Dissolution Anymore; Minnesota Institute of Legal Education Seminar, course chair and presenter, May 1994.

Minnesota Institute Legal Education “It’s Not Just Divorce Anymore” Family Law Seminar; course co-chair, May 17 and 18, 1994.

SELECTED APPELLATE CASES
AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST