

BENJAMIN E. ALBA

DePaul University College of Law
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ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

DEPAUL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW, Chicago, IL

Professor of Legal Practice (2007-)

Director, Academic Success Program (2013-)

Director, Bar Passage Program (2003-18)

Director of Student Advising (2013-16)

Interim Associate Director, Legal Analysis, Research & Communication (2004)

Legal Writing Instructor (2002-09)

Courses Taught: Applied Legal Skills (Fall 2019-), Mandatory Spring ASP (Spring 2018-), Academic Success Workshops (Fall 2013 – Fall 2018), Bar Passage Strategies (Fall 2009 – Spring 2018), Remedies (Spring 2010 – Fall 2015), Legal Drafting (Spring 2011), LARC I and II (Fall 2002 – Spring 2009), Bar Passage Workshops (Fall 2003 – Spring 2018).

Award: College of Law Faculty Service Award (2021)

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO SCHOOL OF LAW, Chicago, IL

Senior Lecturer in Law, 1989-93

Instructor, 1984-87

Courses Taught: Pretrial Litigation (1989-93), Legal Writing and Moot Court (1984-87).

ACADEMIC SERVICE

DEPAUL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW

Bar Passage Committee (Chair, 2017-18)

Faculty Liaison to Minority Legal Education Resources (MLER) (2016-)

Committee on Diversity, Inclusion, and Community Building (2015-)

Coordinator, Faculty Docent Program (2020-23)

Working Group on Student Success (2022-23)

Instructor, First Generation in Law Scholars Program (2022-)

Diversity Council (2018-19)

Diversity Scholarship Committee (2007-)

Readmission Committee (2015-)

Asian Pacific-American Law Student Association (Faculty Advisor, 2007-)

Faculty Moot Court Committee (2002-03)

JumpStart (Instructor, 2012-)

CIPLIT Visiting Artist Program, Co-Moderator (2009)

Council on Legal Education Opportunity (Legal Writing Instructor, Summer 2004)

College of Law Admissions Student Recruitment (Mock Class Instructor/Panelist/ Presenter, 2004-)

Reader at College of Law commencement ceremonies (2013-)

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO SCHOOL OF LAW

Conference of Midwest Association of Pre-Law Advisors (Panelist, 1993)

CHICAGO BAR ASSOCIATION

Member of Subcommittee reporting on “The Millennial Law Student and the New Lawyer – Law School Trends” for the CBA report, “The Future of the Practice of Law in Chicago” (2017-18)

ACADEMIC CONFERENCES, PRESENTATIONS, and PUBLICATIONS

Presenter, Association of Academic Support Educators Conference, “From Optional to Mandatory ASP: One Law School’s Journey” (May 24, 2023, Santa Clara, CA via Zoom).

Faculty Panelist and Co-Presenter, Katten Diversity Program, “Back to (Law) School: Lessons Learned About Recruiting and Retaining Future Lawyers of Color” (June 7, 2021, Chicago).

Co-Presenter, Central States Regional Legal Writing Conference, “Bridge Over Troubled Writers: Using Teaching Assistants to Connect Real World Skills to the LRW Classroom” (September 2011, Chicago).

Faculty Panelist, Vincent Vitullo Ethics and Professionalism Seminar, Panel on Civility (June 2011, Chicago).

Faculty Presenter, DePaul University Teaching Commons/Teaching and Learning Conference, “Team Up with Your TA: A Late-Night TV Approach to Teaching Skills Courses” (April 17, 2009).

Publication: “Team Up with Your TA: Incorporating Elements of Late-Night TV into the LRW Classroom,” SSRN abstract ID 1943706 (April 18, 2011).

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

SNECKENBERG, THOMPSON & BRODY, LLP (and predecessor firms), Chicago, IL
Of Counsel (2002-15); *Partner* (1990-2002); *Associate* (1983-89).

Trial and appellate practice (plaintiff and defense) in Illinois state and federal courts. Practice areas included insurance (defense and subrogation), personal injury, wrongful death, professional negligence, civil rights, products liability, administrative review, alternative dispute resolution. Tried 26 cases to verdict (16 as sole or first chair), of which two involved severe personal injuries and exposures in excess of \$1 million. Directly involved in writing 18 appeals in state and federal appellate courts. Resident editor for numerous briefs drafted by firm partners and associates. Hired and supervised law clerks, associates, and support staff.

Certified Arbitrator, Circuit Court of Cook County (1990-2015).

Co-Author, chapter of *Insurance and Litigation Implications of the Chicago Flood of 1992* for the Illinois Institute for Continuing Legal Education (1993).

EDUCATION

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO SCHOOL OF LAW, Chicago, IL
J.D., 1983
Leadership and Service Award; Legal Writing/Moot Court Teaching Assistant; First-Year Student Advisor; Assistant, Chicago Street Law Project.

DEPAUL UNIVERSITY, Chicago, IL
B.S. in Psychology, 1979, *with highest honor*
Psi Chi, William James Award for Creativity in Psychology; Grading Assistant, Mathematics Department.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Chair, Grant Park Conservancy Board (2003-2021).
Board Member, Grant Park Advisory Council (1997-2015).

St. Vincent de Paul Parish: Finance Commission (1994-2002), Parish Council (1988-92);
Director/pianist, Contemporary Choir (1977-84).

POPULAR CULTURE PUBLICATIONS

Inventing Late Night: Steve Allen and the Original Tonight Show (Prometheus Books, hardcover, 2005).

Author of liner notes for several albums by Andy Williams, including *Andy Williams' Greatest Hits: Live from the Moon River Theatre* (Laserlight 1994); *Andy Williams Live: Treasures from His Personal Collection* (Concord 2001); and *"Butterfly" and Other Great Hits of the 1950s* (Barnaby 2011).

POPULAR CULTURE MEDIA

Over 100 radio, television, and print interviews relating to *Inventing Late Night: Steve Allen and the Original Tonight Show*:

Radio Interviews

The Sunday Papers with Rick Kogan (WGN, Chicago, IL, 9/26/04 and 11/13/05).

Talk of the City (KPCC, Pasadena, CA, 10/28/05).

Holder at Night (CJAD, Montreal, Canada, 10/28/05).

Good for Life (KPKF, Los Angeles, CA, 11/1/05).

The Alex Bennett Show (Sirius Satellite Network, 11/18/05).

The Saturday Radio Special with Bob Sirott (WCKG, Chicago, 12/3/05).

Extension 720 with Milt Rosenberg (WGN, Chicago, IL, 12/2/05).

Beyond Words (KCLU, Santa Barbara, CA, 1/7/06).

Gary O'Brien and Friends (WDWS, Champaign, IL, 1/25/06, 3/29/06, 9/25/06, 12/13/06, 9/26/07, 7/29/08).

The Gary Owens Show (Music of Your Life syndicated network, Hollywood, CA, 08/06).

Entertainment USA (USA Radio Network, 9/25/06).

The Jenn & Joe Show (CFUN, Vancouver, BC, 9/27/06).

The Steve Cochran Show (WGN, Chicago, IL, 11/6/06).

The Nick Digilio Show (WGN, Chicago, IL, 9/19/09, 4/18/14).

DePaul Authors Series (Radio DePaul, Chicago, IL, 3/18/11).

The Bill Leff Show (WGN, Chicago, IL, 9/27/12, 12/12/12).

Sirott & Murciano (WGN, Chicago, IL, 9/27/13).

Bill Leff & Wendy Snyder (WGN, Chicago, IL, 2/13/14).

The Dave Sims Show (Radio DePaul, Chicago, IL, 7/18/17, 10/21/18).

Television Interviews

Chicago Tonight (WTTW, Chicago, IL, 11/1/05).

Between the Lines with Barry Kibrick (KLCS, Los Angeles, CA, 11/4/05 and 1/9/08).

Connie Martinson Talks Books (Adelphia Cable, Van Nuys, CA, 11/7/05)

Money for Breakfast (Fox Business Channel, 7/24/08).

Speaking Engagements

Dutton's Bookstore book signing with Jayne Meadows (Beverly Hills, CA, 11/4/05).

Vroman's Bookstore book signing with Jayne Meadows (Pasadena, CA, 11/6/05).

Roundtable West Book Club talk with Jayne Meadows (Beverly Wilshire Hotel, Beverly Hills, CA, 11/7/05).

Barnes & Noble DePaul Center book signing (Chicago, IL, 11/17/05).

Independent Writers of Chicago lecture (Chicago, 3/14/06).

Center for Inquiry-West presentation and book signing with Jayne Meadows (Steve Allen Theater, Hollywood, CA, 7/16/06).

Columbia College Chicago: *History of Television* guest lecture (Chicago, IL, 10/17/06).

Reviews/Features

Publishers Weekly (August 2005).

The Daily Variety (11/17/05).

The Weekly Standard (11/29/05).

Chicago Daily Law Bulletin (3/27/06).

Entertainment Weekly (6/2/06).

Quoted/Contributed

Los Angeles Times Magazine ("The Late, Late Comer," 12/16/05).

The Sunday Times/Times Online ("Craig Ferguson 'may be next Letterman,'" 5/4/08, London, UK).

Chicago Tribune Magazine ("Why Lenny Bruce Still Matters," by Rick Kogan, 7/6/08).

Advertising Age ("And Now, Conan O'Brien! . . . and Younger Viewers," by Brian Steinberg, 11/3/08).

Dziennik ("Talk-show naszego powszedniego daj nam dzis," by Eliza Sanracka-Mahoney, 12/20/08).

Christian Science Monitor ("The tepid return of Conan O'Brien - Time to Rethink Late Night," 1/28/10).

Kay Thompson: From Funny Face to Eloise (Sam Irvin, Simon & Schuster 2010).

Grantland.com ("The Tomorrow Show: Assessing the state of late night after a turbulent week," by Ken Tucker, 3/29/13).

Slate.com ("Just Call Me 'Bean Bag'!" 5/10/15).

RedEye.com ("Who is the real Stephen Colbert?" by Ryan Smith, 9/7/15).

Letterman: The Last Giant of Late Night (Jason Zinoman, Harper 2017).

Last Man Standing: Mort Sahl and the Birth of Modern Comedy (James Curtis, Univ. Press of Mississippi 2017).

BroadwayWorld.com ("The Tonight Show to Air First Broadway Takeover Dedicated to Cher with the Cast of The Cher Show," 4/9/19).

Book Excerpt

"Setting It Right on *Tonight*," *Emmy* magazine, published by the Television Academy of Arts & Sciences (2004, Vol. 5)

Op-Eds

"A view of the Kennedy all drivers should see," *Chicago Sun-Times* (Sun-Times News Group, 5/13/03).

"CTA fare hike small price for service," *Chicago Sun-Times* (Sun-Times News Group, 1/7/04).

"Steve Allen quiet champion for artists of color," *Chicago News-Star* (Sun-Times News Group, 1/30/08).

"Late night needs more than celebs," *Chicago Sun-Times* (Sun-Times News Group, 6/15/09).

(10/25/23)