

RODNEY A. SMOLLA

Curriculum Vitae

EDUCATION

J.D., Duke University School of Law, 1978 (Graduated First in Class; Note and Comment Editor, Duke *Law Journal*; American Jurisprudence Awards in Torts and Constitutional Law; Order of the Coif)

B.A. *cum laude*, Yale University, 1975 (Majored in American Studies; Scroll and Key Senior Society; played on Yale Football team until sophomore knee injury; Chief Aide to Master of Timothy Dwight College; Broadcaster for Yale Football Games)

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

Dean and Professor of Law, Delaware Law School, Widener University (July 2015 to present)

Visiting Professor of Law, University of Georgia School of Law (2014-2015)

Visiting Professor of Law, Duke University School of Law, Durham, North Carolina (August – December 2013)

President, Furman University, Greenville, South Carolina (July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2013)

Commissioner, South Carolina Commission on Higher Education (2011 – 2013)

Dean and Roy L. Steinheimer, Jr., Professor of Law, Washington and Lee University School of Law, Lexington, Virginia (July 2007 – July 2010)

Dean and George Allen Professor of Law, University of Richmond, T.C. Williams School of Law (Dean July 2003 to July 2007; Allen Professor beginning in August, 1998)

Visiting Fellow, University of Melbourne School of Law, Melbourne, Australia (Summer 2008) (taught comparative course in American and Australian Defamation and Media Law)

Visiting Fellow, University of Melbourne School of Law, Melbourne, Australia (Summer 2006) (taught comparative course in American and Australian Defamation and Media Law)

Arthur B. Hanson Professor of Law, and Director, Institute of Bill of Rights Law, College of William and Mary, Marshall-Wythe School of Law, Williamsburg, Virginia (1988 to 1998) (Director of the Institute of Bill of Rights Law from 1988 to 1996)

Visiting Professor of Law, Duke University School of Law, Durham, North Carolina (Spring Semester 1992)

Consultant and Senior Fellow, the Annenberg Washington Program in Communications Policy Studies of Northwestern University (1987 to 1996) (Director and Principal Draftsman for Annenberg Washington Program Libel Reform Project)

Visiting Professor of Law, University of Denver School of Law, Denver, Colorado (1987-1988)

Associate Professor, University of Arkansas School of Law, Fayetteville, Arkansas (1984-1987); Assistant Professor (1983-1984)

Visiting Professor, University of Illinois College of Law, Champaign, Illinois (Summer 1984)

Visiting Professor, Indiana University School of Law, Bloomington, Indiana (Summer 1983)

Assistant Professor, University of Illinois College of Law, Champaign, Illinois (1981-1983)

Assistant Professor, DePaul University College of Law, Chicago, Illinois (1980-1981)

Private Legal Practice: Associate, Mayer Brown, & Platt, Chicago, Illinois, (1979-1980)

Law Clerk to Judge Charles Clark, United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, Jackson, Mississippi (1978-1979)

Summer Associate, Covington & Burling, Washington, D.C. (Summer 1977)

COURSES TAUGHT

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|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| Higher Education Law | Constitutional Law | Torts |
| Legal Ethics | Jurisprudence | First Amendment Law |
| Intellectual Property Law | Civil Rights Law | Remedies |
| Civil Procedure | Mass Media Law | Administrative Law |
| Professionalism | Labor Law | Copyright Law |
| Freshman Writing Seminar | Constitution & American Culture | Commercial Paper |

RODNEY SMOLLA BIOGRAPHY

Rodney Smolla is Dean and Professor of Law at the Delaware Law School of Widener University, in Wilmington, Delaware. As an educator, he has been a strong advocate for experiential learning, the development of professional competencies, and civic engagement. He was previously the 11th

President of Furman University, in Greenville, South Carolina, the Dean of the Law School at Washington and Lee University Law School, the Dean of the University of Richmond Law School, the Director of the Institute of Bill of Rights Law at the College of William and Mary, and Senior Fellow and Project Director of the Washington Annenberg Program of Northwestern University. He has also been a faculty member at the DePaul, University of Illinois, and University of Arkansas law schools, and a visiting professor at the Duke, University of Georgia, University of Indiana, Denver University, and University of Melbourne law schools. Smolla is a nationally-known scholar on matters relating to constitutional law, civil rights, freedom of speech, and mass media, particularly matters relating to libel and privacy. He is the author five multi-volume legal treatises, all published by Thomson Reuters, which are updated twice annually: *Law of Defamation*; *Smolla and Nimmer on Freedom of Speech*; *Rights and Liabilities in Media Content, Internet, Broadcast, and Print*; *Federal Civil Rights Acts*; and, *Law of Lawyer Advertising*. He is also author of *The First Amendment: Freedom of Expression, Regulation of Mass Media, Freedom of Religion* (Carolina Academic Press 1999) (a law school casebook); and co-author of *Constitutional Law: Structure and Rights in Our Federal System* (7th Edition, 2019, with William Banks). He is the editor each year of the *First Amendment Law Handbook*, published annually by Thomson Reuters. He was also editor of *The Copyright Law Anthology* published by Thomson Reuters. He is also the author of many trade and university press books, including *Suing the Press: Libel, the Media, and Power* (Oxford University Press 1986) (won ABA Silver Gavel Award Certificate of Merit); *Jerry Falwell v. Larry Flynt: The First Amendment on Trial* (St. Martin's Press 1988); *Free Speech in an Open Society* (Alfred A. Knopf 1992) (winner of the William O. Douglas Award); *Deliberate Intent: A Lawyer Tells the True Story of Murder by the Book* (Crown Publishers 1999) (made into a television movie by FX, with Timothy Hutton playing the role of Rod Smolla); *The Constitution Goes to College* (New York University Press 2010); and *Confessions of a Free Speech Lawyer Charlottesville and the Politics of Hate* (Cornell University Press 2020). He was editor of *A Year in the Life of the Supreme Court* (Duke University Press 1995) (won ABA Civil Gavel Award). Smolla has published over 100 articles in law reviews and other publications. Smolla has served as Chairman of the Association of American Law Schools Section on Defamation and Privacy Law, as Chairman of the Association of American Law Schools Section on Mass Communications Law, as a member of the American Bar Association Advisory Committee to the Forum on Mass Communications Law, and as a member of the First Amendment Advisory Board to the Media Institute. Smolla was the Director of the Annenberg Washington Program Libel Reform Project, and author of the Annenberg Libel Reform Report that emerged from the blue ribbon task force on that project. He served as a Director of the Media General Corporation and as a Director of the American Arbitration Association. In 2011, he was appointed by Governor Nikki Haley to serve as a Commissioner on the South Carolina Commission of Higher Education, which included within its mission the oversight of all of South Carolina's public universities and colleges, and licensure and programmatic approval for all public and private educational programs within the state. Smolla has been and remains an active litigator. In his law practice activity, he is particularly well-known for his representation of American and international clients on matters relating to defamation and invasion of privacy. He is admitted to the Illinois, Virginia, and Delaware bars, and he has participated as counsel or co-counsel in many litigation matters, in state and federal courts throughout the nation. He is a frequent advocate on a wide variety of legal issues, and has presented oral argument in state and federal courts across the country, including the Supreme Court of the United States.