MELISSA R. BRANDMAN

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

SOUTHWESTERN LAW SCHOOL, Los Angeles, California

June 2024 - Present

Associate Professor of Legal Analysis, Writing & Skills

Visiting Associate Professor of Legal Analysis, Writing & Skills

Courses: LAWS I: Legal Writing, LAWS II: Appellate Advocacy

Committees: Admissions (2024-25); Externship (2024-25)

INVITED COMMENTARY

Bridging the Gap: A Discussion of How We Can Best Integrate the Bench and Bar in Our Legal Writing Classrooms

 Invited Discussant, Association of Legal Writing Directors Biennial Conference (July 2025)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Young-Agriesti & Thomas Senior Employment Counsel	2021 - 2024
PERONA, LANGER, BECK, AND HARRISON Employment Associate	2020 - 2021
LAW OFFICES OF MELISSA R. BRANDMAN Law Firm Owner	2004 - 2010
RUTAN & TUCKER Employment Associate	2002 - 2004
PILLSBURY WINTHROP SHAW PITTMAN Summer Associate & Associate Attorney	2000 - 2002

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE & AWARDS

Orange County School of the Arts | Volunteer Mock Trial Attorney Coach 2019 – 2025

2024: Constitutional Rights Foundation Attorney Coach of the Year

2023: Orange County School of the Arts Outstanding School Volunteer Award

EDUCATION

UCLA SCHOOL OF LAW

Juris Doctor, May 2001

- Moot Court Honors Program, Distinguished Advocate and Finalist
- Co Editor-in-Chief, UCLA Women's Law Journal (2000-2001)

University of California Los Angeles

B.A., English Literature, cum laude, June 1998

• Awarded English Departmental Highest Honors