

Jessica S. Fludd

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HIGHLIGHTS

- Fifteen years of trial experience
- Arguments upheld by the North Carolina Court of Appeals
- Practice in all courts under the district court jurisdiction
- Presented at CLE programs in the areas of Abuse/Neglect/Dependency and Family Law

EDUCATION

North Carolina Central University
School of Law, Durham, NC
Juris Doctorate, 2007

University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC
Darla Moore School of Business
B.S. Business Administration, 2004

LICENSURES

North Carolina State Bar
License No. 36756, November 2007

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Fludd Stephens Law Office, PLLC
Durham, NC
Managing Partner
September 2014 to present

Fludd Law Firm, PLLC
(formerly Fludd Herring & Assoc., PLLC)
Managing Partner
November 2007 to September 2014

Trial Experience

- Litigate high conflict and complex family law matters consisting of multi-million dollar marital estates; same-sex couple child custody disputes; donor-

sperm/egg child custody disputes; inter-state child custody and child support disputes.

- Litigate complex Abuse/ Neglect/ Dependency cases. These cases consisting of physical, sexual, and emotional abuse; child deaths; and several mental health challenges.
- Litigate complex child support matters that involve self-employed individuals with multiple businesses and extraordinary childcare expenses.
- Litigate low-level felony and misdemeanor criminal cases; traffic cases including DWI.
- Litigate land/lord tenant cases; smalls-claims cases; alienation of affection and criminal conversation cases.

Managing Partner

- Supervise associates, certified paralegals, legal assistants and interns.
- Payroll and tax document preparation
- Oversee client trust accounts and business budget
- Produce quarterly and annual budgets and business projections.
- Update business plan annually

Guardian Ad Litem

- Served as Rule 17 GAL for Respondent Parents in Abuse/ Neglect/ Dependency cases who have been deemed incompetent in accordance with North Carolina Statute.
- Served as Rule 17 GAL for a minor child in high conflict child custody cases and private termination of parental rights hearing to investigate the best interest of the minor child and report said findings and recommendations to the court.
- Served as a Rule 17 GAL in cases where petition have been filed against Respondents to find them incompetent and name a Guardian of the person or estate and in cases involving settlement orders involving minor children in civil cases.
- Draft and circulate reports; review court files along with academic, medical, mental health records
- Schedule and attend meetings related to the case and testify in legal proceedings.

Other Areas of Litigation

- Domestic violence protective orders and no-contact orders.
- Landlord/tenant cases and small business matters.
- Personal injury and general civil cases.

Durham County Family Treatment Court

Former Parent Counsel

- A specialty court working with parents or guardians in Abuse/Neglect/Dependency Court who are in danger of losing their children due to neglect or abuse.
- Collaborate with community support persons, mental health and substance abuse professionals to devise individual plans to assist participants.
- Advise and advocate for participants with non-compliance.
- Attend court sessions

Conflict Attorney in Orange/ Chatham Counties

- Serve as a conflict attorney in highly contested matters especially those dealing with parents with dual-diagnosis.

Presenter

- Presented at Continuing Legal Education programs on introduction to family law and overview of Abuse/Neglect/Dependency Court.

VOLUNTEER LEGAL EXPERIENCE

- **Pro Bono Clinic**
North Carolina Central University
School of Law
- **Family Law Clinic**
North Carolina Central University
School of Law
- **Alternate Dispute Resolution Clinic**
North Carolina Central University
School of Law
- **North Carolina Legal Aid – Durham, NC**
File-It-Yourself Clinic
- **Firm-Sponsored Workshops on Estate Planning and Child Custody**
Fludd Stephens Law Office, PLLC

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- 14th Judicial District Bar
 - *Former Board Member*
- Durham County Voluntary Bar
- George H. White Bar – *Co-Chair Membership Drive*
 - *Former Executive Board Member*
- Family Law Bar
- Criminal Defense Bar
- Criminal Legal System Roundtable

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Durham Publicschools
- Union Baptist Church Girl Scout Troop #83
- Epic Cheer & Dance Academy
- Durham County Teen Court
- Southern High School Booster Club
- New Shiloh Holiness Church
- Durham Committee on the Affairs of Black People
- People's Alliance
- North Carolina National Guard Family Programs