

Kathleen Wills

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EDUCATION

Antonin Scalia Law School at George Mason University, Arlington VA

J.D. Candidate, May 2020

Honors: Scalia Law Scholarship

Leadership: President, Trial Advocacy Association

Activities: George Mason University *Civil Rights Law Journal*, Member; Law Student Ambassador; Intellectual Property Law Society; Pro Bono Society; Giles S. Rich Inn of Court; Pauline Newman Inn of Court; American Intellectual Property Law Association; American Bar Association; Women's Bar Association; Phi Alpha Delta Fraternity

George Mason University (Honors College), Fairfax, VA

B.S. Neuroscience; Minor, Forensic Science, *magna cum laude*, May 2015

Honors: Provost Achievement Award, GMU Achievement Award

Leadership: Director of Events Media/Co-Founder, TEDxGMU; Vice President, Lambda Sigma Sophomore National Honor Society; Standards Chair, Gamma Phi Beta Inc.; Peer Career Advisor, GMU Career Services

Activities: American Psychological Association, American Psychology-Law Society, Society for Neuroscience

Study Abroad: Anglo-American Services, London, UK (Winter 2012)

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

U.S. Court of Federal Claims, Chambers of Judge Horn, Washington, D.C.

Legal Intern, January 2019 – April 2019 (Spring)

- Draft opinions on pro se and civilian pay cases, and conduct legal research on case law including the Tucker Act
- Shadow hearings, status conferences, and bench trials at the Court

U.S. Court of Federal Claims, Office of Special Master Oler, Washington, D.C.

Legal Intern, May 2018 – August 2018 (Summer)

- Make legal suggestions on motions, orders, amendments, and decisions; write conference reports
- Conduct legal research on relevant case law and attend trainings on ADR and Settlement, Admissibility of Testimony
- Compose medical case summaries, case briefs, and hearing documents
- Partake in the summer law clerk program for the federal court system, visiting agencies and their general counsels
- Attend status conferences, fact and entitlement hearings, and trials at the Court of Federal Claims and Federal Circuit

Sterne Kessler Goldstein & Fox, Washington, D.C.

IL Diversity Program Intern, March – April 2018

- Worked with the Litigation Group to write an article summary on a *WesternGeco LLC v. ION Geophys. Corp.*
- Attended programming on the lifecycle of patent prosecution, learning about priority filing dates, types of applications and their respective costs and years of protection, and the USPTO's role in reviewing applications

Center for the Protection of Intellectual Property, Antonin Scalia Law, George Mason University, Arlington, VA

Research Assistant, March 2018 – Present

- Drafted the introduction article for the CPIP blog series on Section 1498 and the Takings Clause
- Conduct scholarly research on patents as property rights and the historical record of the Court
- Collected and read all prior art patent searches on a specific small molecule drug to assist in constructing an evergreening article on the lifetime of a patent
- Used various online databases to locate the generic, brand name, structure code, and chemical compound in U.S. patent

applications and grants

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

NIH, National Institute of Mental Health, Experimental Therapeutics and Pathophys Branch (ETPB), Bethesda, MD
Protocol Coordinator and Fellow, June 2015 – May 2017

- Coordinated FDA-regulated experimental drug study, AV-101, from launch to audit
- Managed a team of research assistants and taught administration of 7 Tesla Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) and Magnetoencephalography (MEG) imaging protocols
- Communicated professionally with a multi-disciplinary team including doctors, nurses, technologists, and staff
- Documented confidential medical procedures according to IRB guidelines, such as blood draws

George Mason University, Multimodal Cognition Lab: Human Cognition, Fairfax, VA

Research Assistant, October 2013 – May 2015

- Explained study procedures to participants, conducted preliminary evaluations, and performed EEG analysis monitoring the brain's electrical activity as measured by 64-channel caps

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

American Physiological Society (APS), Bethesda, MD

Archive Intern, May 2013 – December 2015 (Seasonal)

- Created a report with graphs from a statistical analysis about audience data
- Communicated recommendations to the team and department directors

American Psychological Association (APA), Bethesda, MD

Science Directorate Intern, May 2014 – August 2014

- Reviewed detailed spreadsheets to decode variables, condense data from past surveys, and improve contact information

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Whitman-Walker Health, Washington, DC

Peer Counselor, September 2016 – January 2017

CASA for Children of DC (CASA DC), Washington, DC

Court-Appointed Special Advocate, January 2016 – June 2016

PUBLICATIONS

- **Wills, K.E.**, “Proposed Misuse of §1498 Relies on the False Claim that Patents Are Not Property”, (2018)
<https://cpip.gmu.edu/2018/11/14/proposed-misuse-of-§-1498-relies-on-the-false-claim-that-patents-are-not-property/>
- Nugent, A.C., **Wills, K.E.**, Gilbert, J.R., Zarate, C.A., Jr. “Synaptic Potentiation and Rapid Antidepressant Response to Ketamine in Treatment-Resistant Major Depression: A Replication Study.” *Psychiatry Research: Neuroimaging* (2018).
- Gilbert, J.R., Yarrington, J.S., **Wills, K.E.**, Nugent, A.C., Zarate, C.A., Jr. “Glutamatergic signaling drives ketamine-mediated response in depression: evidence from dynamic causal modeling.” *International Journal of Neuropsychopharmacology* (2018).
- Ballard, E.B., **Wills, K.E.**, et. al. “Anhedonia as a clinical correlate of suicidal thoughts in ketamine clinical trials.” *Journal of Affective Disorders* (2016).

PRESENTATIONS

- Society for Neuroscience, *Cortical excitability responses to ketamine in TR-MDD Patients*, November 2016
- MEG North America, *Cortical excitability responses to ketamine in TR-MDD Patients*, November 2016
- National Institute of Health Poster Day, *Cortical excitability responses to ketamine in BP Patients*, April 2016

No matter the law school or the practice area, there are common themes and experiences that unite law students nationally. As the voice of the legal community, the ABA, and in particular, the Law Student Division, has incredible reach to plan programs that address the common themes affecting law students. It would be a great privilege to be the Delegate of Programming to promote those programs that reach out to and unite law students.

In selecting programs, I think it is imperative to listen to what law students across the nation want to learn about, want to understand as they head into the profession. Diversity, mental health and wellness, financial intelligence including navigating student debt, are only some of the topics that students attend programs on relating to the legal profession. Given the structure of the Division, there is plenty of opportunity to collaborate members of the Council and execute the legislative agenda in many avenues. We can use the passion of law students, the desire to stay current on common themes, and the advancement of technology to encourage communication and cross barriers.

Staying in tune with the law student community has been a passion of mine the past two years in law school. As a student ambassador at Scalia Law, I promote the university and address real concerns of incoming students at panels, tours, and other events. As a representative, I often speak with prospective law students about these concerns and have realized that transparency and unity are the best tools to combat the unknown or uncertain. Fostering communication about a variety of topics and appealing to the common themes of each law student are ways to unite the legal profession early on, with the future legal professionals of the country. I have had years of experience in this role in other capacities throughout my education and professional career.

The first few months of my undergraduate career, I had created videos documenting student events for George Mason's Admissions Office as a regular videographer. Soon after, upper-class students reached out to me to become part of the founding team of TEDxGMU. To this day, it was one of the highlights of my extracurricular career which featured annual front-page recognition from the university. I quickly gathered a team of videographers, coordinated the filming of the event, and worked tirelessly to promote the first-ever conference at George Mason. The promotion included quick video teasers of each of the speaker's topics that were featured on-campus. The event became a huge success, selling out the lecture hall, and for each year after, Mason-TV took over the filming aspect as I transitioned into my next role as Director of Events Media. It was a great delight to see our team's hard work secure a permanent office at the Student Center, campus support and resources, an engaged student body who shared what they wanted to hear about, and even grow to include mini-Ted series on-campus featuring student research. From our small team which previously met at coffee shops on campus, we became a respected and thriving organization on campus that responded to the interests of the student body and cutting-edge research of the faculty. My role on the team prioritized adaptability, management, and communication across a large population of busy individuals. Additionally, in each of my leadership positions in extracurricular organizations, past and present, programming and promoting agendas has been an integral part of my role.

Additionally, I have worked professionally at the university level, law school level, and had industry experience in the mental health profession. At each level I have conducted research and written extensively in order to promote communication and progress in the field. Given my unique training and background, I am confident that I can help create valuable, necessary programming for ABA law students that students are eager to learn more about. I believe that volunteering as the Delegate of Programming for the ABA Law Student Division and working with this team would be an amazing opportunity to connect with future legal professionals across the country under a common mission for the betterment of our field.