

## **LOUIS J. SIRICO, JR.**

**Professor of Law  
Director of Legal Writing  
Villanova Law School  
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### **EDUCATION**

**Yale University, B.A. 1967.**

**University of Texas Law School, J.D. with Honors 1972.**

**Founding Editor-in-Chief, American Journal of Criminal Law.**

**Associate Editor, Texas Law Review.**

### **EMPLOYMENT**

**Villanova Law School, Professor, 1984 - present.**

**Director, Legal Writing Program, since 1985.**

**Associate Professor, 1981-1984.**

**Courses currently taught: Property, Legal Writing, Advanced Legal Writing, The Constitutional Convention and the Bill of Rights, Land Use Planning.**

**Rutgers Law School - Camden, Assistant Professor, 1977-1981**

**National Public Interest Research Group, Washington, D.C., Attorney, 1975-1977.**

**Fairfield County Legal Services, Bridgeport, Connecticut, Attorney, 1974-1975.**

**Connecticut Citizen Action Group, Hartford, Connecticut, Attorney, 1972-1974.**

**Catholic Church Extension Society of America, Extension Volunteer, 1967-1969.**

### **PUBLICATIONS**

#### **BOOKS:**

**Technical Editor for Roy Stuckey et al., Best Practices for Legal Education (Clinical Legal Education Assn. 2007).**

**Academic Advisory Panel, Black's Law Dictionary.**

**Judging: A Book for Student Clerks. (LexisNexis 2003).**

**Persuasive Legal Writing (with Schultz). Wolters Kluwer (Aspen) (4th ed. 2015).**

**Legal Writing and Other Lawyering Skills (with Schultz), Wolters Kluwer (Aspen) (6<sup>th</sup> ed. 2014).**

**Legal Research** (with Schultz). Casenotes Publishing Co. (Casenote Legal Education Series/Aspen) (2d ed. 2001).

**How to Talk Back to the Telephone Company: Playing the Telephone Game to Win** Washington, D.C.: Center for the Study of Responsive Law (1979).

#### **CONTRIBUTIONS TO BOOKS:**

Contributions in Gerald F. Hess, Steven I. Friedland, Michael Hunter Schwartz, Sophie Sparrow, *Techniques for Teaching Law 2* Carolina Academic Press (2011).

“Jones v. Wolf,” entry in Encyclopedia of American Civil Liberties (Paul Finkelman ed. Routledge 2006).

“Ask Your Students,” in Teaching the Law School Curriculum 391 (Steven Friedland & Gerald F. Hess ed.). Carolina Academic Press (2004).

“Helping Students to Become Reflective Learners and Lawyers” (with Nancy Schultz) in Active Teaching and Learning. Spokane: Institute for Law Teaching (2004).

“Day-to-Day Feedback for Students and Teachers,” in Assessment, Feedback, and Evaluation. Spokane: Institute for Law Teaching (2001).

“Teaching Professionalism,” in Fresh Looks at Teaching and Learning Law. Spokane: Institute for Law Teaching (1999).

“Springtime for Migros: Consumer Cooperatives in Switzerland” in Making Change? Learning from Europe's Consumer Cooperatives. Washington, D.C.: Center for the Study of Responsive Law (1985).

“How to Talk Back to the Telephone Company: Playing the Telephone Game to Win” in Reverse the Charges: How to Save \$\$\$ on Your Phone Bill. (Joseph A. Waz, Jr., revised under the direction of Samuel A. Simon). Washington, D.C.: National Citizens Committee for Broadcasting (1981).

“Horse-Trading with Ma Bell: Who Benefits?” in Telecommunications Policy and the Citizen (Timothy Haight, ed.) New York, New York: Praeger Publishers (1979).

#### **BLOG:**

Coeditor, Legal Skills Prof Blog

#### **ARTICLES:**

"Opening an Oral Argument Before the Supreme Court: The Decline of Narrative's Role," Duke Law Journal Online (forthcoming).

“A Proposal to Improve Oral Argument Before the United States Supreme Court,” 42 Pepperdine Law Review 195 (2015).

“The Constitutional Convention: Drafting to Charter Future History,” 12 Georgetown Journal of Law and Public Policy 157 (2014).

“Benjamin Franklin, Prayer, and the Constitutional Convention,” 10 Legal Communication and Rhetoric: JALWD 89 (2013).

“Donating and Procuring Organs: An Annotated Bibliography,” 104 Law Library Journal 285 (2012).

“The Supreme Court and the Constitutional Convention,” 27 Journal of Law and Politics (University of Virginia Law School) 63 (2011).

**“Failed Constitutional Metaphors: The Wall of Separation and the Penumbra,” 45 University of Richmond Law Review 459 (2011).**

**“Stopping Nuclear Power Plants: A Memoir,” 21 Villanova Environmental Law Journal 35 (2010).**

**“How the Separation of Powers Doctrine Shaped the Executive” 40 University of Toledo Law Review 617 (2009).**

**“Readability Studies: How Technocentrism Can Compromise Research and Legal Determinations,” 26 Quinnipiac Law Review 147 (2007).**

**“Original Intent in the First Congress,” 71 Missouri Law Review 687 (2006).**

**“*The Federalist* and the Lessons of Rome,” 75 Mississippi Law Journal 431 (2006).**

**“Teachable Moments for Teachers ... Beyond Offering Examples of Good Writing: Let the Students Grade the Models,” 14 Perspectives: Teaching Legal Research and Writing 160 (2006).**

**“Reining in Footnotes,” 13 Perspectives: Teaching Legal Research and Writing 91 (2005).**

**“Law Haiku,” 27 Legal Studies Forum 717 (2003) (reprinting previously published haiku).**

**“A Primer on Organ Donation,” 17 Journal of Law and Health 1 (2002-03).**

**“Life and Death: Stories of a Heart Transplant Patient,” 37 Real Property, Probate, and Trust Journal 553 (2002).**

**“The Citing of Law Reviews by the Supreme Court: 1971-1999,” 75 Indiana Law Journal 1009 (2000).**

**“Try Peer Teaching,” 11 The Law Teacher 1 No. 1 Fall 2003)**

**“Teaching a Collaborative Seminar,” 9 The Law Teacher (No. 2 Fall 2002).**

**“Ask Your Students,” 8 The Law Teacher 3(No. 2 Spring 2001).**

**“What the Legal Writing Faculty Can Learn from the Doctrinal Faculty,” 11 Perspectives: Teaching Legal Research and Writing 97 (2003).**

**“Teachable Moments for Teachers ... Why Law Review Students Write Poorly,” 10 Perspectives: Teaching Legal Research and Writing 117 (2002) .**

**“Reading Out Loud in Class,” 10 Perspectives: Teaching Legal Research and Writing 8 (2001).**

**“Materials for Teaching Plain English: The Jury Instructions in *Palsgraf*, Revisited,” 8 Perspectives: Teaching Legal Research and Writing 137 (2000).**

**“Teachable Moments for Teachers ... Teaching Paragraphs,” 8 Perspectives: Teaching Legal Research and Writing 13 (1999).**

**“Review Sessions: Proceed Productively,” 7 The Law Teacher 12 (No. 1 Fall 1999).**

**“Teaching Professionalism,” in Fresh Looks at Teaching and Learning Law (Institute for Law Teaching, June 1999).**

**“The Trial of Charles I: A Sesquicentennial Reflection,” 16 Constitutional Commentary 51 (1999).**

**“Legal Research and the Summer Job: Advice from the Law School,” (with Pantaloni) 7 Perspectives: Teaching Legal Research and Writing 110 (1999), included in The Best of Perspectives (2001).**

**“Conducting Exit Interviews,” 2 The Law Teacher 6 (1998).**

**“Teaching Oral Argument,” 7 Perspectives: Teaching Legal Research and Writing 17**

(1998), included in The Best of Perspectives (2001).

"Cardozo's Statement of Facts in *Palsgraf*, Revisited," 6 Perspectives: Teaching Legal Research and Writing 122 (1998).

"Getting Respect," 3 Legal Writing: The Journal of the Legal Writing Institute 293 (1997).

"Advanced Legal Writing Courses: Comparing Approaches," 5 Perspectives: Teaching Legal Research and Writing 63 (1997).

"Automobile Lemon Laws: An Annotated Bibliography," 8 Loyola Consumer Law Reporter 39 (1995-96).

Book Review, Stephen J. Stein, The Shaker Experience in America. 35 Journal of Church and State 414 (1993).

"Inclusive Law, Inclusive Religion, and the Shakers," 34 Journal of Church and State 563 (1992).

Book Review, "Fiddling with Footnotes": The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation 15th ed. 60 University of Cincinnati Law Review 1273 (1992).

"Avoiding Violent Words," 24 Connecticut Law Review 487 (1992).

"Homelessness: Introduction and Bibliography," 36 Villanova Law Review 1019 (1991).

"The Citing of Law Reviews by the United States Courts of Appeals: An Empirical Analysis," 45 University of Miami Law Review 1051 (1991) (coauthored with Beth Drew).

"Vietnam Haiku," 74 Cornell Law Review 1228 (1989).

"Future Interest Haiku," 67 North Carolina Law Review 171 (1989).

"Supreme Court Haiku," 61 New York University Law Review 1224 (1986).

"Church Property Disputes: Churches as Secular and Alien Institutions," 55 Fordham Law Review 335 (1986).

"The Citing of Law Reviews by the Supreme Court: An Empirical Study," 34 UCLA Law Review 131 (1986) (coauthored with Jeffrey Margulies).

"Deficiency Judgments in Pennsylvania: A Reply," 30 Villanova Law Review 1152 (1985).

"The Secular Contribution of Religion to The Political Process: The First Amendment and School Aid," 50 Missouri Law Review 321 (1985).

"Constitutional Dimensions of Church Property Disputes," 59 Washington University Law Quarterly 1 (1981).

"Agencies in Conflict: Overlapping Agencies and the Legitimacy of The Administrative Process," 33 Vanderbilt Law Review 101 (1980) (Reprinted in Hearings before the Subcommittee on Consumer and Monetary Affairs of the House Government Operations Committee on Commodity Futures Trading Commission. Oversight, February 18, 1982).

"The Constitutionality of the Initiative and Referendum," 65 Iowa Law Review 637 (1980).

Book Review, Anne Strick, Injustice For All. New Directions 130 (1977).

Comment, "Prisoner Classification and Administrative Decisionmaking," 50 Texas Law Review 1229 (1972).

Note, "The Open and Obvious Nature of a Design Defect Does Not Necessarily Preclude Manufacturer's Liability," 49 Texas Law Review 591 (1971).

Book Review, Anthony J. Manocchio & Jimmy Dunn, The Time Game: Two Views of a Prison. 1 American Journal of Criminal Law 125 (1972).

#### **PUBLISHED TESTIMONY:**

U.S. Congress. Senate. Judiciary Committee. Subcommittee on Administrative Practice and Procedure. Hearings: Administrative Procedure Act Amendments of 1976. 94th Congress, 2nd Session, May 3, 1976.

U.S. Congress. House. Post Office and Civil Service Committee. Subcommittee on Employee Ethics and Utilization. Hearings: Ethics and Financial Disclosure. 95th Congress, 1st Session, March 25, 1977.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS PUBLICATIONS:**

"Muddied Writing Can Cause You Problems," At Issue (newsletter of the Young Lawyers Division of the Pennsylvania Bar Association (Spring 2009)).

[www.Pabar.org/public/yld/pubs/atis](http://www.Pabar.org/public/yld/pubs/atis) .

"Advising Clients on Organ Transplants," New Matter ( newsletter of the Chester County, PA, Bar Association), at 6 (Feb. 1999).

"A Primer on Plagiarism," Second Draft (Legal Writing Institute), May, 1988.

"Spirit of Compromise Shaped 1787 Constitutional Convention," Pennsylvania Law Journal-Reporter, Sept. 14, 1987, at 3.

"Scaling Down the Constitution Extravaganza," Philadelphia Business Journal, May 4-10, 1987, at 7.

Contributing Editor for the 1972 and 1974 General Assembly Projects (Profiles of Connecticut State Legislators).

"Timberlands in East Texas" in Property Tax: A Study in Inequality In Valuations and Assessments in Texas, 116 Congressional Record 40004 (1970).

#### **OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Participant, National Endowment of the Humanities Seminar for Law Professors, "Origins of American Constitutionalism," Bowdoin College, Summer 1986.

#### **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Editorial Board, Journal of Legal Education (served three year term).

Member, Communications Skills Committee of the American Bar Association Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar (served three year term).

Former Chair, Section on Legal Writing, Legal Reasoning, and Legal Research, Association of American Law Schools (2008-09)

Former Chair, Section on Teaching Methods, Association of American Law Schools (2008-09).

Editorial Board, Legal Intelligencer (regional Pennsylvania legal newspaper).

Advisory Board, Social Science Research Network (SSRN) Legal Writing Journal.

**Advisory Council, Villanova University Paralegal Education Program.**  
**Member, Plain English Committee of the Pennsylvania Bar Association Panel of Academic Contributors, Black's Law Dictionary.**  
**Board of Directors, Connecticut Citizen Action Group, 1973-1980.**  
**Board of Directors and President, Rutgers - Camden Community Women's Center, 1977-1983.**  
**Extension Volunteer, Catholic Church Extension Society of America, Galveston, Texas, 1967-1969 (volunteer service).**

#### **MEMBERSHIPS**

**District of Columbia Bar Association.**  
**Connecticut Bar.**  
**Order of the Coif.**  
**Legal Writing Institute.**  
**Association of Legal Writing Directors.**

#### **ACTIVITIES IN THE LEGAL WRITING FIELD**

**Recipient of the Thomas F. Blackwell Award, awarded by the Association of Legal Writing Directors and the Legal Writing Institute for outstanding achievement in the field of Legal Writing (2007).**  
**Director of Legal Writing, Villanova Law School.**  
**Chair, Section on Legal Writing, Legal Reasoning, and Legal Research of the Association of American Law Schools (2008).**  
**Chair, Section on Teaching Methods of the Association of American Law Schools (2009).**  
**Advisory Board, Social Science Research Network (SSRN) Legal Writing Journal.**  
**Panel of Academic Contributors, Black's Law Dictionary.**  
**Lead in creating and running the Legal Writing Institute's annual Legal Writers Workshop, a multi-day workshop designed to assist Legal Writing faculty in producing scholarship necessary for promotion or tenure (2004-).**  
**Former Member, Communications Skills Committee of the American Bar Association Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar.**  
**Educational Testing Service, LSAT Writing Advisory Committee (2002-03)**  
**Board of Directors, Legal Writing Institute (1995-2002) (Member of the Board's Executive Committee 2000-02). Editorial Board, Legal Writing: The Journal of the Legal Writing Institute (1996-2006; including editorship of two volumes). I have chaired numerous committees.**  
**Editorial Board, "Perspectives: Teaching Legal Research and Writing," a quarterly journal published by the West Group. (Service concluded).**

**Various committees of the Legal Writing Institute and the Association of Legal Writing Directors.**

**Member, Plain English Committee of the Pennsylvania Bar Association (served multiple year term).**

**Editorial Board, The Legal Intelligencer (regional Pennsylvania legal newspaper).**

**Chair, Survey Committee, Association of Legal Writing Directors, 1996-98. Conducted two national surveys on academic Legal Writing programs and the status of Legal Writing professionals.**

**Coauthor of Legal Research (Casenote Publishing Co. 2d ed. 2001, acquired by Aspen), Casenote Legal Education Series.**

**Coauthor of Persuasive Legal Writing (3d ed. Wolters Kluwer (Aspen 2011) law school text**

**Coauthor of Legal Writing and Other Lawyering Skills (Wolters Kluwer (Aspen) 5<sup>th</sup> ed. 2010), a law school text**

**Coauthor of several articles on Legal Research and Writing.**

**Convenor, Regional Conference on Legal Writing, with the sponsorship of the Legal Writing Institute, Villanova, Pennsylvania, May, 1995**

**Speaker, Legal Writing Institute Conference, Ann Arbor, Michigan, July, 1990, Tacoma, Washington, July, 1992, Chicago, Illinois, 1994, Seattle, Washington, 1996, 2000, 2004, Atlanta, July 2006, Indianapolis, July 2008. Speaker, Association of Legal Writing Directors Conference, Chicago, July, 1997, Boston, July, 1999, Minneapolis 2001, Windsor, Ontario 2003, Chicago, July, 2005, Denver, July 2007; Indianapolis, July 2008; Marco Island, Florida (2010). Speaker, Applied Storytelling Conference, Denver 2011. Speaker Association of American Law Schools, Section on Legal Writing, Reasoning, and Research, Washington, D.C. 2012).**

**Luncheon Speaker, Association of American Law Schools Section on Legal Writing, Reasoning and Research Luncheon, Washington, D.C., January 4, 1991.**

**Program Committee, Association of American Law Schools Section on Legal Writing, Reasoning and Research, 1992-1993.**

**Program Designer and Instructor, Continuing Legal Education programs on Legal Writing at the local, regional, and national level.**