

## Pamela DeFanti Robinson

### EDUCATION:

#### Legal:

University of South Carolina School of Law  
Columbia, S. C., Juris Doctor, May 1986  
Admitted to practice in S. C. November, 1986

#### Undergraduate:

Clemson University, Clemson, S. C.  
B. A., Elementary Education, December 1973

### EMPLOYMENT

#### Present:

Director, University of South Carolina School of Law  
Pro Bono Program, 1989-

#### Past:

Law Clerk for Dean Harry M. Lightsey, Jr.  
USC School of Law, 1984-1986

Children and Young Adult Services Librarian  
Kershaw County Library, Camden, SC, 1981-83

Docent, Smithsonian Institution- Museum of  
American History, January 1978-June 1980

Public Education Coordinator for U. S. Coast Guard  
Auxiliary, 7th District, 1976-1978, directed "Water  
and Kids" water safety education program for Atlanta  
School System

Part-time and full-time teaching positions;  
1973-1981; Atlanta, Ga., Alexandria, Va., and  
Camden, SC

### PAST ACTIVITIES:

Director, Project Literacy, Alexandria Community Y,  
Alexandria, VA. 1979-81

Member, Women's Committee of the National  
Symphony, Washington, DC, 1979-81

Chair, S. C. Bar Mock Trial Committee, 1989-1991

Judge, National High School Mock Trial, 1989-1991

Executive Committee, National High School Mock  
Trial Championship, 1993

Vice-Chair, 1996-97; Chair 1997-98, Treasurer;  
Richland County Guardian *ad Litem* Board  
Richland County CASA Program Board  
Member. 2009-2011

President, 1993-1995, Midlands Affiliate,

S. C. Association for Volunteer Administration

Vice-President, 1994-95; President, 1995-97

S. C. Association for Volunteer Administration

Member, Citizen's Advisory Council, Watkin's Pre-Release Center. SC Department of Corrections, 1990-1999  
Chair, SC Bar Representation of Children Subcommittee- 1997-2000- Reporter, *Guidelines for Guardians ad Litem in Family Court*  
Chair, SC Bar Access to Justice Committee, 2001-02  
Member, SC Bar Lawyers Caring About Lawyers Committee, 1987-2002  
Member, SC Bar Access to Justice Committee, 1987-07  
Member, SC Bar Pro Bono Committee, 2005-2007  
Member, SC Complete Count Committee, US Census, 1999-2000  
Volunteer book reviewer, WRJA, SC ETV, 1983-2002  
Chair, 2008-2009; Secretary, 2003-2004, Treasurer, 2005-2006, Past-Chair, 2007-2008  
American Association of Law Schools, Public Services and Pro Bono Opportunities Section  
Newsletter Editor, SC Association for Volunteer Administration, 1993- 2007  
Secretary/Treasurer- Council for Certification in Volunteer Administration, 2006-2010  
Member, Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness Advisory Council, (PAIMI), 2002-2010

PRESENT ACTIVITIES:

Volunteer, Richland County CASA Program, 1988-  
Trainer, SC Department of Juvenile Justice, *Choices: Court Diversion Program*, 1991-  
Volunteer, SC Bar Pro Bono Program, 1986-  
Member, SC Bar Children's Committee, 1993-  
Faculty Advisor, *Women in Law*, USC Law School, 1997-  
Member, Editorial Board, *International Journal of Volunteer Administration*, 2006-  
Reviewer, *The International Journal of Volunteer Administration*, 2000-  
Member, Clemson University Humanities Advancement Board, 2005-  
Vice- Chair- 2011-  
Member, Children's Justice Act Task Force, 2000-  
Newsletter Editor, American Association of Law Schools, Section on Pro Bono and Public Service Opportunities, 2009-  
Founding member  
SC Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts, 2010-  
Secretary- Digna Ochoa Center for Immigration Legal Services, 2007-

Board Member-Council for Certification in  
Volunteer Administration, 2006-

MEMBERSHIPS:

American Bar Association  
Association for American Law Schools- Public  
Services and Pro Bono Opportunities Section  
National Council of Juvenile and Family Court  
Judges- Associate Member  
SC Bar  
SC Women Lawyers Association

AWARDS:

1991 *Volunteer of the Year*, Richland County  
Guardian *ad Litem* Project  
1992 *Volunteer of the Year*, SC Department of  
Juvenile Justice  
1992 *Pro Bono Service Award*, SC Bar  
1997 *OASIS Award (Outstanding Achievement in  
Service to Indigent South Carolina)* presented on  
the 10th Anniversary of the SC Bar Pro Bono  
Program  
1997 *Volunteer Administrator of the Year*  
SC Association for Volunteer Administration,  
Midlands Affiliate  
1998 *USC Faculty Advisor of the Year*  
1999 *Volunteer Administrator of the Year*  
SC Association of Volunteer Administration,  
2000 *Governor's Volunteer Award-* Volunteer  
Administrator category  
2005 *IMPACT Award*, Richland County Guardian  
*ad Litem* Program  
2005 *National Volunteer Administrator of the Year*,  
International Association for Volunteer  
Administration  
2007 *Lifetime Achievement Award*, Richland County  
CASA Program  
2009 USC Ambassador of Service Award  
2009 Women In Law, *Outstanding Attorney Mentor  
Award*  
2010 USC MLK Day *Social Justice Award*

PUBLICATIONS:

"Insurmountable Opportunities or Innovative  
Choices- The Pro Bono Experience at the University of  
South Carolina School of Law."  
42 S.C. Law Review, Summer, 1991

“Choices- Legal Awareness Sessions for Juveniles”  
Co-authored with Mike Gannon, SC Department of  
Juvenile Justice, 1989, updates 1996, 2004

“The Volunteer Protection Act of 1997: An Analysis  
and Synopsis”, for the S.C. Association for Volunteer  
Administration, August, 1997

“A is for Awareness: A Framework for Presenting  
Legal Issues”, *Journal of Volunteer Administration*,  
Vol. 23, No. 3, 2005

WORKSHOP TOPICS:

“Volunteers and the Law”, SC, NC and generic  
versions  
“Preventing Burnout in a Non-Profit Organization”  
“Risk Management for Non-Profit Organizations”  
“9 1/2 Things Every Volunteer Manager Needs to  
Know about the Law”  
“Effective Screening of Volunteers”  
“Virtual Volunteering”  
“Got Leadership?” A survey of leadership styles  
“Follow the Leaders” An extended workshop for law  
school student leaders  
“ The Role of the Guardian *ad Litem* in Abuse and  
Neglect Cases in SC”  
“The Role of the Guardian *ad Litem* in Custody Cases  
in SC”  
“ The Challenges of Managing a Law School Pro Bono  
Program”  
“ What New Law School Pro Bono Program Manager  
Need to Know”  
“ The Fine Art of Collaboration”  
“We Have a Winner...or Do We? - Writing and  
Evaluating Awards  
“ Cultural Competency Awareness” Based on SC Bar  
training material  
“ The ABC’s of Starting a Law School Pro Bono  
Program”  
“Utilizing the *Choices* Curriculum to Address the  
Needs of At-Risk Youth”

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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