



October 16, 2022

Via e-mail: marcusallenshields@gmail.com

Marcus A. Shields
Ellis & Winters, LLP
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Greensboro, NC 27401

Via e-mail: dlcecil@cecil-attorneys.com

David L. Cecil, Cecil
Cecil & Barker, P.A.
1026 Hutton Lane
High Point, NC 27262

Dear Friends and Colleagues of the 24th and 24H Judicial District:

I am announcing my candidacy for nomination to fill the District Court judicial vacancy occasioned by the resignation of the Honorable A. Marcus Shields. I am duly authorized to practice law in the State of North Carolina and am an active member of the North Carolina State Bar in good standing. I currently reside within the 24th Judicial District.

I have been practicing family law in North Carolina since graduating from Wake Forest Law School in 1995. I began my career as an associate with a family law attorney in Raleigh where I learned the basics of family law. After a couple of years, I wanted to explore other practice areas, so between 1998 and 2002, I practiced general civil litigation, including employment discrimination, personal injury, construction litigation, and debt collections in addition to family law. In 2002, I started my own practice and again focused on family law. Since 2002 my family law practice has included the basics – custody, child support, spousal support, equitable distribution, absolute divorce, domestic violence – as well as some of the less common issues including third party tort claims, termination of parental rights, adoptions, paternity, legitimation, third-party custody cases, same-sex partnerships and marriages, and the emerging area of assisted reproductive technology law, which only a handful of attorneys in North Carolina currently practice.

As a family law practitioner, I've often been called upon to delve into other areas of practice. A family law case might involve a business, a bankruptcy, death of a party, an assault, or any number of other circumstances, such that I have gained insight and familiarity in bankruptcy, estates, juvenile law, criminal law, real estate, tax, foreclosures, and business law to name a few.

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I have been a North Carolina Board Certified Family Law Specialist since 2004. I became a Certified Family Financial Mediator in 2008, and was trained in Collaborative Family Law in 2009 or so. I was selected as the only private practice attorney on the panel for the 2013 Elon Law School Symposium; my article discussing the intersection of North Carolina's prohibitions against same sex marriage and the US Supreme Court case, *United States v. Windsor*, was published in the *Elon Law Review*. I was named as a North Carolina "Super Lawyer" in 2020, 2021 and 2022. I have successfully represented many clients on appeal, first in 1999 on a pregnancy discrimination claim that prevailed in the Middle District and was affirmed by the Fourth Circuit. More recently, I represented the non-biological parent of the child of a same-sex couple in the North Carolina Court of Appeals. In between, I've successfully handled several typical family law issues on appeal in the North Carolina Court of Appeals and the North Carolina Supreme Court.

I have a reputation for being honest, straightforward, and fair. I am respectful of my clients, my colleagues, and the Court. I am ready, willing and able to be empathetic to both sides (and their respective attorneys), to seek out and understand the law and to apply it fairly and compassionately across the board.

I hope to have the opportunity to serve our community and I humbly ask for your support.

Sincerely,



Rebecca Perry

REBECCA PERRY

Greensboro, North Carolina
336-230-7359 rperry@gsfamilylaw.com gsfamilylaw.com

EDUCATION

- 1995 **Juris Doctor**
Wake Forest University School of Law, Winston-Salem, North Carolina
- 1990 **Master of Business Administration**
Texas Christian University, M.J. Neely School of Business, Fort Worth, Texas
- 1987 **Bachelor of Arts in Psychology**
University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma

EXPERIENCE

- 2014 – Present **Member-Manager**
GREENSBORO FAMILY LAW
Greensboro, North Carolina

Practice limited to family law, including custody, child support, equitable distribution, postseparation support and alimony; negotiating and drafting separation and property settlement agreements and consent orders; drafting genetic material donation agreements and gestational carrier agreements, consent pre-birth orders and ancillary court documents; also responsible for managing the business operations of the law office.

- 2010 – 2014 **Partner**
MCKINNEY, JUSTICE, PERRY & COALTER, P.A.
Greensboro, North Carolina

Headed Family Law division of the multi-division firm, with my practice focusing on family law, including custody, child support, equitable distribution, postseparation support and alimony, third-party tort claims, termination of parental rights and adoptions; negotiated and drafted separation and property settlement agreements; mediated family financial matters. Also represented clients in collaborative family law matters as an alternative to litigation.

- 2002 – 2010 **President**
REBECCA PERRY, P.A.
Greensboro, North Carolina

Practice limited to family law including custody, child support, equitable distribution, postseparation support and alimony, third-party tort claims, termination of parental rights and adoptions; drafted genetic material donation agreements and gestational carrier agreements, consent pre-birth orders and ancillary documents; negotiated and drafted separation and property settlement agreements; mediated family financial matters; and managed all of the business operations of the law office.

- 2000 – 2002 **Associate Attorney**
PURYEAR & LINGLE, PLLC
Greensboro, North Carolina

Practiced general civil litigation, family law, and employment law, including Title VII discrimination, Family Medical Leave Act violations, retaliatory discharge, wrongful termination, workplace torts.

1997 – 2000 **Associate Attorney**
HAYES HOFLE & ASSOCIATES, P.A.
Durham, North Carolina

Practiced general civil litigation in state and federal courts, including family law, domestic violence, employment discrimination, business and commercial litigation, personal injury, products liability, medical malpractice construction litigation; court appointed Guardian ad Litem for incompetency hearings.

1995 – 1997 **Associate Attorney**
LAW OFFICE OF MEREDITH J. MCGILL, P.A.
Raleigh, North Carolina

Practiced family law including absolute divorce, custody, child support, equitable distribution, postseparation support and alimony, and domestic violence.

1990 – 1992 **Financial Analyst**
FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM
Fort Worth, Texas

Prepared annual and monthly pro forma budgets and analyses for all departments; Prepared financial analyses for proposed mergers and acquisitions; planned and wrote the organization's Americans with Disabilities Act Compliance Plan including implementation strategies and goals for each department to ensure compliance with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act; planned and wrote the company's formal Affirmative Action Plan, including implementation goals for each department in order to promote diversity in the workplace.

CERTIFICATIONS

2004 Family Law Specialist
North Carolina State Bar Board of Legal Specialization

2008 Family Financial Mediator
North Carolina Dispute Resolution Commission

BAR ADMISSIONS

1995 North Carolina
1996 Texas
1997 U.S. District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina
1998 U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit

REPRESENTATIVE APPELLATE CASES

Zimmerman v. Zimmerman, 2021-NCCOA-485.
Brookbank v. Williams, 799 S.E.2d 48 (N.C. 2017).
Alday v. Alday, 806 S.E.2d 75 (N.C. App. 2017).
Robinson v. Robinson, 707 S.E.2d 785 (N.C. App. 2011).
Wagner v. Dillard Dept. Stores, Inc., 17 Fed.Appx. 141 (4th Cir. (2001)).

PUBLICATIONS "North Carolina's Same-Sex Wedlock: The Intersection of United States v. Windsor with North Carolina's Statutory and Constitutional Prohibitions on Same-Sex Marriage" 6 Elon L. Rev. 375 (2013).

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

North Carolina Bar Association - Family Law Section
North Carolina Advocates for Justice