

# Joshua Ellery, J.D., M.A

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## EDUCATION

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### J.D., Doctorate of Jurisprudence

South Texas College of Law, December 2015

Rank: Top 5%    GPA: 3.835

Honors: *Summa cum laude*, College Honors

Dean's Merit Scholarship, *Recipient* (2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15)

Dean's List (All semesters attended)

Highest Grade - Legal Research & Writing I and II, Federal Civil Procedure

Phi Delta Phi (Honors Fraternity)

### M.A., Philosophy

University of Houston, May 2002

Thesis: "*Aristotle's Politics and Property Rights*"

Honors: *Magna cum laude*, University Honors

Graduate Teaching Assistant Fellowship, *Recipient* (2000-01 and 2001-02)

### B.A., Philosophy

University of Houston, December 1999

Thesis: "*David Hume's Problem of Induction: Empiricist or Skeptic?*"

Honors: *Magna cum laude*, University Honors and Honors in Major

Dean's List (Spring 1997, Fall 1999)

## AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

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Philosophy of Law, Social and Political Philosophy

Property Law, Municipal & Public Law

## AREAS OF COMPETENCE

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Ethics, Metaphysics, Epistemology, Logic, History of Philosophy, Critical Thinking,

Contract Law, Election Law, Legal Research & Writing

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### Adjunct Professor, San Jacinto College

Spring 2018 – Present; Fall 2002 – Spring 2003

Courses Taught:

PHIL 1301 - Introduction to Philosophy

PHIL 2306 - Introduction to Ethics

\* Consistently rated "Very Good" on course evaluations by a super-majority of students. Rated as "Very Engaging" and "Inspirational" in student comments. Copies provided upon request.

**Adjunct Professor, Houston Community College**

Spring 2018 – Present; Fall 2002 – Spring 2003

*2019 Faculty Teaching Excellence Award, Nominee* (less than 4% of faculty are nominated)

Courses Taught:

PHIL 1301 - Introduction to Philosophy

PHIL 2303 - Symbolic Logic

PHIL 2306 - Introduction to Ethics

\* Consistently rated "Highly effective" on course evaluations, with mean scores above department and college-wide averages. Copies provided upon request.

**Instructor, South Texas College of Law (Langdell Scholar Program)**

Fall 2013 – Fall 2015

Courses Taught:

Contracts I

Torts I

Legal Research & Writing

**Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of Houston**

Fall 2000 – Spring 2002

Courses:

PHIL 1301 - Introduction to Philosophy

PHIL 2303 - Symbolic Logic

PHIL 2306 - Introduction to Ethics

PHIL 2310 - Critical Thinking

**OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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**Radcliffe Bobbitt Adams Polley PLLC**

*Associate Attorney*, May 2016 – January 2018

*Law Clerk*, 2015 – 2016

Primary Duties and Responsibilities: Served as general counsel and bond counsel to various special purpose districts, including municipal utility districts and water control and improvement districts. Represent clients in all matters, including the financing and construction of water, sewer, and drainage facilities, contract negotiations and preparation, open government law (Texas Public Information Act), and the administration of the district's public board meetings.

Special Projects:

- Research/monitor new legislation; prepared the firm's Texas Legislative Update memorandum (81<sup>st</sup> and 82<sup>nd</sup> Texas Legislatures).
- Support the firm's election law section for all director's and bond elections.

## **South Texas College of Law**

*Director, Office of Assessment and Research, 2013 – 2015*

*Assessment and Research Analyst, 2003 – 2013*

Primary Duties and Responsibilities: Expertise in student learning outcomes and assessment. Prepared formal responses for various federal and state regulatory and accrediting agencies (e.g., SACS, ABA). Conducted surveys and performed complex statistical analyses to assist strategic planning and senior management decision-making.

Special Projects:

- Law School Survey of Student Engagement (LSSSE) and Student Academic Success Survey (annual). Identified areas of concern/deficiency in the student experience. Leveraged survey and institutional data to recommend policy changes and improve student academic and social outcomes.
- Admissions Committee. Research projects related to analyzing admissions standards, targeting scholarship offers and maximizing student retention.
- Bar Passage Committee. Research projects analyzing the correlation between taking particular law courses and section-level performance on the Texas bar exam.

## **PUBLICATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

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"Clear as MUD? Texas Municipal Utility Districts and Individual Rights" (*In progress*)

"Normalizing Normative Notions - What's in it for me?" STCL Law Review – Ethics Symposium, February 2014 (Presentation and Discussion)

"The Real Law School Experience" STCL New Student Orientation, August 2013 and August 2014 (Presentation and Discussion)

STCL Mock Trial Competition, Fall 2014 (Participant, Varsity Advocate)

## **INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE**

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*Collaborator and Contributor, Houston Community College, Adjunct Faculty Caucus Satisfaction Survey (2018 – 2019)*

*Member and Committee Chair, Strategic Planning Oversight Committee, South Texas College of Law (2005 – 2015)*

*Member and Sub-committee Chair, Banner Database Implementation Committee, South Texas College of Law (2011 – 2013)*

*Member, Student Academic Success Committee, South Texas College of Law (2013 – 2015)*

*Collaborator and Contributor, ABA Curriculum Committee, Law School Curriculum Survey (2002)*

*Co-founder and Member, Philosopher's Guild (Student Org.), University of Houston (2000 – 2002)*

## **LICENSES/CERTIFICATIONS**

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State Bar of Texas, *Attorney of Law*

Distance Education - Canvas Certification, Houston Community College (2019)

Distance Education - ACAdemic Certification, San Jacinto College (2019)

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

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New Mexico – Texas Philosophical Society, *Member* (2018 – Present)

American Bar Association, *Member* (2015 – Present)

University of Houston Alumni League, *Member* (2004 – Present)

Texas Association of Institutional Research (TAIR), *Member* (2003 – 2015)

## COMMUNITY/VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

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Boy Scouts of America, *Volunteer, Member* (awarded Life Scout in 1995)

United Way, *Volunteer*

Easter Seals of Greater Houston, *Volunteer*

Parker Elementary School PTO, *Volunteer*

Westbury Civic Club, *Volunteer*

## REFERENCES

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Dr. Darla Rocha, Ph.D.

Professor and Chair, Department of Behavioral & Social Sciences

San Jacinto College

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Houston, Texas 77049

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Dr. Lamont Rodgers, Ph.D.

Professor, Department of Philosophy

Houston Community College

10041 Cash Road

Stafford, Texas 77477

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Mr. Edwin Aiman, M.A.

Professor, Department of Philosophy

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