

C. Mark Pickrell
111 Brookfield Avenue
Nashville, Tennessee 37205
mark.pickrell@pickrell.net
(615) 974-0174 (c)

Education

University of Tennessee, J.D., *magna cum laude*, 1992. Scholarships & Awards: John W. Greene Scholarship, Charles Warner Scholarship, *Order of the Coif*, *Order of Barristers*, Phi Delta Phi, *Tennessee Law Review* Articles Editor, National Moot Court Team (Regional Champions, Best Oralist), McClung Medal for Excellence in Oral Advocacy.

Harvard College, A.B. History, *magna cum laude*, 1988. Major field: Modern Europe; Minor field: Ancient Greece & Rome. Scholarships & Awards: National Merit Scholarship, Harvard College Scholarship, Charles W. Schwitzer Memorial Scholarship, Ada Howe Kent Scholarship, Hoopes Prize Nomination (departmental nomination for best senior thesis), Ford Foundation Grant (for senior-thesis research in the United Kingdom).

Experience

Virtuoso Surgical, Inc., Nashville, TN (2017-present). General Counsel & Chief Administrative Officer of a medical-device startup. Co-founder, Secretary, and Board member. Responsible for establishing the legal, regulatory, finance, and accounting systems of the Company, and responsible for day-to-day business operations.

Vanderbilt University Law School, Nashville, TN (2003-present). Adjunct Professor of Law. Experience teaching Federal Courts, Professional Responsibility, and Law of Appellate Courts (substantive appellate law); coaching Vanderbilt's National Moot Court Team; and leading (and winding down) Vanderbilt's Appellate Litigation Clinic. Regular guest lecturer, Entrepreneurship (year-long combination class of law students, engineering students, and business-school students).

The Pickrell Law Group, P.C., Nashville, TN (1997-2004, 2011-2017). Principal attorney and owner of a small law firm. Appellate practice and commercial litigation; transactional representation of entrepreneurs and SBOs (M&A, contracts, securities, etc.). Lead counsel in over 100 appellate cases, both civil and criminal, in State and federal appellate courts.

Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis, LLP, Nashville, TN (2005-2011). Equity Partner, Senior Counsel. Concentration in commercial litigation, primarily for healthcare companies, and appellate practice.

Kirkland & Ellis, LLP, New York, NY (1996-1997). Associate attorney.

Harwell Howard Hyne Gabbert & Manner, P.C., Nashville, TN (1993-1996). Associate attorney.

United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, Louisville, KY (1992-1993). Law clerk for Hon. Boyce F. Martin, Jr.

Major Cases

Vincent White v. Warden, 940 F.3d 270 (6th Cir. 2019)(habeas corpus).

Cyntoia Brown v. Jordan, 744 Fed. App'x 918 (6th Cir. 2019)(habeas corpus).

Laborers' Local 265 Pension Fund v. iShares Trust, 769 F.3d 399 (6th Cir. 2013)(Investment Company Act & ERISA).

United States v. William J. Davis, 537 F.3d 611 (6th Cir. 2008)(federal sentencing post-*Gall*).

Memorial Hosp. v. Healthcare Realty Trust, 509 F.3d 1225 (10th Cir. 2007)(federal diversity contract action).

Grutter/Gratz v. University of Michigan, 288 F.3d 732 (6th Cir.), 539 U.S. 306 (2003)(Title VI and Equal Protection)(amicus representation).

Donnie Johnson v. Bell, 344 F.3d 567 (2003)(death penalty).

Ford Motor Co. v. Robert Lane, 86 F. Supp.2d 711 (1999)(First Amendment).

Publications, Preprints & Symposia

"Beta decay in the Symmetry Model, with implications for inertia/Strong Force interchange and gravity equivalency." Working paper, submitted for presentation.

"Hypothesis for a universal matter/anti-matter hadron structure, with resulting cosmology," HAL 03475258 (December 10, 2021). Submitted for presentation.

Humanity's Greatest Leap: The Science and Technology Behind Feasible Interstellar Space Travel, Mustang Publishing, Nashville, Tennessee (2021).

"Contemplating warp speeds: feasible matter/anti-matter propulsion and the novel theoretical possibility of attaining warp speeds," AIAA 2021-4111 (November 3, 2021). Presented at American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics ASCEND 2021 Conference (November 2021).

"Experimental validation testing of a paired-particle propulsion system, with proposed project management," AIAA 2021-3251 (July 28, 2021). Presented at the AIAA 2021 Propulsion & Energy Forum (August 2021).

"Feasibility of a matter/anti-matter propulsion system for generating relativistic speeds in space," *J. Space Explor.* 9(2): 162 (May 10, 2020). Presented at AIAA Annual Technology Seminar, Houston (Online August 2020) & 3rd Int'l Rome Physics Conference (Online September 2020).

"Race Preferences in State University Admissions: Fifth Circuit Decision in *Hopwood v. Texas* Poised for Supreme Court Review," 48 *Loy. (N.O.) L. Rev.* 505 (2002).

"The First Amendment and the Internet," Suffolk University First Amendment Symposium, Boston, Massachusetts, April 2000 (presenting *Ford Motor Co. v. Robert Lane*).

Affiliations & Public Service

Member of the Bar: Tennessee Supreme Court (1992); United States District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee (1995), United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit (1997), United States Supreme Court (1998), United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan (1999), United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit (2007). Member, American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (2020).

Professional Recognition & Memberships (not all current): *Nashville Business Journal*, Best of the Bar (appellate litigation & commercial litigation); *Best Lawyers of America* (commercial litigation); Federalist Society; American Constitution Society; National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers; American Health Lawyers Association; Appellate Practice Committee, Tennessee & Nashville Bar Associations.

Public Service: Member, United States Civil Rights Commission Tennessee Advisory Committee (2021-24 term); Candidate, United States Senate (seeking Democratic nomination)(2020); Member, Sixth Circuit *ad hoc* committee established to evaluate the reappointment of the Federal Public Defender for the Middle District of Tennessee (2005).