

KRISTEN PERSILVER, MA, LPC

Curriculum Vitae

Serving Courts Across Texas

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Education

Master's Degree in Counseling, West Texas A&M University, 2023

Bachelor's Degree in Interdisciplinary Studies, West Texas A&M University, 2013

Licensure

Licensed by the Texas State Board of Examiners and Professional Counselors, License # 88927
2023-Present

Professional Experience

03/26 – Present Child Custody/Adoption Evaluator

- Conduct court-related child custody evaluations in Texas under the supervision of Tammi Axelson, DSW, LMSW-IPR, and Cecilia Powers, LCSW-S, in accordance with Texas Family Code and professional guidelines.
- Participate in the adoption evaluation processes, including gathering collateral information, interviewing parties, and preparing evaluation components under the supervision of Dr. Kristen Marlowe, PhD, LPC-S.
- Assist in the preparation of court-related reports and evaluation materials addressing issues such as parenting capacity, child developmental needs, relocation considerations, reunification dynamics, and parent-child contact concerns.

03/26 – Present Immigration Evaluator

- Completed specialized training in conducting evaluations for immigration legal proceedings, including hardship waivers, asylum, VAWA, U Visa, and T Visa cases.

- Utilize trauma-informed clinical interviewing and culturally responsive assessment with immigrant populations.
- Assess psychological hardship, trauma exposure, and related clinical factors relevant to immigration petitions.
- Prepare clear, organized forensic psychological reports for use in immigration court proceedings.

01/22 - Present

Owner & Licensed Professional Counselor

Oak & Sage Therapy

- Provide individual psychotherapy to adults and adolescents using evidence-based, trauma-informed approaches
- Treat anxiety, depression, mood disorders, trauma-related conditions, and Cluster B personality disorders. Expertise in Borderline Personality Disorder (BPD), utilizing Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) principles relevant to emotional regulation, interpersonal functioning, and behavioral stability in high-conflict family systems
- Specialized experience working with domestic violence survivors and individuals impacted by abuse
- Provide therapeutic support and interventions for high-conflict parents and children of high-conflict parents

03/22 - Present

Licensed Professional Counselor

Dr. Taft and Associates

- Provide individual, family, and couples therapy to first responders and their family members
- Address occupational stressors, including cumulative trauma, critical incident exposure, hypervigilance, burnout, and shift-work related strain
- Support families navigating relational impacts of first responder work, including communication breakdowns, emotional distancing, and role strain
- Treat trauma-related symptoms using evidence-based, trauma-informed interventions

02/20 - 01/23

Intern/Licensed Professional Counselor

Next Chapter Wellness

- Assisted with two adoption evaluation cases under the supervision of Kristen Marlowe, PhD, applying established standards and objective assessment practices including interviews and home studies
- Prepared reports suitable for court review and legal professionals

- Conducted risk assessments for protective order modification, evaluating safety concerns and risk factors in court-involved cases
- Facilitated Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) skills groups, providing skills training in emotional regulation, distress tolerance, interpersonal effectiveness, and mindfulness
- Led self-esteem and self-worth-focused therapy groups for college students, addressing identity, boundaries, self-concept, and emotional resilience
- Treated clients with complex trauma histories, including CPTSD and Borderline Personality Disorder
- Counseled individuals and families navigating high-conflict divorce and co-parenting challenges
- Provided individual and family therapy to adolescents and adults
- Facilitated family therapy focused on communication, boundary-setting, and relational repair

08/18 - 05/23

School Counselor

Ennis Independent School District

- Provided individual and group counseling to students addressing academic, behavioral, social, and emotional concerns
- Collaborated with families, educators, administrators, and stakeholders to advocate for student well-being and academic success
- Supported students and families during crises, transitions, and high-conflict family situations

08/13 - 05/18

Teacher

Amarillo Independent School District

- Reading Teacher: Specialized in literacy development, assessment, and individualized instruction
- Lead Teacher: Supported instructional planning, teacher mentoring, and program implementation

Court-Related Experience

Provide professional mental health services with exposure to legal and judicial processes, including professional communication with judges and attorneys

Provided clear, professional testimony in domestic violence and high-conflict divorce proceedings

Professional Continuing Education

Focusing on Fundamentals: Family Violence and Child Interviewing in Family Law Cases - Aaron Robb, PhD, LPC-S and Tammi Axelson, DSW, LMSW-IPR, April 2026

Between Two Homes: Intervention Between Two Homes – Bradley Craig, LMSW-IPR, CFLE, April 2026

Association of Family and Conciliation Courts Provisional British Columbia Chapter - Parental Alienation Under Scrutiny: Science, Safety, and Child-Centered Practice, April 2026

Forensics and Coparenting Specialists FACS - Testifying with Confidence: Subpoenas, Testimony, and Ethical Boundaries, April 2026

Association of Family and Conciliation Courts Texas Chapter – Assessment of Parenting Abilities, March 2026

Immigration Evaluation Institute - Comprehensive Immigration Evaluations, March 2026

Tammi Axelson, DSW, LMSW-IPR - Adoption Evaluation Essentials, March 2026

Association of Family and Conciliation Courts - Rethinking ACEs: Moving Past the Score Toward the Story - Julie Goldenson, PhD, CPsych, February 2026

Tammi Axelson, DSW, LMSW-IPR - Child Custody Evaluation Essentials, February 2026

Association of Family and Conciliation Courts - Parenting Coordination Training, January 2026

Joan Benz, PhD, MSW, LCSW - Domestic Violence: Treatment Strategies to Stop the Cycle and Heal the Pain, July 2025

Catherine M. Pittman, PhD, HSPP - Anxiety, Depression & Mood Disorder Certification Course: Essential Tools for the Most Common & Challenging Client Problems, January 2025

J. Eric Gentry, PhD, LMHC, DAAETS, FAAETS, CCTP - Certified Clinical Trauma Professional Training, April 2024

Texas Counseling Association - Accepting Our Roots: Breaking the Cycle of Generational Transmission of Dysfunction, November 2025

Texas Counseling Association - Cultivating Compassion: A Cultural Humility Approach to Counseling LEO Professionals, November 2025

Texas Counseling Association - Trauma-Informed Counseling: Integrative Assessment & Treatment, November 2025

Charles Jacob, PhD - Dialectical Behavior Therapy & Mindfulness Dual Certification Training, August 2020

Professional Affiliations

Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC)

Forensic and Coparenting Specialist (FACS)

Smith County Bar Association

Texas Counseling Association (TCA)

American Counseling Association (ACA)