Stephen Thomas, Ed.D.

Professor
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Education

Ed.D., Educational Administration (primary areas of study--education law & finance) **1974**
University of Florida

M.S., Social Studies Education (primary areas of study--economics & history) **1972**
Oklahoma State University

B.S., Social Studies Education (primary area of study--social studies education) **1971**
Oklahoma State University

Higher Education Work Experience

Professor **0/1985 - 0/2013**
Kent State University

Professor **1981 - 1985**
St. Johns Univ.

Associate Professor **1976 - 1981**
Texas Tech Univ.

Assistant Professor **1974 - 1976**
Madison College

Other Professional Experience

Coordinator of Educational Administration **01/1999 - 08/2006**
Kent State University
Includes K-12 administration and higher education administration and student personnel.

Interim Executive Director **1990 - 1991**
National Organization on Legal Problems of Education

Coordinator of Educational Administration **08/1988 - 08/1994**
Kent State University
Includes K-12 administration and higher education administration and student personnel.

Professor **1985 - present**
Kent State University

Editor **1985 - 1994**
The Yearbook of Education Law

Director **1983 - 1985**
Institute for School Law and Finance

Director **1974 - 1976**
Virginia Institute for Educational Finance

Assistant Professor **1974 - 1976**
Madison College

Research Associate **1972 - 1974**
National Educational Finance Project

Publications

Stephen B. Thomas, Students, Colleges, and Disability Law, 2d ed. (Dayton, Ohio: Education Law Association), in production with a Summer 2011 projected publication date. 2011
Publication: *Books Authored*

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Mary Jane K. Rapport & Stephen B. Thomas, "Education Related," Yearbook of Education Law 1994, Stephen B. Thomas, ed. (Topeka, Kansas: National Organization on Legal Problems of Education, 1994), pp. 243-62. 1994

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Publication: *Journal Articles, Non-Refereed*

Stephen B. Thomas & Renee E. Weisbaum, "The Censorship of Library Books: Board v. Pico," Texas Tech Journal of Education 10, n. 3 (1983):189-93. 1983

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Yvonne A. Thomas & Stephen B. Thomas, "Cerebral Lateralization and Its Effect on Drawing," Education 104, n. 1 (1983):47-50. 1983

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Stephen B. Thomas & Karen Megay, "Prayer in Public Schools: Policy Considerations for Educators," Education Law Reporter 12, n. 1 (1983):1-8. 1983

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Stephen B. Thomas, "The Bottom Line Theory of Defense Under Title VII: Connecticut v. Teal," Education Law Reporter 13, n. 1 (1983):9-12. 1983

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Stephen B. Thomas & Linda L. Davenport, "The Term Contract Nonrenewal Act," Texas Tech Journal of Education 9, n. 1 (1982):71-73. 1982

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Stephen B. Thomas, "The Fifth Circuit and Bilingual Education," Texas Tech Journal of Education 9, n. 2 (1982):133-39. 1982

Publication: *Journal Articles, Non-Refereed*

Book review on Public School Law by Martha M. McCarthy & Nelda H. Cambron (Boston, Massachusetts: Allyn and Bacon, 1981), published in NOLPE School Law Journal 10, n. 2 (1982):201-202. 1982

Publication: *Journal Articles, Refereed*

Stephen B. Thomas & Carol L. Alberts, "Negligence and the Physical Education Teacher: Procedures and Guidelines," The Physical Educator 39, n. 4 (1982):199-203. 1982

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Publication: *Journal Articles, Refereed*

Presentations

Legal Update for School Heads #34 (two presentations, two locations)--“Transgender Discrimination in Employment,” Akron, Ohio, 2005; “Child Abuse Reporting and Liability,” Aurora, Ohio 2005. 2005

Type: *Regional Non-Refereed*

Education Law Association--“Transexual Discrimination in Colleges and Universities,” Memphis, Tennessee, 2005. 2005

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

Transgender Discrimination in Colleges and Universities, Education Law Association 2005

Type: *National Refereed*

Legal Update for School Heads #33 (two presentations, two locations) --“Grutter: Was it Really Narrowly Tailored?” Huron, Ohio, 2004; “Student Records,” Akron, Ohio, 2004. 2004

Type: *Regional Non-Refereed*

Education Law Association, “College Students & Disability Law,” Tucson, Arizona, 2004. 2004

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Legal Update for School Heads #32 (three presentations)—“Tort Liability Update” and “Unique Case Files,” Perrysville, Ohio 2003; "Search and Seizure in Public Schools," Concord, Ohio 2003. 2003

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School Psychology Seminar Series (three presentations), “School Discipline,” “Tort Liability,” and “Sexual Harassment,” 2003. 2003

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Education Law Association, “The Future of FERPA,” Savannah, Georgia, 2003. 2003

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Education Law Association, “The Use of Humor in Teaching Education Law,” New Orleans, 2002. 2002

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College Students and Disability Law, Education Law Association, preconference seminar 2001

Type: *National Refereed*

Oxford Round Table, \"American School Law,\" Oxford, England, 2000. 2000

Type: *National Refereed*

Education Law Association, preconference seminar, "ADA, Section 504, and Higher Education," Chicago, Illinois, 1999. 1999

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

ADA, Section 504, and Higher Education, Education Law Association, preconference seminar 1999

Type: *National Refereed*

Mid-Eastern Ohio Special Education Regional Resource Center, "Liability Issues for Special Educators," Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, 1998. 1998

Type: *State Non-Refereed*

Family Vision '98 Conference, Hattie Larlham Foundation, "Legal Rights of Special Educators," Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, 1998. 1998

Type: *Regional Non-Refereed*

Education Law Association, "The Rights of Higher Education Students With Disabilities," and "Writing a Legal Dissertation," Charleston, South Carolina, 1998. 1998

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

Mid-Eastern Ohio Special Education Regional Resource Center, "Liability Issues for Special Educators," Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, 1998. 1998

Type: *State Non-Refereed*

Education Law Association Summer Seminar, "Schools and the Courts in 1997," Keynote, Huron, Ohio, 1997. 1997

Type: *State Non-Refereed*

Education Law Association, "A Legal Guide to Assessment in Special Education," Seattle, Washington, 1997. 1997

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

Ohio Vocational Association, "Legal Update on School Discipline and Tort Liability," Columbus, Ohio, 1997. 1997

Type: *State Non-Refereed*

American Vocational Association, "Legal Update on the Discipline of Children with Disabilities and Tort Liability," Las Vegas, Nevada, 1997. 1997

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

Ohio School Boards Association, "Legal Issues Regarding the Identification and Evaluation of Children with Special Needs," Middleburg Heights, Ohio, 1997. 1997

Type: *Regional Non-Refereed*

American Vocational Association, "Legal Update on the Discipline of Children with Disabilities and Tort Liability," Las Vegas, Nevada, 1997. 1997

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

NOLPE National Conference, "The Use of Humor in College Teaching," New Orleans, Louisiana, 1996. 1996

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

School Psychology Seminar Series, "The Lingering Death of In Loco Parentis and Its Impact on School Discipline," "Liability: Yours, Mine, Ours," "Harassment Prevention: It May Take More Than Just Saying No," Kent, Ohio, 1996--three presentations. 1996

Type: *Regional Non-Refereed*

Natrona County School District & the Wyoming Department of Education, Special Education Unit, Fifth Annual Symposium on Least Restrictive Environment, "Legal Issues in Determining the Least Restrictive Environment," Casper, Wyoming, 1995. 1995

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

Arkansas Association of Educational Administrators, three-day workshop, "Legal Update on Student Rights" and "Legal Update on Special Education Law," Little Rock, Arkansas, 1995. 1995

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

Arkansas Consortium of School Districts, three-day workshop, "Student Rights," "Teacher/Administrator/District Rights," "Special Education Law," Searcy, Arkansas, 1995. 1995

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

NOLPE National Conference, "The Rights of Student Athletes with Disabilities," Kansas City, Missouri, 1995. 1995

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

Mahoning County Office of Education, one-day workshop, "Legal Update on Special Education," Canfield, Ohio, 1995. 1995

Type: *State Non-Refereed*

NOLPE National Conference, "Minority-targeted Scholarship Programs: More than a Black and White Issue," San Diego, California, 1994. 1994

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

Legal Update for School Heads, "What Determines if Who's on First: State Athletic Association Regulations or Federal Statutes?" Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, 1994. 1994

Type: *Regional Non-Refereed*

School Psychology Seminar Series, "Students with Disabilities are no longer Handicapped by the Law," "Student Rights that Result in Educator Responsibilities," and "Discrimination in Education: Not a Black or White Issue," Kent, Ohio, 1994--three presentations. 1994

Type: *Regional Non-Refereed*

NOLPE National Conference, "The Price of Free Speech," Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 1993. 1993

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

Legal Update for School Heads, "Update on the Law for Individuals with Disabilities," Kent, Ohio, 1993. 1993

Type: *Regional Non-Refereed*

Legal Update for School Heads, "Student Free Speech," Cleveland, Ohio, 1993. 1993

Type: *State Non-Refereed*

Arkansas Association of Educational Administrators, three-day workshop, "Special Education Law," "Student Rights," and "Personnel Issues," Little Rock, Arkansas, 1992. 1992

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

Phi Delta Kappa & Arkansas Association of Educational Administrators, two-day workshop, "General School Law," and "Special Education Law," Little Rock, Arkansas, 1991. 1991

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

Legal Update for School Heads, "Legal Update on Federal Law," Kent, Ohio, 1991. 1991

Type: *Regional Non-Refereed*

West Virginia Institute on Special Education Law & Practice, "Update on Special Education Law," Morgantown, West Virginia, 1990. 1990

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

Legal Update for School Heads, "Search & Seizure," Kent, Ohio, 1990. 1990

Type: *Regional Non-Refereed*

Minnesota Institute on Special Education Law, "Students with Communicable Diseases," Minneapolis, Minnesota, 1990. 1990

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

NOLPE's Summer Seminar, "Least Restrictive Environment," and "Disease as a Handicap," Nashville, Tennessee, 1990. 1990

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

National School Boards Association Summer Conference, "Religion and the Schools," Boston, Massachusetts, 1990. 1990

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

National School Boards Association Summer Conference, "Religion and the Schools," Los Vegas, Nevada, 1989. 1989

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

NOLPE National Conference, "AIDS in the Schools: Contagious Diseases," 1989. 1989

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

Legal Update for School Heads, "Discrimination in Employment," Kent, Ohio, 1989. 1989

Type: *Regional Non-Refereed*

Legal Update for School Heads, "Child Abuse and Neglect," Kent, Ohio, 1989. 1989

Type: *Regional Non-Refereed*

NWO/SERRC's Annual Administrator's Conference, "Special Education Law Update," Toledo, Ohio, 1988. 1988

Type: *State Non-Refereed*

School Psychology Seminar Series, "Legal Update in Special Education," Kent, Ohio, 1988. 1988

Type: *Regional Non-Refereed*

Legal Update for School Heads, "Sport Law Update," Kent, Ohio, 1988. 1988

Type: *Regional Non-Refereed*

Phi Delta Kappa, Professional Development Institute on Legal Issues, "Special Education Law Update," 1988. 1988

Type:

Ohio Association for Pupil Personnel Administrators, "Infectious Diseases: A Legal Analysis," Columbus, Ohio, 1988. 1988

Type: *State Non-Refereed*

Legal Update for School Heads, "Church, State, and Public Education," Kent, Ohio, 1988. 1988

Type: *Regional Non-Refereed*

Phi Delta Kappa Professional Development Institute, "Appropriate Education and Related Services" and "Health-related Legal Issues," 1987. 1987

Type:

Principals Continuing Workshop, "Health-related Legal Issues," Kent, Ohio, 1987. 1987

Type: *Regional Non-Refereed*

NOLPE National Conference, preconference seminar, "Special Education," 1987. 1987

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

Northeastern Ohio District Athletic Administration Association Spring Workshop, "Athletics and the Law," Kent, Ohio, 1987. 1987

Type: *Regional Non-Refereed*

Legal Update for School Heads, "Drug Testing," Kent, Ohio, 1987. 1987

Type: *Regional Non-Refereed*

Virginia Association of Secondary School Principals, "Legal Issues in Special Education," 1987. 1987

Type: *State Non-Refereed*

Danforth Foundation Seminar for Federal Judges and Educators, "Recent Developments in Special Education Law," 1987. 1987

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

Legal Update for School Heads, "Special Education Law Update," 1987. 1987

Type:

NOLPE National Conference, preconference seminar, "Health-related Legal Issues," 1986. 1986

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

NOLPE Summer Conference, "Selected Developments in Special Education Law," Boston, Massachusetts, 1986. 1986

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

Mississippi Education Conference, "The Competency Testing of Students and Teachers," Jackson, Mississippi, 1986. 1986

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

Northeastern Ohio SERRC's Annual Administrator's Conference, "A Legal Update," 1986. 1986

Type: *State Non-Refereed*

Legal Update for School Heads, "Disease Control in Public Schools," Kent, Ohio, 1986. 1986

Type: *Regional Non-Refereed*

University of Southern Mississippi sponsored law conference, "Developments in Educator Liability," Jackson, Mississippi, 1986. 1986

Type: *National Refereed*

Superintendents Continuing Workshop in Educational Administration, "Legal Update in Special Education," Kent, Ohio, 1986. 1986

Type: *Regional Non-Refereed*

Salmon P. Chase College of Law sponsored law conference, "Search and Seizure in the Schools," and "The Right to an Education for Students with Contagious Diseases," Kentucky, 1986. 1986

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

NOLPE National Conference, preconference seminar, "Issues in Special Education Law," and general session, "Current Legal Issues Involving the Provision of Education for the Handicapped," 1984. 1984

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

Virginia Tech University and NOLPE Law Conference, "Reduction in Teaching Force," and panels on "Censorship in the Public Schools," "Student Discipline," and "Questions and Answers," Blacksburg, Virginia, 1984. 1984

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

National Education Update Conference, "Discipline in the Schools," 1983. 1983

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

American Education Research Association, "The Teaching of Creationism in Public Schools," 1983. 1983

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

NOLPE National Conference, "What Every Elementary and Secondary School Teacher and Administrator Needs to Know About Torts," and discussion leader on "Handicapped Pupils," 1983. 1983

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

NOLPE National Conference, "Testing of Employees: The Legal Issues," 1982. 1982

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

NOLPE Law Seminar, "Discipline of Handicapped Students" and "Legal Basics of Competency Testing," New York, 1982. 1982

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

Virginia Tech University and NOLPE Law Conference, "Legal Aspects of Employee Testing," Blacksburg, Virginia, 1982. 1982

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

Virginia Tech University and NOLPE Law Conference, "Legal Trends and Issues in Bilingual Education," Blacksburg, Virginia, 1981. 1981

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

Texas Association of School Boards Conference, "Legal Responsibilities of Board Members," Austin, Texas, 1981. 1981

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

NOLPE National Conference, "Bilingual Education: Status Quo or New Directions," 1981. 1981

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

First Annual Conference for Administrators of Community Schools, "The Church-State Compromise," 1980. 1980

Type: *State Non-Refereed*

Virginia Tech University and NOLPE Law Conference, "Affirmative Action in the 1980s," Blacksburg, Virginia, 1980. 1980

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

Texas Association of School Boards Conference, "The Fine Line Between Church and State," Austin, Texas, 1979. 1979

Type: *State Non-Refereed*

American Education Finance Conference, "Observations on Cost-effectiveness Analysis in Education," 1979. 1979

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

Council of Chief State Officers and the School Finance Staff United States Office of Education, Summer Conference, panel on "Measures of Wealth and Tax Equity," Washington, D.C., 1978. 1978

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

Virginia Tech University and NOLPE Law Conference, "Affirmative Action After Bakke and Weber," Blacksburg, Virginia, 1978. 1978

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

American Association of School Administrators, panel on "Public School Finance: Contemporary Trends and Implications," 1978. 1978

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

Texas Association of School Boards Conference, "Negotiations and the Local School Board," Austin, Texas, 1978. 1978

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

Virginia Tech University and NOLPE Law Conference, "Educational Malpractice: A Case Study," Blacksburg, Virginia, 1977. 1977

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

Texas Association of School Administrators, Region 13, "Judicial Inconsistencies: A Problem of Recognizing the Law," Lubbock, Texas, 1977. 1977

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

Texas Elementary Principals and Supervisors Association, Summer Work Conference, "To Join the Union--Advance or Retreat," Austin, Texas, 1977. 1977

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

Texas Association of School Boards Conference, "Student Control and Discipline," Austin, Texas, 1977. 1977

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

American Education Finance Conference, "New Legal Challenges in Educational Finance," 1977. 1977

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

American Education Finance Conference, "Philadelphia Story of Productivity," and "Political Strategies for School Finance Reform," 1976. 1976

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

Virginia Tech University and NOLPE Law Conference, "The Regular Education Versus the Special Education Child: A Matter of Equal Rights," Blacksburg, Virginia, 1976. 1976

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

Virginia Tech University and NOLPE Law Conference, "Religion in Virginia Public Schools," Blacksburg, Virginia, 1975. 1975

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

National School Finance Conference, "Systems Theory, Evaluation, and Educational Adequacy," 1975. 1975

Type: *National Non-Refereed*

Service

chairperson, McGhehey Committee **2000 - 2001**

Type: *Professional Service*

1998 - 2000

One of my doctoral students won a national award for her dissertation: Susan Clark (Education Law Association, 1998); a second student, Constance Hawke, turned her dissertation into a Jossey-Bass book (2000).

Type: *Awards & Honors*

Finalist, Kent State University Alumni Association, University Teaching Award **1996 - 1996**

Type: *Awards & Honors*

Ohio Council of School Board Attorneys **1995 - present**

Type: *Professional Memberships*

Education Law Association **1987 - 1991**

Interim Executive Director (January 1990-June 1991); Immediate Past President (1991); President (1990); President-Elect (1989); Vice-President (1988); Board Member (1986-87).

Type: *University*

Education Law Reporter, West's Authors Committee **1982 - 1996**

Type: *Professional Service*

Past president and interim executive director, National Organization on Legal Problems in Education **- present**

Type: *Professional Service*

Grants

, Entrepreneurial funding **2003 - 2006**

Established Master's K-12 and Principal Licensure Cohort in Barberton, Ohio 2003-2006

, Entrepreneurial funding **2002 - 2005**

Established Master's K-12 Cohort in the Bahamas 2002-2005.

, WebCT course development grants **2001 - 2002**

Three WebCT course development grants, 2001 & 2002, College of Education, Kent State University.

, **1987 - 1988**

Intervention Assistance Teams Preservice Training Grant (member of team), 1987 & 1988: a two-year grant from the Ohio Department of Education--an unpublished group paper was generated from the research.

Training

, **1980 - 1980**

Ability and Effort of Texas School Districts, 1980: funded and published by the Virginia Institute for Educational Finance; under the direction of Stephen B. Thomas.

Applied Research

, **1978 - 1978**

Capital Outlay and Debt Service Study for the State of Colorado, 1978: published by the Colorado Department of Education, funded by the State of Colorado.