

Robert Latham, Esq.

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Experience	<p>University of Miami Law School – Children & Youth Law Clinic Supervising Attorney, Lecturer, Practitioner-in-Residence, Director of Summer Clinical Program July 2011 – present Coral Gables, FL</p> <p>Guardian ad Litem Program – 11th Judicial Circuit Trial Specialist, Senior Program Attorney, Staff Attorney November 2007 – July 2011 Miami, FL</p> <p>University of Michigan Law School – Child Advocacy Law Clinic Dean’s Fellow, Student Attorney Winter – Summer, 2007 Ann Arbor, MI</p> <p>Michigan Association for Children with Emotional Disorders Intern Winter, 2007 Southfield, MI</p> <p>Skogfjorden - Concordia Norwegian Language Village Counselor, Business Manager Summers, 1999 – 2004 Bemidji, MN</p> <p>University of Texas - Texas Interdisciplinary Plan Mentor 2002 – 2003 Austin, TX</p>
Education	<p>University of Michigan Law School Juris Doctorate, cum laude May 2007 Ann Arbor, MI</p> <p>University of Texas Bachelor of Science in Computer Science Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics with Honors May 2003 Austin, TX</p>

**Professional
Accomplishments**

Courses Taught

- Children & Youth Law Clinic – 2011 to present

Memberships, Committees, & Collaborations

Current

- Chair, Florida LGBTQ Child Welfare Workgroup — July 2011 to present
 - Organized local taskforces in 12 cities across Florida; created statewide LGBTQ referral and consultation network of over 400 professionals
 - Coordinated advocacy to successfully amend group care rules to provide protection for LGBTQ youth (June 2015), and ban use of conversion therapy on foster children (pending as of December 2015); collaborated in advocacy campaign against HB 7111 permitting discrimination in the placement of children (Winter 2015)
 - Provided technical support to child welfare organizations and Florida Department of Children and Families
 - Conducted local and statewide trainings
- Mentor, Florida Youth Shine — Winter 2014 to present
 - Mentored and provided training and support to local chapter and statewide organization
 - Organized local community discussion of Independent Living Program (April 2015)
 - Mentored for Children’s Week in Tallahassee, FL (January 2016; April 2015, April 2014)
- Co-chair, Youth Homeless Initiative Permanent Connection Subcommittee – January 2014 to present
 - Conducted system scans of local organizations and stakeholders
 - Recruited collaborators to work towards eliminating causes of youth homelessness
- Task Supervisor, Barry University School of Social Work — 2013 to present
 - Supervised social work interns in field placement
 - Expanded social work placement program
- Collaborator, Florida attorneys for Unaccompanied Minors — 2014 to present
 - Consulted on litigation strategy for immigration attorneys appearing in dependency courts
 - Consulted on appellate strategy for O.I.C.L. v. Florida Department of Children and Families, 169 So.3d 1244 (Fla. 4th

DCA 2015), review granted by No. SC15-1570, 2015 WL 6854614 (Fla. Oct. 30, 2015)

Prior

- Florida Administrative Law Reports – 2012 to 2015
 - Negotiated release of unpublished Independent Living Administrative Orders
 - Compiled and published index of unpublished orders
- Member, Guardian ad Litem Program Disability Summit Steering Committee – 2013
 - Pushed for greater inclusion of legal training for lawyers
- Consultant, Our Kids, Inc. & Children’s Legal Services 11th Judicial Circuit – 2013
 - Consulted on appeal options for Medicaid denials of children in care
- Consultant, Lawyers for Children America – 2011
 - Mentored and provided consultations for volunteer attorneys
- Chair, Dependency Workgroup on Psychotropic Medications – February to June 2009
 - Reviewed psychotropic medication procedures and policies for children in care
 - Drafted proposed rules
 - Reviewed and commented on proposed legislative changes

Presentations, Trainings, & Talks

- Advocating for LGBTQ Youth and Caregivers in Child Welfare - Guardian ad Litem Program, 11th Judicial Circuit - June 2015
- Dependency Law Overview for Immigration Attorneys – Catholic Charities of Miami – June 2015
- [Psychotropic Medications: Perspectives from Inside the System](#) – Guardian ad Litem Disabilities Training Conference -- May 22, 2015
- Changes to Independent Living Laws — Foster Care Review — May 2015
- Dependency Law Overview for Immigration Attorneys – Americans for Immigrant Justice – March 2015
- The Limits of Representational Advocacy in Creating Change – Miami Law Summer Public Interests Fellows Program – June 2014
- Beyond Acceptance: Identity Affirming Services for LGBTQ Youth with Disabilities – Panelist with Carla Silva (LGBTQ Alliance for Youth), Daniel Tilley (Florida ACLU), Dexter Foxworth (Zebra Coalition) – May 23, 2014

- Special Immigrant Juvenile Status – Panelist with Mary Gundrum and Ricardo Rodriguez – Americans for Immigrant Justice – May 1, 2014
- Psychotropic Medication Panel with Dr. Thomas Hunter, M.D. – Guardian ad Litem Program Support Group – April 22, 2014
- Marriage Equality Series: Practical Implications for a Post-DOMA Landscape – Panelist with the Honorable Scott Bernstein, Zanita Fenton, and Mary Anne Franks – February 26, 2014
- Psychotropic Medication Law & Advocacy – Guardian ad Litem Program Pro Bono Training Series – February 11, 2014
- The New Independent Living Program – Guardian ad Litem Program 11th Judicial Circuit – Co-instructor with Kele Stewart and Mike Dunlavy – January 28 & 30, 2014
- Ins and Outs of Child Advocacy – Miami Law Child Advocacy and Family Law Society – Panelist with Elizabeth Schwartz, Angela Vigil, Kimberly Gowen –September 2013
- Out with the Old: Independent Living Changes in Florida – Foster Care Review – September 2013
- Paternalism in Representational Advocacy – Miami Law Summer Public Interests Fellows Program – June 2013
- APD & AHCA Issues in Dependency Court – Children’s Legal Services 11th Circuit – May 2013
- LGBTQ Panel – U. Miami Social Justice Week – with Brenna Munro – January 2013
- Adopting a New Stance on Adoption – A discussion on the new developments to Florida Gay Adoption Law – November 2012
- Ethical Considerations in Representational Advocacy – Miami Law Legal Communications – November 2012
- Representing LGBTQ Youth – Florida Bar Children’s Legal Services Grantees – September 2012
- Healthcare Advocacy for Dependent Children – Our Kids, Inc. – August 2012
- Involuntary Commitment of Dependent Children – Lawyers of Children American – July 2012
- The Future of Children’s Rights Panel (moderator) – University of Miami – February 2012
- Psychotropic Medication Advocacy – Guardian ad Litem Program 11th Circuit – February 2012
- Involuntary Civil Commitment of Children – Children & the Law Seminar – Fall 2011
- Litigation and Advocacy Strategies in Psychotropic Medication Cases – Statewide Florida Dependency Summit – August 2010
- Psychotropic Medication Four Years Later: Law, Ethics, & Best Practices for Non-Medical Professionals – Statewide Florida Dependency Summit – August 2009

Writings

- [Comments to the Department of Children and Families' Amendments to Rules 65G-14 on Group Care](#) (July 2015)
- *Promoting the Best Interests of Children by Empowering Legal Defense of their Parents*, presented at Florida Coastal School of Law Youth and the Law Symposium (March 2015); publication pending
- [A Child Welfare System that Lost its Way](#), in The Florida Family Law Section Commentator (Spring 2015)
- Independent Living Administrative Orders Index (March 2014)
- [Spate of Avoidable Child Deaths Brings Changes to Child Protection Law, Critics Question if It's Enough](#), The Florida Public Interest Journal. Vol. 1, Issue 3 (2012).
- Legal blog: robertlatham.wordpress.com

Mentions & Media

- "New rules bring focus to LGBT youth in foster care in Florida," News Service of Florida (July 13, 2015) (in [Florida Times-Union, news-press.com](#))
- Abramowitz, Alan. Statewide GAL Stands Ready to Assist. Florida Bar News (September 1, 2014)
- Rogers, Scott. The Mindful Law School: An Integrative Approach to Transforming Legal Education. 28 Touro Law Review 1189 (2012)
- Perlmutter, Bernard. More Therapeutic, Less Collaborative? Asserting the Psychotherapist-Patient Privilege on Behalf of Mature Minors. 17 Barry L. Rev. 45 (2011)

Community Involvement

- Cast Member in production of "8" – Miami Law – January 2013
- Oral Argument Judge – Legal Communications – 2012 - present
- Election Poll Monitor – 2008, 2012

Honors

- Honorary member, Mortar Board, Nu Kappa Tau Chapter – November 2014
- Outstanding Performance Award, Guardian ad Litem Program – November 2009

Legal Work

Florida District Courts of Appeal – Amicus Curiae

- J.B. v. Department of Children & Families, 160 So.3d 895 (Fla. 2014) granting review of 158 So.3d 653 (Fla. 1st DCA 2014) (parent's right to effective assistance of counsel in termination of parental rights trial)

- R.L.R. v. State, 116 So.3d 570 (Fla. 3d DCA 2013) (recognizing child’s right to confidential communication with attorney)

Florida District Courts of Appeal – Appellate Counsel

- J.J. v. Agency for Persons with Disabilities, --- So.3d ----, 39 Fla. L. Weekly D920 (Fla. 3rd DCA 2014) (affirming denial of HCBS waiver application)
- Wade v. Department of Children & Families, 79 So. 3d 946 (Fla. 1st DCA 2012) (mandamus denied)
- M.M. v. Department of Children & Families, 76 So.3d 304(Fla. 3d DCA 2011) (denying petition for certiorari)
- J.C. v. Department of Children and Family Services, 26 So. 3d 665 (Fla. 3d DCA 2010) (reversing TPR)
- A. R. v. Department of Children & Families, 21 So. 3d 162 (Fla. 3d DCA 2009) (confession of error on dependency)

Florida Circuit Courts – Trial Counsel (selected based on available appellate opinions)

- D.M. v. Department of Children & Families, 79 So.3d 136 (Fla. 3rd DCA 2012) (affirming TPR on fathers, reversing on mother).
- C.G. v. Department of Children & Families, 67 So.3d 1141 (Fla. 3d DCA 2011) (affirming TPR)
- M.V. v. Department of Children and Families, 40 So. 3d 36 (Fla. 3d DCA 2010) (PCA on TPR); review dismissed by 46 So. 3d. 47 (Fla. 2010); cert. denied by 131 S.Ct. 1819 (U.S. 2011)
- S.L. v. Department of Children & Families, 38 So. 3d 150 (Fla. 3d DCA 2010) (PCA on dependency)
- J.L. v. Department of Children & Families, 30 So. 3d 721 (Fla. 3d DCA 2010) (confession of error)
- C.T. v. State, 22 So. 3d 852 (Fla. 3d DCA 2009) (affirming TPR)
- A.R. v. Department of Children & Families, 21 So. 3d 162 (Fla. 3d DCA 2009) (confession of error)
- A.M.D. v. Department of Children & Families, 19 So. 3d 435 (Fla. 3d DCA 2009) (PCA on TPR)
- C.T. v. Department of Children & Families, 7 So. 3d 1110 (Fla. 3d DCA 2009) (PCA on dependency)
- R.H. v. Department of Children & Families, 994 So. 2d 1153 (Fla. 3d DCA 2008) (dismissing appeal for lack of standing by grandparents)
- Florida Department of Children & Families v. S.D., 983 So. 2d 655 (Fla. 3d DCA 2008) (quashing custody release order)

Florida Administrative Proceedings (selected)

- J.F. v. DCF, 14F-8264 (favorable appeal of EFC termination where youth resided with TPR’d mother)
- C.C. v. APD, 13F-10375 (settled appeal of denial of HCBS Waiver eligibility)
- G.M. v. DCF, 13F-08015 (unfavorable appeal of RTI renewal denial)

- F.C. v. DCF, 13F-09796 (favorable appeal of RTI renewal denial)
- MJ1 and MJ2 v. AHCA, 13F-09645, 13F-09647 (settled appeal of denial of skilled nursing)
- C.S. v. APD, APD-13-1655-FO (favorable appeal of denial of APD Waiver eligibility)
- M.M. v. DCF, 13F-03157 (settled appeal of denial of RTI renewal)
- J.J. v. APD, APD-13-1543-FO (unfavorable appeal of denial of APD Waiver eligibility; judicial appeal pending)
- R.D. v. DCF, 12-027W (withdrawn petition for variance and waiver)
- R.D. v. DCF, 12F-04596 (withdrawn appeal of denial of RTI eligibility)
- K.V.H. v. AHCA, 11F-98487 (settled appeal of denial of nursing services)
- L.R. v. DCF, DCF-12-570-FO (unfavorable appeal of denial of RTI renewal)