

M. GORDON WIDENHOUSE, JR.
312 West Franklin Street
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27516
919-967-4900

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Visiting Professor of Practice, Wake Forest University School of Law, 2017-current, Teaching Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure Investigations, Criminal Litigation Drafting.

Attorney at Law, Rudolf Widenhouse [formerly Rudolf Maher Widenhouse & Fialko], Chapel Hill, North Carolina: 1998-present. Representing clients in federal and state trial and appellate courts, emphasizing capital appeals and post-conviction litigation.

Assistant Federal Public Defender, Eastern District of North Carolina: 1995-1998. Appellate practice in the United States Court of Appeals and Supreme Court of the United States.

Assistant Appellate Defender, State of North Carolina: 1984-1986, 1987-1995. Represented defendants on appeal in the Supreme Court of North Carolina, North Carolina Court of Appeals, and Supreme Court of the United States; primarily handled capital appeals; co-counsel in *McKoy v. North Carolina*, 494 U.S. 433 (1990); lead counsel in *State v. McNeil*, 324 N.C. 33, 375 S.E.2d 909 (1989), *vacated*, 424 U.S. 1050, *rev'd*, 327 N.C. 388, 395 S.E.2d 106 (1990).

Attorney at Law, Purser, Cheshire, Parker & Hughes, Raleigh, North Carolina: 1986-1987. Represented clients in serious felony cases in state and federal courts in trials and appeals.

Law Clerk to the Honorable James G. Exum, Jr., Supreme Court of North Carolina, 1983-1984.

Law Clerk to the Honorable W. Earl Britt, United States District Court, 1981-1983.

PROFESSIONAL AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Special Award for Mock Trial Development (NCAJ) 2015

John B. McMillan Distinguished Service Award (N.C. State Bar) 2014

Charles L. Becton Teaching Award (NCAJ) 2013

Ebbie Award for Excellence (NCAJ) 2010

Special Death Penalty Litigation Award (NCATL) 1990

Best Lawyers in America: Appellate Practice, Criminal Defense
(White Collar and General) 2002-present

North Carolina Super Lawyers: Criminal Defense, Appeals 2007-present

North Carolina Legal Elite: Appeals, Criminal Defense 2010-present

EDUCATION

Wake Forest University School of Law, J.D., 1981

Legal Research Teaching Assistant (with Professor Ralph Peeples, 1979-80; with Professor Charles Rose, 1980-81); Order of the Barristers; Trial Advocacy Award

University of North Carolina at Greensboro, 1976-1978

Graduate Teaching Fellowship; Author of five published articles in speech communication and debate.

Davidson College, A.B. with honors, 1976

D. Grier Martin Award; Managing Editor, THE DAVIDSONIAN; Research Grant in Political Science; Debate team (Captain)

LAW SCHOOL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Campbell University School of Law:

“Eighth Amendment Law,” 1991-2002, 2011-15

Duke University School of Law:

“Criminal Litigation Clinic,” 2001-2003

Elon University School of Law:

“Death Penalty Law,” 2017

“Eighth Amendment Jurisprudence,” 2010-2014

University of North Carolina School of Law:

“Capital Punishment Jurisprudence,” 2008-present

“Habeas Corpus Law,” 2010

“Research, Reasoning, Writing and Advocacy,” 2007

“Evidence,” 2006 (Summer session)

“Legal Research and Writing,” 1990, 1991

North Carolina Central University School of Law:

“Evidence” (Evening Program), 2004, 2006

“Appellate Advocacy,” 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006

“Trial Practice,” 2005, 2007, 2008, 2009

Wake Forest University School of Law:

“Eighth Amendment Law,” 2007

“Appellate Advocacy,” 1983

LAW PUBLICATIONS AND LECTURES

“The Unfairness of Non-Retroactivity of New Procedural Rules,” Symposium: Finality in Sentencing, *Wake Forest Journal of Law and Policy*, April 2013

M. Gordon Widenhouse, Jr., Editor, *North Carolina APPEALS DESKBOOK*
(LexisNexis 2008)

“An Historical Perspective on the Eighth Amendment,” Constitution Day Lecture,
Greensboro College, September 2007

Governor’s School of North Carolina, “The Epistemological and Philosophical Case Against
Capital Punishment,” 1990-2005

Searching for an Impartial Sentencer through Jury Selection in Capital Cases,
23 *Loyola L. Rev.* 151 (1989)

An Analysis of the New North Carolina Evidence Code,
20 *Wake Forest L. Rev.* 1 (1984)

Impeachment of the Criminal Defendant with Prior Acquittals,
17 *Wake Forest L. Rev.* 561 (1981)

Author of more than 75 articles in various state and national legal journals, primarily *Trial Briefs*, *The Champion*, *NC State Bar Quarterly*

Program Chair of more than 25 continuing legal education programs on various topics about trial and appellate practice, criminal law, and evidence

Lecturer at more than 175 regional, state, and national continuing legal education seminars, including Evidence Update, NCAJ Convention 1989-present; Wake Forest Annual Review (Evidence) 1997-2009; Criminal Masters in Advocacy (2009, 2010, 2012, 2014); National Institute for Trial Advocacy (NITA) Appellate Advocacy Institute (1990-1995)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND MEMBERSHIPS

North Carolina Advocates for Justice (formerly North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers)

President, 1997-1998

President-Elect, 1996-97

Vice President for Continuing Legal Education, 1994-1995, 1995-1996

Vice President for Public Education, 1993-1994

North Carolina High School Mock Trial Program Founder and Co-Chair,
1994-2002, 2008-present

Editorial Board Chair, 1990-1997

Past President's Advisory Council, 1998-present

North Carolina State Bar

Board of Continuing Legal Education, 1990-1994

North Carolina Bar Association

Professionalism Committee, 2013-present

Criminal Justice Section Council, 1985-1986

Appellate Rules Study Committee, 1990-1993, 1998-2002

Carolina Center for Civic Education, President, 2009-present

Board of Directors, National High School Mock Trial Championship, 2012-present;
Treasurer 2017-present; Host Director, NHSMTC 2015

American Bar Association

Committee to Study Costs of Death Penalty, 1983-1989

Federal Rules of Evidence Study Committee, 1983-1988

BAR AND ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIPS

North Carolina State Bar (1981)

District of Columbia Bar (1983)

Supreme Court of the United States

United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit

United States District Court (EDNC)

United States District Court (MDNC)

United States District Court (WDNC)

North Carolina Advocates for Justice

North Carolina Bar Association