

Lewis Pitts

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EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts, English: Wofford College, Spartanburg, SC **1970**

Juris Doctorate, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC **1973**

WORK

EXPERIENCE

Senior Managing Attorney, Advocates for Children's Services,
Legal Aid of North Carolina, Durham, NC **1994-January
2014**

Manager of legal aid's statewide children's unit focused on representing children to enforce all federal and state laws guaranteeing education rights. Current priority is to halt the School to Prison Pipeline and achieve education justice.

Adjunct Professor Elon School of Law, Greensboro, NC **Fall 2013**

Created and taught 3 hour course titled "Influence and Responsibility of the Lawyer As Public Citizen."

Adjunct Professor Guilford College, Greensboro, NC **2008-2009**

Taught course titled "Trust and Violence" for 2 Fall semesters.

Executive Director, Legal Action Project, National Committee for the Rights of the Child, Washington, DC **1992-1994**

Led litigation efforts to provide children with the right of access to court and to be heard through independent counsel in abuse, neglect, abandonment, and custody cases.

Executive Director, Christic Institute South (later, Southern Justice Institute), location in North Carolina handling cases around the South defending African American leaders and empowering the Movement.

1985-1994

1982-1994

Founding board member and attorney, Christic Institute, Washington, DC **1980-1991**

Legal counsel with interfaith center for law and policy in the public interest; lead attorney for Greensboro Civil Rights Fund and litigation stemming from Greensboro Massacre.

Partner, Warren & Pitts Law Firm, Allendale, SC 1976-1980

General practice in rural South Carolina with focus on criminal defense, civil rights, and personal injury litigation, including state appellate work.

Assistant Public Defender, Richland County, SC 1973-1976

BAR ASSOCIATIONS

North Carolina Bar Association 1994; resigned April 2014
District of Columbia Bar Association since 1982 (inactive status)
South Carolina Bar Association since 1973 (inactive status)

ADMITMSSIONS TO PRACTICE (COURTS)

United States Supreme Court	Federal District Court of SC
South Carolina Supreme Court	District Court, District of Columbia
Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals	Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals
Federal Circuit Court of Appeals	

COURT APPEARANCES (STATES)

Alabama (Federal Court)	N. Carolina (State & Federal Court)
Florida (Federal Court)	Oklahoma (State & Federal Court)
Mississippi (State Court)	S. Carolina (State & Federal Court)
Missouri (Federal & State Court)	Texas (State Court)
New Mexico (State Court)	Virginia (State Court)
New York (State Court)	West Virginia (Federal Court)

LECTURES GIVEN (LAW SCHOOLS)

Duke University, Durham, NC
Emory University, Atlanta, GA
North Carolina Central University, Durham, NC
Rutgers University, Newark, NJ
Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX
Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY
University of Connecticut, Hartford, CT
University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC
University of Tulsa, Tulsa, OK
University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA
William & Mary, Williamsburg, VA
Winston Salem State University, Winston Salem, NC
Elon University, Greensboro, NC

**HONORS
AND SERVICE**

2014 Frank Porter Graham Award, North Carolina American
Civil Liberties Union

2011 Deborah Greenblatt Outstanding Legal Services Attorney Award,
North Carolina Bar Association

2007 Order of Service Award, NC Academy of Trial Lawyers

2005-2007, Chair, Juvenile Justice and Children's Rights Section, North
Carolina Bar Association

2005 W.W. Finlator Award, North Carolina Wake County ACLU

Past Chair, Civil Rights Section, North Carolina Academy of Trial Law-
yers

2003 Citizen Award, *Independent Weekly*, Durham, North Carolina

Past Member National Council of Church's Racial Justice Working Group

Past Board Member, Southern Organizing Committee for Economic and
Political Justice

Past Board Member, Governor's Advocacy Council for Persons with
Disabilities, North Carolina

Past Board Member, Agricultural Resources Center, Raleigh, NC.

Past Board Member, North Carolina Waste Awareness and Reduction
Network (NC WARN)

Past Board Member, First Star, Washington, D.C.

1994 Foundation for Improvement of Justice Award (Georgia)

1984, Past National Vice-President for Anti-Racist and Affirmative Action
Work, National Lawyers Guild

1983, Past Southern Regional Vice-President, National Lawyers Guild

1982-1985, Taught and supervised law students and recent law graduates
who worked on Greensboro Civil Rights litigation.

1979 Cooperating Attorneys Award, ACLU of South Carolina

PUBLICATIONS

Langberg, J. & Pitts, L. (2012, January 19). The school-to-prison pipeline and the oppression of Black people. *Carolina Peacemaker*.

Langberg, J. & Pitts, L. (2011, December 15). How Occupy Wall Street is also an educational justice movement. Posted at www.parentsacrossamerica.org.

Jovanovic, S. & Pitts, L. (2011). Social action, local and national. In K. Wehr (Ed.), *Green culture: An a to z guide*, pp. 413-416. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Pitts, L. (2010). Public schools and citizenship for a self-governing democracy. *South Atlantic Philosophy of Education Society Yearbook*, 32-38.

Pitts, L. (2008). A state court remedy for the Keffeler problem: A call to action. *Children's Rights, 1 and 3-6*. A publication of the Children's Rights Litigation Committee of the American Bar Association.

Pitts, L. (2008). How to challenge the taking of a foster child's social security benefits. Available at http://apps.americanbar.org/litigation/committees/childrights/content/articles/0608_pitts.html

Pitts, L. (2005). Fighting for Children's Rights: Lessons for the Civil Rights Struggle. *University of Florida Journal of Law and Public Policy*.

Pitts, L. (2004). Corporate power: The rise of servant to master. *Trial Briefs*, 5-9.

Pitts, L. (2004). What leaders need to say...and be willing to hear. *Management Information Exchange Journal*, 18 (1), 26-27.

Pitts, L. (2003) The Bar's Ethical Responsibility to Children. ABA Section of Litigation Children's Rights Litigation Committee Vol.5, Issue 2.

Pitts, L. (2002). What would Lincoln think about corporate funding? *NC Lawyer*, p. 14.

Pitts, L. (2000). Beyond rhetoric to due process protective rights for chil-

dren: A civil rights approach is imperative. *Perspectives on Child Advocacy Law in the 21st Century*, 31-51. A publication of the ABA Fund for Justice and Education.

Pitts, L. (2000). Does our constitution really mean what it says? *The Journal of Common Sense*, 8-11.

Pitts, L. (2000). Asserting people power. *The Journal of Common Sense*, 12-13.

Pitts, L. (1998). Samantha Frazer—A child trailblazer. *American Bar Association's Child Law Practice*, 17 (6), 89-90.

Pitts, L. (1993) The Importance of Public Interest Law in a Constitutional Democracy. NAPIL Connection, January, 1993.

**INTERVIEWS
MEDIA
APPEARANCES**

CNN's *Larry King Live*, NBC's *Good Morning America*, and the *New York Times* regarding children's rights.

Rearden, K. K. & Noblet, C. T. (2009). *Childhood denied: Ending the nightmare of child abuse and neglect., chapters 2-3, 5 & 8*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Mark R. Warren. (July 2009) "*Embracing what is right.*" *White racial justice activist in America*. pp. 110-111; 134;180. Harvard University.

Ivins, M. & Dubose, L. (2007). *Bill of wrongs: The executive branch's assault on American's fundamental rights, chapter 2*. New York: Random House.

Waller, S. (2002). *Love and revolution: A political memoir and people's history of the Greensboro Massacre, its setting and aftermath, chapters 15-17, 19*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield.

**COMMUNITY
ACTION**

2012, Conference: "Our Responsibility to Oppose the Abuse of State Power: Moving Toward a More Humane Society."
2009-present, Parents Supporting Parents, Greensboro, NC
2002-2006, Greensboro Truth and Community Reconciliation National Advisory Council