

MICHAEL R. ADDAMS

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RESUME

SUMMARY

Seeking position as a District Court Judge in Spokane County. I am a skilled attorney, teacher, and judicial officer pro tempore with more than a decade of legal experience, and I have a passion for serving my community.

EDUCATION

Gonzaga University School of Law

JD, May 2014

- Thomas More Scholar; Armed Services Law Club – President; Child Advocacy Club – Treasurer
- Relevant coursework: Constitutional Law, Contract Law, Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Ethical Issues in Representing Children, Trial Advocacy, Legal Research and Writing I-IV, Trusts & Wills, Family Law

Gonzaga University Graduate School of Business

MBA, December 2014

- Relevant coursework: Business Ethics, Accounting, Strategic Management, Operational Management

Weber State University

B.A. Criminal Justice (Communication minor), cum laude, April 2011

- Concentration in Law Enforcement
- Student Association Supreme Court – Associate Justice

Community College of the Air Force

A.A.S. Human Resource Management, February 2018

A.A.S. Information Systems Technology, April 2006

WORK EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Spokane County District Court

Judge Pro-Tempore, March 2025 – present

- Preside over criminal proceedings, including arraignments, pretrial conferences, show-cause, and review hearings
- Review proposed plea agreements and sentencing recommendations for factual basis and legal sufficiency
- Preside over small claims trials involving individual and business plaintiffs and defendants

Spokane County Superior Court

Commissioner Pro-Tempore, September 2021 – present

- Preside over various family and juvenile proceedings in the absence of the regularly assigned court commissioner
- Cover ex parte court matters, including landlord-tenant, probate, domestic violence, and guardianship

Eastern Washington University

Lecturer – College of Professional Programs, September 2022 – present

Adjunct Instructor – College of Professional Programs, September 2021 – August 2022

- Teach courses on business law, ethics, and career preparation for undergraduate and graduate business students
- Advise students on legal education and careers

The Law Firm of Addams & Associates

Attorney, May 2022 – present

- Municipal prosecutor for City of Cheney, Washington
- Representation in estate planning, guardianships, infractions, probate and other matters
- Small business owner

United States Air Force / Air National Guard

Captain, June 2002 – June 2026

- Healthcare Systems Administrator, Chief Information Officer, and HIPAA Security Monitor
- Officer in Charge – 141st Air Refueling Wing Honor Guard
- Former Executive Officer; assisted detachment commander with various tasks to carry out agenda
- Former First Sergeant; advised commander regarding enlisted personnel issues of discipline and morale
- “Student Flight” Instructor – Provided new recruit training on ethics, history, and military customs
- Performed operational management of logistics with multimillion-dollar weapon systems

Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys

Director – Support Enforcement Program, September 2019 – August 2022

- Managed statewide partnership between Division of Child Support and elected prosecutors
- Oversee child support best practices coordination between deputy prosecutors of all Washington state counties
- Directed statewide training program of child support enforcement prosecutors and staff
- Provided bill analysis regarding proposed legislation affecting child support enforcement
- Advised state agency on child support and prosecution policy matters
- Managed office policies regarding fiscal, employment, and public disclosure laws

Brigham Young University – Idaho

Adjunct Instructor – College of Education and Human Development, September 2019 – June 2022

- Online instructor in the College of Education and Human Development

Department of Social and Health Services – Division of Child Support

Government Liaison, February 2018 – September 2019

- Maintained statewide partnership with elected and deputy prosecutors of Title IV-D judicial caseloads
- Facilitated workgroup of statewide prosecutor liaisons to resolve disagreements between prosecutors and DCS
- Coordinated support to county clerks for timely entry of judicial child support orders
- Managed DCS contracts team

Addams & Leavitt, PLLC – Attorneys at Law

Attorney & Managing Partner, November 2014 – January 2018

- Provided analysis and representation in family, juvenile, criminal, immigration, and administrative proceedings
- Managed accounting, advertising, supervising, scheduling, and other daily operational management activities

Counsel for Defense – Spokane County

Law Clerk / Extern, January 2011 – May 2011

- Represented juvenile delinquents in felony and misdemeanor proceedings

U.S. Attorney's Office – Eastern District of Washington

Law Clerk / Extern, June 2012 – July 2013

- Managed and prosecuted federal misdemeanor caseload
- Researched various topics, including controlled substances, illegal immigration, and child exploitation
- Drafted appellate briefs for Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals

Ogden City Prosecutor

Undergraduate Law Clerk, May 2010 – August 2010

- Assisted in prosecution of misdemeanors

HONORS AND AWARDS**Public Service and Leadership Award**

Washington Young Lawyer Committee – Washington State Bar Association
2016

Small Firm of the Year

Spokane County Bar Association – Volunteer Lawyers Program
2016

Status Conference Volunteer of the Year

Spokane County Bar Association – Volunteer Lawyers Program
2015

Thomas More Scholar

Gonzaga University School of Law
2011-2014

PUBLICATIONS**Accountability Meets Recovery: Real Stories from the Cheney Therapeutic Court**

Washington State Bar News
November 2026

The Family Violence Appellate Project: How Adrian helped Janae

Washington State Bar News

October 2023

Help Wanted: The Moderate Means Program and Scarcity of Legal Service Providers in Rural Washington

Washington State Bar News

October 2022

Reach Your New Year's Resolution Goals with Help from ProBonoWa.org

Washington State Bar News

December 2021

The Moderate Means Program: Meet Some (And Become One?) of the People Who Make It Happen

Washington State Bar News

October 2021

How to Serve the Underserved While Building Your Practice

Washington State Bar News

October 2020

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Ethics is Ethics: Don't do anything stupid and you will *probably* be okay

WAPA-SEP Ethics CLE

2025

To Promote the General Welfare: A Historical Overview of the Social Security Act and Title IV Programs

WSBA Juvenile Law Section Mini-CLE

2022

Representing a State Agency: Ethics, Objectives, and Cases of Interest

WAPA-SEP Ethics CLE Webinar

2021

To Promote the General Welfare: A Historical Overview of the Social Security Act and Title IV Programs

WAPA-SEP Annual Conference

2021

Coming Together When Things Fall Apart: Best Practices for Collaboration Between the IV-D and IV-E Agencies and Courts

Western Interstate Child Support Engagement Council (WICSEC)

2019

Digitally Aware Decisions – Sexting and Cyberbullying

Various audiences

2013-2016

Moderate Means as a Good Business Practice

Gonzaga University School of Law

2016

Moderate Means CLE

Washington State Bar Association

2016

Law and Religion Panel Discussion

Gonzaga University School of Law and J. Reuben Clark Law Society

2016

Contention in the Legal Field

J. Reuben Clark Law Society

2015

Starting Your Own Legal Practice

Gonzaga University School of Law

2015

Digital Citizenship

Davenport High School

2014

SELECTED VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE**CASA Partners**

Secretary, January 2026 – present

President, March 2023 – December 2025

Vice President, January 2017 – January 2018

Board Member, June 2014 – present

Office of Military and Veteran's Legal Assistance Advisory Committee – Washington Attorney General's Office

Volunteer Attorney, May 2026 - present

Committee Member, March 2021 – March 2023

Pro Bono Public Service Committee – Washington State Bar Association

Co-chair, October 2021 – September 2023

Committee Member, October 2020 – September 2024

Juvenile Law Section – Washington State Bar Association

Immediate Past Chair, October 2022 – September 2023

Chair, October 2021 – September 2022

Secretary, October 2020 – October 2021

Administrative Law Section – Washington State Bar Association

Young Lawyer Liaison, October 2018 – September 2019

Volunteer Lawyers Program – Spokane County Bar Association

Volunteer Lawyer, June 2014 – January 2018

Teen & Kid Closet

Board Member/Race Director, June 2016 – November 2017

Boy Scouts of America

Scoutmaster, 2005 – 2011