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PETER W. D. WRIGHT - BIO

Peter W. D. Wright was born and raised in Washington, D.C. He attended Randolph-Macon College in Ashland, Virginia where he majored in psychology. After graduating from college in 1968, he worked in juvenile training schools. Later, he worked as a juvenile probation officer, first in a suburb of Richmond, Virginia, and later in the ghettos and projects of Richmond, Virginia. In 1972, he was honored as Virginia's "Juvenile Probation Officer of the Year."

While employed in the juvenile justice system, Pete attended a graduate psychology program at Virginia Commonwealth University where he completed 30 hours of coursework.

Since the early 1970's, Pete has been active with The Orton Dyslexia Society and the Association for Children and Adults with Learning Disabilities, now known as LDA. In the 1970's he presented papers about the relationship between learning disabilities and juvenile delinquency at the national conferences of both organizations.

As an attorney, Pete continues to be involved in the field of special education. He has spoken at the national conferences of disabilities organizations about "How To Secure an Appropriate Special Education for Your Child and Avoid Due Process." He has also presented continuing legal education seminars in many states in regard to the representation of special education children.

On October 6, 1993, Pete gave oral argument in *Florence County School District Four v. Shannon Carter*, 510 U.S. 7 (1993) before the United States Supreme Court. Thirty-four days later, the Court found for his client, Shannon Carter, in a unanimous landmark decision.

Since then, Pete and his wife Pam developed the Wrightslaw special education law and advocacy website. Wrightslaw is the top ranked website in special education law, education law and advocacy. He and his wife have also written best-selling special education law books, *Wrightslaw: Special Education Law, 2nd Edition*, *Wrightslaw: From Emotions to Advocacy, 2nd Edition*, *Wrightslaw: No Child Left Behind*, *Wrightslaw: All About IEPs* and *Wrightslaw: All About Tests and Assessments*.

The Wrights publish an online newsletter with over 97,000 subscribers. For three semesters, Pete and Pam Wright taught "Special Education Law" at the William & Mary School of Law. They now teach at the ISEA Clinic at the Law School each summer.