Peter W. D. Wright

ATTORNEY AT LAW

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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. He majored in psychology. After graduation from college in 1968, he worked for several years in juvenile training schools, first as a houseparent and later as a counselor. Later, he worked as a juvenile probation officer, first in a suburb of Richmond, Virginia, and later in the ghettos and projects of the City of Richmond. In 1972, he was honored as Virginia's "Juvenile Probation Officer of the Year."

While employed in the juvenile justice system, Pete also attended evening college in a graduate psychology program at Virginia Commonwealth University where he completed thirty 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 LDAA. 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 Orton Dyslexia Society, ChADD and LDAA annual national conferences on "How To Secure an Appropriate Special Education for Your Child and Avoid Due Process." He has presented a number of continuing legal education seminars in different states to attorneys in regard to the representation of special education children. He is on the Board of the national Council of Parents Attorneys, and Advocates, a special education association of parents, attorneys, and advocates.

On October 6, 1993, Pete returned to his hometown, where he 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, he and his wife have developed the "wrightslaw" special education law and advocacy website. It is the top ranked website in regard to special education advocacy for children with disabilities. He and his wife have also published the best selling special education law books entitled "Wrightslaw: Special Education Law" and "Wrightslaw: From Emotions to Advocacy." They have an online newsletter with over 35,000 subscribers. He is a member of Advisory Boards and Boards of Director for numerous disability related organizations.