

JOSEPH DINNEEN KEARNEY

EXPERIENCE

- 1997–present **Marquette University Law School** Milwaukee
Dean and Professor of Law (2003–present)
Associate Professor of Law (2001–2003)
Assistant Professor of Law (1997–2001)

Activities as dean include leading the award-winning Eckstein Hall project, which included fundraising of more than \$100 million between 2007 and 2011 and the construction of a building nationally regarded as having set the standard for law schools. An account of the groundbreaking and dedication ceremonies can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

Active teaching portfolio includes Advanced Civil Procedure (spring semester each year) and Federal Courts and Supreme Court Seminar (alternating fall semesters).
- 1990–1995,
1996–1997 **Sidley & Austin** Chicago
Commercial and regulatory litigation, with emphasis on appellate practice
- 1995–1996 **U.S. Supreme Court** Washington, D.C.
Law Clerk to Justice Antonin Scalia
- 1989–1990 **U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit** Portland, Ore.
Law Clerk to Judge Diarmuid F. O'Scannlain

EDUCATION

- 1989 **Harvard Law School** Cambridge
J.D., *cum laude*
Executive Editor, *Harvard Journal of Law & Public Policy*
77th Annual Ames Moot Court Finals
- 1986 **Yale University** New Haven
B.A., *summa cum laude*, in Classics
Phi Beta Kappa
Bishop Berkeley Award: given to that student in Berkeley College “who has best realized the intellectual potentialities of the University”
- 1982 **St. Ignatius College Prep** Chicago
Valedictorian

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- 2021 *Lakefront: Public Trust and Private Rights in Chicago* (Cornell University Press, 392 pp.) (with Thomas W. Merrill)
- 2015 *The Supreme Court and Religious Liberty (Pallium Lecture)*, [99 Marquette Law Review 427](#)
- 2014 *A Truth About Career Law Clerks*, [98 Marquette Law Review 13](#)
- 2013 *Contested Shore: Property Rights in Reclaimed Land and the Battle for Streeterville*, [107 Northwestern University Law Review 1057](#) (with Merrill)
- 2012 *The Last Assembly of Interstate Commerce Act Lawyers*, [95 Marquette Law Review 1123](#) (foreword to 125 Years Since the Interstate Commerce Act: A Symposium in the Form of a Final Convocation) (symposium editor with James B. Speta)
- 2011 *Private Rights in Public Lands: The Chicago Lakefront, Montgomery Ward, and the Public Dedication Doctrine*, [105 Northwestern University Law Review 1417](#) (with Merrill)
- 2010 *Laying the Foundation*, 93 [Marquette Law Review 1257](#) (foreword to Legacies of Lincoln Symposium) (symposium editor with Daniel D. Blinka).
- 2004 *The Origins of the American Public Trust Doctrine: What Really Happened in Illinois Central*, [71 University of Chicago Law Review 799](#) (with Merrill)
- 2002 *Special Issue (In Memoriam Howard B. Eisenberg)*, [86 Marquette Law Review 187](#) (editor of special issue and author of foreword)
- 2002 *The Print Media and Judicial Elections: Some Case Studies from Wisconsin*, [85 Marquette Law Review 593](#) (with Howard B. Eisenberg)
- 2000 *Will the FCC Go the Way of the ICC?*, [71 University of Colorado Law Review 1153](#)
- 2000 *The Influence of Amicus Curiae Briefs on the Supreme Court*, [148 University of Pennsylvania Law Review 743](#) (with Merrill)
- 1999 *From the Fall of the Bell System to the Telecommunications Act: Regulation of Telecommunications Under Judge Greene*, [50 Hastings Law Journal 1395](#)

- 1998 *The Great Transformation of Regulated Industries Law*, [98 Columbia Law Review 1323](#) (with Merrill)
- 1998 *Twilight of the FCC?*, [1 Green Bag 2d 327](#) (reviewing Peter Huber, *Law and Disorder in Cyberspace: Abolish the FCC and Let Common Law Rule the Telecom* (Oxford University Press 1997))

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS, SPEECHES, NON-ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS, AWARDS, ETC.

- 2019 American Inns of Court Professionalism Award for the Seventh Circuit ([acceptance remarks](#))
- 2017 [Remarks at the Investiture of Judge Timothy Dugan](#), Wisconsin Court of Appeals
- 2016 [Remarks at the Investiture of Judge Cynthia M. Davis](#), Milwaukee County Circuit Court
- 2016 [“Justice Antonin Scalia—Ave Atque Vale.”](#) *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, Feb. 21, 2016, at J1 (op-ed)
- 2015 Faithful Servant Award, St. Thomas More Lawyers Society of Wisconsin
- 2015 [The Wisconsin Supreme Court: Can We Help?](#), Keynote Address, Annual Meeting, Western District of Wisconsin Bar Association
- 2014 [Reflections on the Legal Aid Society of Milwaukee](#)
- 2014 Nathan Fishbach Founder’s Award, Eastern District of Wisconsin Bar Association
- 2014 Moderator, Panel of Judges, 360 Degrees of Appellate Ethics, CLE Session of Appellate Practice Section of the State Bar of Wisconsin
- 2013 [Some Observations on the Future of Legal Education](#), Remarks to the Fellows of the Wisconsin Law Foundation (presentation with Dean Margaret Raymond of the University of Wisconsin Law School)
- 2013 [Remarks at the Investiture of Judge G. Michael Halfenger](#) to the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin
- 2013 [Reflections at Memorial Ceremony for Judge John L. Coffey](#) in U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit (special session held in Appellate Courtroom of Eckstein Hall)

- 2012 [Remarks at Memorial Ceremony for Judge Dale E. Ihlenfeldt](#) in U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin
- 2012 [Remarks at the Investiture of Judge Lindsey Grady](#), Milwaukee County Circuit Court
- 2011 [Remarks in Accepting Award as Lawyer of the Year](#), Milwaukee Bar Association
- 2011 [Remarks at Investiture of Judge James A. Wynn, Jr.](#), to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit
- 2010 Participant in panels on “Choosing an Architect” and “Library Without Walls,” at Bricks, Bytes and Continuous Renovation: Law School Facilities Conference, ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar, Philadelphia (March 2010)
- 2009 Remarks upon Accepting, on Behalf of Marquette Law School, Chair’s Award from Jewish Family Services Milwaukee
- 2009 [Keynote Address](#), Civil Trial Counsel of Wisconsin, Annual Meeting
- 2008–present Contributor, [Marquette Law School Faculty Blog](#)
- 2008 Remarks, Loyola University of Chicago School of Law Annual All-Journal Banquet, [40 Loyola University Chicago Law Journal p. i](#)
- 2008 Remarks, Rebecca F. Dallet Investiture, Milwaukee County Circuit Court
- 2008 Remarks, Eckstein Hall Groundbreaking, [91 Marquette Law Review 1237](#)
- 2007 Introductory Remarks, Economic Forum of the Milwaukee Jewish Federation
- 2007 Remarks by the Dean, Law Review Annual Banquet, [90 Marquette Law Review 1069](#)
- 2007 Remarks, Governor’s Conference on Economic Development (Madison, Wis.)
- 2006 Eulogy for Professor Emeritus Charles W. Mentkowski, [17 Marquette Sports Law Review 9](#)

- 2006 Remarks on the Career (to Date) of Chief Justice Shirley S. Abrahamson, at Honoring a Remarkable Justice, Celebrating the Wisconsin Judiciary (Madison, Wis.)
- 2005 [Remarks on the Wisconsin Court System, Keynote Address](#), Western District of Wisconsin Bar Association Annual Meeting
- 2005 [Remarks upon Receiving Award of Excellence in the Field of Law](#), 24th Annual St. Ignatius Law Luncheon (Chicago)
- 2004 Remarks, Paul Van Grunsven Investiture, Milwaukee County Circuit Court
- 2004 [Remarks](#), Diane S. Sykes Investiture, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit
- 2004 Remarks, Joan F. Kessler Investiture, Wisconsin Court of Appeals
- 2004 [Remarks upon Accepting](#), on Behalf of Marquette Law School, Special Service Award from the Eastern District of Wisconsin Bar Association
- 2004 Presentation on Effective Brief Writing, Continuing Legal Education Program of the Seventh Circuit and Eastern District of Wisconsin Bar Associations
- 2003 [Some Reflections on the Law's Institutions](#), Remarks to the Fellows of the Wisconsin Law Foundation
- 2003 [Presentation](#), State Bar of Wisconsin Continuing Legal Education Seminar on “Attorney Professionalism—Pious Platitude or Practical Aspiration?”
- 2003 [Remarks](#), Dedication of Classroom 325 in Sensenbrenner Hall in Honor of Ralph J. Huiras
- 2003–present Dean’s Column, *Marquette Lawyer Magazine*
- [“Beginning, But Not Anew”](#) (Fall/Winter 2003)
- [“A Collective Enterprise”](#) (Summer 2004)
- [“The Physical Future of the Law School”](#) (Spring 2005)
- [“Why Can’t Legal Education Be Like Major League Baseball?”](#) (Fall 2005/Winter 2006)
- [“Building the Law School”](#) (Summer/Fall 2006)
- [“The Law School and Marquette University”](#) (Spring/Summer 2007)

[“Who Will Stand with the Ecksteins and Zilbers?”](#)
 (Spring/Summer 2008)
[“Stewardship, the Law School, and You”](#) (Spring 2009)
[“Laying the Foundation”](#) (Fall 2010)
[“Bringing the World to Milwaukee”](#) (Summer 2011)
[“Another Form of Work with Students”](#) (Summer 2012)
[“The Lawyer as Public Citizen”](#) (Fall 2012)
[“Seeking Excellence, in This Magazine and All Else”](#)
 (Summer 2013)
[“An Old Medium in the Midst of the New”](#) (Fall 2013)
[“Lectures and Magazines—and Communities”](#) (Summer 2014)
[“Lovell, Lubar, and the Law School More Generally”](#) (Fall 2014)
[“How It Ought to Be, as I See It”](#) (Spring 2015)
[“Milwaukee—The Great American City”](#) (Summer 2016)
[“A Reflection on a Law Faculty”](#) (Fall 2016)
[“Announcing the Lubar Center for Public Policy Research and
 Civic Education”](#) (Summer 2017)
[“The Various Great Work of Marquette Law School”](#) (Fall 2017)
[“Eckstein Hall—and Its Architect—Ten Years After”](#)
 (Summer 2018)
[“Of Reason, Experience, and Politics”](#) (Fall 2018)
[“Of Human Nature—and Thus of Both Law and Culture”](#)
 (Summer 2019)
[“The Company We Keep”](#) (Fall 2019)
[“A Most Instructive Semester”](#) (Summer 2020)
[“Bringing the National Academy to Milwaukee—and Sending It
 Back Out”](#) (Fall 2020)

- 2003 Memorial Address, Milwaukee Bar Association
- 2002 Eisenberg—A Hero for Justice, *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*,
 June 6, 2002, at A19 (op-ed)
- 2002 State High Court Also Culpable in County Pension Mess,
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, April 21, 2002, at 3J (op-ed)
- 2001 An Overview of the Tobacco Litigation: Its Development, Propriety,
 and Public-Policy Implications, State Bar of Wisconsin Annual
 Meeting, Government Lawyers Division, Health Law Section, and
 Public Interest Law Section
- 2001 A Discussion of Frivolous Actions in Wisconsin, Dane County Bar
 Association (with Hon. Janine P. Geske)
- 2000 The Potential Impact of the Fall 2000 Election on the Supreme
 Court, Marquette Women’s Council (with Peter K. Rofes)

- 2000 The Future of Federal Telecommunications Regulation, at The Global Reach: Telecommunications in the New Century (conference cosponsored by Marquette University)
- 2000 Whither the FCC?, University of Colorado Law School Telecommunications Symposium
- 1999 Regulation of Telecommunications Under the AT&T Consent Decree, Hastings College of the Law Symposium
- 1999 Why I Came to Marquette, Woolsack Society of Marquette University Law School (Alumni Group)
- 1999 Do Amicus Briefs Have an Effect on the Supreme Court?, American Law Institute, Wisconsin Chapter
- 1998 Effective Writing of Legal Briefs, Seventh Circuit Workshop for Court-Appointed Attorneys
- 1998 The Influence of Amicus Curiae Briefs on the Supreme Court, American Politics Workshop at the University of Chicago (with Merrill)

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL AND PUBLIC SERVICE ACTIVITIES

- 2001–present Of Counsel, Appellate Consulting Group (at times aka Law Office of Anne Berleman Kearney)
- 2000–2018 Member, Board of Directors, Federalist Society, Milwaukee Lawyers’ Chapter
- 2008–2016 Trustee, Faith in Our Future (nonprofit corporation created to conduct capital campaign and operate in support of Catholic education and faith formation in southeastern Wisconsin)
- 2002–2012 Member, Board of Directors, Eastern District of Wisconsin Bar Association
- 2003–2009 Chair/Co-Chair, Wisconsin Federal Nominating Commission (appointed by Senators Herbert H. Kohl and Russell D. Feingold to evaluate possible nominees to U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit and U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin)
- 2009 Member, Task Force Appointed by Senator Herbert H. Kohl to Advise Him Concerning Supreme Court Nomination of Judge Sonia Sotomayor
- 2002–2008 Member, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, Rules

Advisory Committee

- 2002–2007 Member, Wisconsin Board of Bar Examiners (appointed by the Wisconsin Supreme Court)
- 2005 Member, Task Force Appointed by Senator Herbert H. Kohl to Advise Him Concerning Supreme Court Nomination of Judge John G. Roberts, Jr.
- 1999–2000 Member and Reporter, Multidisciplinary Committee of the State Bar of Wisconsin

MISCELLANEOUS

Profiles available by the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* ([Nov. 26, 2011](#)) and Urban Milwaukee ([Oct. 19, 2012](#))

Not listed here: various pro bono and other litigation matters

Born in Chicago on December 28, 1964

Admitted to the practice of law in Illinois, Wisconsin, and various federal courts

Married to Anne Berleman Kearney, three children