

LAWYER

Why **Attorney** *and* **Counselor?**

Since 1991, I worked as a civil trial attorney in twelve Colorado and Massachusetts counties. My career was solving problems in court, whatever the subject, on behalf of individuals and small businesses. Today my focus is on representing mental health providers, and helping veterans at free legal clinics. Those efforts are detailed in separate sections of this site.

As an *attorney* I seek the goals of my clients. But *counseling* comes first: not *how* but *whether* to pursue a course of action, considering other social and economic factors. Just being an uncritical "gun for hire" does not serve my clients well, but would be irresponsible. At the same time, I strive to avoid imposing my own values.

LEGAL CREDENTIALS

Colorado State Courts
Admitted 1992, Active • *Check Status*

Colorado Federal Courts
Admitted 1993, Inactive • *Check Status*

Massachusetts State Courts
Admitted 1991, Inactive • *Check Status*

WHAT
IS
THE LAW?

Law is a Voice in the Chorus of Moral Reasoning



Laws Exchange Ethical Flexibility for Predictability

"The prophecies of what the courts will do in fact, and nothing more pretentious, are what I mean by the law."

Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.
"The Path of the Law"
10 *Harvard Law Review* 457 (1897)



Law Mutates with Societal Norms

Hall of Fame Umpire Bill Klem (as to a pitch):

“It ain’t nothing ‘til I call it!”



A value becomes a law when society “calls it”
It emerges from the prevailing consensus