

Whitney Cowell, Ph.D., J.D.

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LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATIONS

Licensed Clinical Psychologist (Colorado PSY #0005743)

- PSYPACT Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology (#20870)

Licensed Attorney (California #343325)

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy in Clinical Psychology

2015- 2020

Palo Alto University, Palo Alto, CA (APA Accredited)

Degree Awarded August 2020

Area of Emphasis: Psychology and Law

Dissertation: Judicial treatment of parental mental health in child abuse and neglect case law

Master of Science, Clinical Psychology

2015- 2018

Palo Alto University, Palo Alto, CA (APA Accredited)

Juris Doctor

2014- 2017

Golden Gate University School of Law, San Francisco, CA

Areas of Emphasis: Public Interest Law and Family Law

Bachelor of Science, Criminal Justice, *cum laude*

2010-2014

Bachelor of Arts, Sociology, *cum laude*

California Lutheran University, Thousand Oaks, CA

CLINICAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Licensed Clinical and Forensic Psychologist

October 2022 – Present

Cowell Consulting, Clinical and Forensic Psychology LLC; Denver, CO

- Owner/operator of a private practice offering forensic and clinical psychological evaluation services, as well as consultation services
- Types of evaluations conducted include criminal and civil psycholegal evaluations, as well as psychodiagnostic and general clinical psychological evaluations
- Working as a contracted forensic evaluator for the State of Colorado conducting court-ordered competence to proceed evaluations
- Presently working on research for an accepted manuscript titled, “Outlawed Grief: The Impact of Suicide in Correctional Settings,” with an anticipated publication date of September 2025

Forensic Psychologist

August 2022 – December 2024

Denver Health and Hospital Authority – Denver Sheriff’s Department; Denver, CO

- Worked as the unit psychologist for the Men’s Mental Health and Transition Unit (MTU) and the Denver Restoration and Transition Unit (DRTU)

- Oversaw and provided clinical services for a mental health and jail-based competency restoration unit in the Denver County Jail
- Performed reviews of barriers impacting competency status of individuals housed in competency restoration treatment services on the DRTU
- Facilitated services for competency restoration treatment
- Provided individual and group therapy
- Conducted psychological and forensic psychological testing and assessments
- Supervised graduate students, predoctoral interns, and therapeutic case workers in the provision of clinical services to individuals with serious and persistent mental illness and in competency restoration treatment services

Forensic Psychology Postdoctoral Fellow

August 2021- August 2022

Forensic Evaluation Service, Mississippi State Hospital; Whitfield, MS

Training Director: Amanda Gugliano, Psy.D.

- Completed a year-long postdoctoral fellowship in forensic psychology
- Conducted court-ordered forensic mental health evaluations, including competence to stand trial, competence to waive or assert constitutional rights, mental state at the time of the alleged offense, and mitigation
- Provided expert witness testimony regarding forensic mental health evaluations
- Administered, scored, and interpreted psychological testing used in forensic evaluations
- Provided recommendations to treatment providers related to competence-restoration treatment
- Conducted research on substance use and the insanity defense

Psychological Associate

September 2020- August 2021

Columbia Correctional Institute; Portage, WI

Supervisor: Kelsey Stange, Psy.D.

- Provided clinical services to incarcerated individuals in a maximum-security prison
- Worked as the lead clinician on the Special Management Unit (SMU), a unit with inmates in general population, restrictive housing (segregation), administrative confinement, protective custody, and those under special management for presenting issues related to serious mental illness and/or medical concerns
- Provided individual therapy to individuals with acute and chronic serious mental illnesses
- Participated as a member of an interdisciplinary treatment team
- Provided on-call therapeutic services, including crisis contacts related to engagement in self-injurious behavior, suicide risk assessments, and consultation services to security and administrative staff

Pre-Doctoral Psychology Intern

September 2019- August 2020

Mendota Mental Health Institute (MMHI); Madison, WI (APA- Accredited Internship)

Training Director: David Lee, Ph.D., J.D.

- Provided clinical services and forensic evaluations to adult male and females, as well as male adolescents, in a forensic state hospital
- Completed three, four-month primary rotations, including: Mendota Juvenile Treatment Center (MJTC); Forensic Maximum Unit (FMU); and Risk Assessment
- Conducted competency to stand trial evaluations
- Provided expert witness testimony
- Provided group and individual court competence restoration

- Participated in interdisciplinary treatment team meetings for juvenile and adult patients
- Provided individual psychotherapy, including substance use and sex offender treatment, for juveniles and adults
- Conducted psychological testing
- Completed psychosexual, violence risk, and psychological evaluations
- Provided psychological consultation services to treatment providers

Neuropsychological Practicum Trainee

June 2018- June 2019

Alta Mira Recovery Program; Sausalito, CA

Supervisor: Laura Natta, Ph.D.

- Provided diagnostic testing services to adults in a residential drug treatment setting
- Administered neuropsychological, cognitive, personality, and risk testing instruments
- Scored and interpreted tests
- Wrote integrated psychological reports
- Provided feedback and consultation to patients, families, and other treatment providers
- Participated in weekly treatment team meetings and multidisciplinary collaborations

Practicum Trainee

June 2017- June 2019

Citywide, University of California San Francisco (UCSF); San Francisco, CA

Supervisor: Valerie Gruber, Ph.D.

- Provided therapeutic services to correctional and outpatient forensic populations
- Provided individual psychotherapy, crisis intervention, case management, and group therapy
- Conducted psychological evaluations
- Worked as a psychological consultant in Behavioral Health Court (BHC)
- Facilitated substance use and psychoeducational groups in a community mental health setting

Practicum Trainee

June 2016- June 2017

The Gronowski Center; Los Altos, CA

Supervisor: Michael A. Schmidt, Ph.D.

- Provided long-term individual and couples therapy in a community mental health training setting
- Conducted biopsychosocial intake interviews and psychodiagnostic assessments
- Performed risk consultations and provided risk management services to clients

TEACHING AND SUPERVISION EXPERIENCE

Faculty Instructor

November 2023- Present

Department of Psychiatry, University of Colorado- Anschutz

Clinical Supervisor

May – August 2022

Center for Behavioral Health, University of Southern Mississippi

- Delivered individual and group clinical supervision to doctoral level graduate students
- Provided supervision for psychological assessments, including diagnostic evaluations, ADHD evaluations, and fitness for duty evaluations
- Provided supervision for individual and group therapies

Psychological Assessment Supervisor

June 2018 - June 2019

Citywide Case Management, University of California, San Francisco

- Provided weekly individual and group supervision to practicum trainees
- Assisted trainees in creating appropriate assessment batteries for differing referral questions
- Provided feedback on reports and shadowed trainees on psychological assessment cases

Teaching Assistant

September – December 2017

Ethics in Clinical Psychology, Graduate, Palo Alto University

Professor: Wendy Packman, J.D., Ph.D.

- Provided lectures on topics involving ethics and legal standards of practice
- Graded course papers on topics related to ethical issues present in psychology
- Provided feedback, support and individual meetings with students enrolled within the course

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Dissertation Research

November 2017- February 2020

Psychology and Lab Research Lab, Palo Alto University

Dissertation Committee: Wendy Packman, J.D., Ph.D.; Bruce Bongar, Ph.D.; Robert Friedberg, Ph.D.

- Systematic content analysis of judicial commentary and outcomes related to parental mental health in child abuse and neglect case law
- Analyzed approximately 4,500 appellate-level United States case law discussions for quantitative data and qualitative analysis

Research Assistant

August 2017- July 2018

San Francisco Behavioral Health Court (BHC)

Supervisor: Valerie Gruber, Ph.D.

- Provided an assessment battery to forensic populations with co-occurring mental health diagnoses involved in San Francisco's Behavioral Health Court (BHC)
- Helped with data collection on a research project investigating the role of cognitive functioning as a predictor of success in collaborative courts

Research Assistant

April 2016- August 2020

Psychology & Law Research Lab, Palo Alto University

Supervisor: Wendy Packman, Ph.D., J.D.

- Initiated and assisted with research projects related to the intersection between psychology and the legal system

PUBLICATIONS

Charles, N., **Cowell, W.**, & Gulledge, L. (2022). Using the Personality Assessment Inventory-Adolescent in legal settings. *Journal of Personality Assessment*, DOI: 10.1080/00223891.2021.2019050.

Bongar, B., Lockwood, D., Spangler, D., & **Cowell, W.** (2017). Lethal means restriction: Historical, international and professional considerations. *Handbook of Suicidal Behaviour*, 203-219.

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Cowell, W., Olson, K., Berthold, A., and Howard, S. (2023, October). An Analysis of the Settled Insanity Defense. Invited presentation at the Mississippi State Public Defenders Annual Conference, Jackson, MS.

Cowell, W., Olson, K., Gugliano, A., Berthold, A., and Howard, S. (2023, March). The Not-So Settled Debate: A Case Law Analysis of the Settled Insanity Defense. Paper presented at the American Psychology- Law Society Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA.

Charles, N., **Cowell, W.**, & Gullledge, L. (2022, July). Using the Personality Assessment Inventory- Adolescent in legal settings. Invited presentation for the Journal of Personality Assessment’s Legal Context Webinar Series.

Cowell, W. (2022, March). The Legal and Psychological Utilization of Mental Health in Termination of Rights Cases. Paper presentation accepted at the American Psychology-Law Society Annual Conference, Denver, CO.

Cowell, W. & Michelin, A. (2020, April). Tell me the truth: How are malingering measures used and referenced in United States case law? Poster accepted at the California Psychological Association, Newport Beach, CA.

Yackovich, N. & **Cowell, W.** (2020, March). Implications for criminal behavior in adults with ASD. Invited presentation at the Wisconsin Psychiatric Association Annual Conference, Madison, WI.

Cowell, W. & Yuodsnukis, B. (2019, March). R-PAS vs. Exner: Utilization of the Rorschach Inkblot Test in United States case law. Poster presented at the Society of Personality Assessment, New Orleans, LA.

Cowell, W., Yuodsnukis, B. & Kline, J. (2018, April). Examination of the relationship between mental health, substance use, and parental outcomes in family law. Poster presented at the Western Psychological Association Conference, Portland, OR.

Cowell, W., Yuodsnukis, B. & Kline, J. (2018, April). Treatment of parental mental health in child abuse and neglect case law. Poster presented at the California Psychological Association Conference, La Jolla, CA.

Cowell, W. (2017, July). Mental health in the law: Issues and recommendations for law schools and practicing lawyers. Poster presented at the American Association of Law Libraries Conference, Austin, TX.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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| • American Psychological Association, Division 41- Psychology-Law Society | 2016- Present |
| • American Psychological Association | 2016- Present |
| • California Bar Association | 2022- Present |
| • Colorado Psychological Association | 2022- Present |