



MAX WACHTEL, PHD

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LICENSED PSYCHOLOGIST

Colorado: # PSY-2832 (2004-present)

Wyoming: # 766 (2014-present)

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Counseling Psychology, University of Denver, 2001 Denver, CO

M.A., Counseling Psychology, University of Denver, 1997 Denver, CO

B.A., Psychology, Cum Laude, Trinity University, 1995 San Antonio, TX

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2004 to present: Max Wachtel, Ph.D., Private Forensic and Clinical Psychology Practice

Practitioner in general clinical and forensic assessment/neuropsychology. Psychotherapy working with adults; Evaluations for Probate Matters, including Guardianship/Conservatorship, testamentary/contractual capacity, and undue influence; Evaluations of legal disability for The Department of Disability Services (including neuropsychological testing); Forensic/Diagnostic mental health evaluations (pre and post sentencing) for probation departments; Assessments of Competency to Stand Trial in Colorado and Wyoming; Sanity Examinations in Colorado and Wyoming; Trauma treatment and evaluation, including trauma from sex assault/intimate partner violence; Medical records reviews; Private consultation and assessment services to criminal defense and prosecuting attorneys; Independent Medical (Psychological/Neuropsychological) Evaluations; Expert witness testimony; Trial Consultation Services for State, District, and Federal Courts, and Military Courts Martial; Actuarial risk assessments; Substance use evaluations;

Psychological autopsies, behavioral profiling, and causative factors analysis; Malingering assessments; Evaluations for emotional damages.

2015 to 2017: Group Practitioner, The Colorado Center For Clinical Excellence

Forensic assessment/neuropsychology and psychotherapy practice for adults and adolescents.

2013 to present: 9News Psychologist, 9News, KUSA, Denver, www.9News.com

Expert psychological analysis and commentary regarding crime, legal issues, and current events; Original content for web and broadcast.

2016: Behavioral Profiler -- *HUNTED*, CBS Network

Behavioral profiler as part of a law enforcement team of fugitive hunters.

2012 to 2013: Assistant Clinical Professor, University of Denver

Faculty, Counseling Psychology Program; Taught doctoral and masters level classes in cognitive/neuropsychological and psychological assessment, law and ethics, and counseling theory/technique.

2010 to 2012: Faculty Lecturer, University of Denver

Faculty, Counseling Psychology Program; Taught doctoral and masters level classes in cognitive/neuropsychological and psychological assessment, law and ethics, and counseling theory/technique.

2001 to 2010: Adjunct Faculty, University of Denver

Lecturer to doctoral candidates in cognitive/neuropsychological/personality assessment, with a focus on assessment of dementia, TBI, acquired brain injury, learning, memory impairment, neuropsychological testing, and objective and projective personality measures.

2002 to 2004: Program Manager, Adult Outpatient and Access Services, The Mental Health Center of Denver

Co-managed the largest adult outpatient clinic in the Rocky Mountain Region (750 clients, 25 staff); Managed and supervised the development of a forensic treatment program for DOC offenders with severe mental illness; Conducted and supervised forensic assessments (diagnosis and appropriateness for outpatient treatment); Supervised the single-point-of entry call center for MHCD (7 staff); Consulted on the clinical work of homeless shelter outreach workers; Supervised 17 clinical staff in their work with consumers who were disabled and/or severely mentally ill; Worked

on multidisciplinary team, including psychologists, social workers, professional counselors, psychiatrists, nurse practitioners, and nurses; Supervised neuropsychological testing; Managed a combined budget of \$2 million; Created a comprehensive Group Therapy Training program; Supervised the intake procedure for clients covered under a \$15 million/year class action lawsuit.

2000 to 2001: Predoctoral Internship, Denver Health Medical Center

Provided clinical treatment to substance abusing clients in a methadone maintenance program; Conducted HIV harm reduction group; Conducted psychological and neuropsychological assessment of HIV positive clients (focus on neurocognitive/memory impairment/HIV-related dementia); Therapy with a wide range of client diagnoses.

1999 to 2000: Therapist/Intern, Denver Veterans Administration Hospital

Provided clinical treatment to clients living with chronic pain, clients with spinal cord injuries, and clients interested in smoking cessation; Assessments of chronic pain management and treatment plans.

1998: Program Administrator, University of Denver Counseling Clinic

Client screening and interviews to assess for suicidality and mode of treatment; Individual and family counseling; Team supervision to student-therapists.

1998 to 1999: Therapist/Intern/Drug and Alcohol Specialist, University of Denver Health and Counseling Center

Clinical treatment for clients suffering from depression, adjustment difficulties, problems with drugs and/or alcohol and interpersonal relationship difficulties; Crisis intervention with suicidal clients; Couples counseling. Developed treatment plans; Conducted intake interviews and recommended DSM-IV and ICD-9 diagnoses; Performed drug and alcohol abuse/dependence assessments; Developed and taught drug and alcohol remediation classes.

1997: Student Therapist, University of Denver Counseling and Educational Services Clinic

Individual clinical treatment with clients; Marriage and family counseling; Career counseling; Peer supervision.

1996 to 1997: Therapist/Intern, Adams County Adolescent Day Treatment

Clinical treatment of adolescents ages 11-18 addressing depression, bipolar disorder, ADHD, conduct disorder, and oppositional defiant disorder; Music therapy groups.

1996 to 2000: Graduate Research Assistant, The University of Denver

PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

Various Dates (2012-present): Multiple Digital/Broadcast articles for KUSA TV—9News, Denver, Colorado. Topics: Legal issues, Sanity, Mental health, general psychology, neuropsychology/neuroscience, substance abuse, marijuana, traumatic brain injury, mass shootings, health and wellness, parenting, back-to-school, new psychology/social science research.

Wachtel, M. (2023, November). Disorder in the Court: The Role, Requirements, and Ethics of Psychologists Aiding the Legal System. Fort Worth Psychological Association, Fort Worth, TX.

Wachtel, M. (2023, November). What is Forensic Psychology? Psychology Club, University of Colorado at Boulder, Boulder, CO.

Wachtel, M., and Lapuyade, K. (2022, October). Using Expert Witnesses and Evidentiary Issues Involving Their Testimony for Capacity Assessments. 2022 Will Contests CLE, Colorado Bar Association, Denver, CO.

Wachtel, M., and McMinimee, M. (2022, August). Client Capacity: The Importance of Understanding When a Client Can or Cannot Direct Counsel. 2022 Elder Law Retreat, Colorado Bar Association, Vail, CO.

Wachtel, M., and Pilmer, J. (2019, September). Undue Influence By Those in a Confidential and Fiduciary Relationship to the Decedent. Will and Trust CLE Program, Colorado Bar Association, Denver, CO.

Wachtel, M., and Spiegle, R. (2019, August). The Functions of a Forensic Psychologist in Probate Matters. Presentation at Elder Law Retreat CLE Program, Colorado Bar Association, Vail, CO.

Wachtel, M. (2018, December). Opiate Misuse and Psychopathy. Presentation at Opioid Epidemic CLE Program, Wyoming Bar Association, Casper, WY.

Wachtel, M., and Ridgway, M. (2018, August). Case Study: Guardianship, Conservatorship, and Undue Influence. CLE Presentation at the Colorado Bar Association's Estate & Trust Section Summer Retreat, Beaver Creek, CO.

Wachtel, M. (2018, March). Brains vs. Screens. Presentation at McAuliffe International School, Denver, CO.

Wachtel, M. (2018, April). Sentencing: Substance Use Evaluations and a Psychology-Based Approach To Effective Mitigation. CLE Presentation at DUI Defense CLE Program, Colorado Defense Attorneys Bar Association, Colorado Springs, CO.

Wachtel, M. (2018). Narcissists & Narcissistic Personality Disorder: When Grandiosity and Vulnerability Collide. Denver: Cherry Creek Press.

Wachtel, M. (2017, December). Assessing Capacity and Undue Influence in Will Contests. CLE Presentation at Will Contests CLE Program, Colorado Bar Association, Denver, CO.

Wachtel, M. (2017, October). Criminal Psychopathy and Sociopathy. Presentation at the FBI National Academy Rocky Mountain Annual Conference, Breckenridge, CO.

Wachtel, M. (2017). Sociopaths & Psychopaths: A Crisis of Conscience and Empathy. Denver: Cherry Creek Press.

Wachtel, M. (2014). The One Rule For Boys: How Empathy and Emotional Understanding Will Improve Just About Everything For Your Son. Vancouver: Friesen Press.

Milnor, W., Wachtel, M. A., Price, J., Drucker, K. (2004, October). Group Therapist Training with the Severely and Persistently Mentally Ill Population. Paper presented at the Colorado Behavioral Healthcare Council Annual Conference, Keystone, CO.

Riva, M., & Wachtel, M. A. (2005). Field studies: A focus on group research. In Wheelan, S. (ed.) Handbook of Group Research and Practice, Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Riva, M. T., Wachtel, M. A., & Butcher, G. (2000, March). Understanding Group Co-Therapy Relationships: A Developmental Approach. Paper presented at the American Counseling Association Annual Conference, Washington, D.C.

Riva, M., Wachtel, M. A., & Lasky, G. B. (2004). Effective leadership in group counseling and psychotherapy. In DeLucia-Waack, J. L., Gerrity, D. A., Kalodner, C. R., & Riva, M. T. (eds.) Handbook of Group Counseling and Psychotherapy, Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage, pp. 37-48.

Wachtel, M. A. (2003, September). Quality Leadership: How to effectively Manage, Motivate and Encourage Employees in Trying Times. Paper presented at the Colorado Behavioral Healthcare Council Annual Conference, Breckenridge, CO.

Wachtel, M. A. (2001, August). Supervision of Group Co-Therapists: A Developmental Approach. Paper presented at the American Psychological Association Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA.

Wachtel, M. A., Riva, M., & Butcher, G. (2000, April). Issues in The Development of The Group Co-Therapy Relationship. Paper presented at the University of Denver College of Education Research Day, Denver, CO.

Wachtel, M. A. (2012). Psychologists As Expert Witnesses: How Proper Preparation for Court Can Increase Credibility. The Colorado Psychologist, September, Denver, CO: Colorado Psychological Association.

Wachtel, M. A. (2012, April). What does a forensic psychologist do? Presentation at the Colorado Psychological Association's Flight Night: A Career Sampler for Psychologists, Denver, CO.

Wachtel, M. A. (2012, September). Disorder In The Court: What Does A Forensic Psychologist In Private Practice Actually Do? Invited presentation at the Colorado Psychological Association's 2012 Annual Conference.

Wachtel, M. A. (1999). The Hill, Fetishes, 4, Denver, CO: University of Colorado Health Sciences Press.

Wachtel, M. A. (1999, May). A Call For Research on Group Co-Therapy. Paper presented at the University of Denver College of Education Research Day, Denver, CO.

Wachtel, M. A. (1998, May). Teaching an adolescent to verbally express emotions through the use of lyrical improvisation in music therapy. Paper presented at the University of Denver College of Education Research Day, Denver, CO.

Wachtel, M. A. (1998, April). Cotherapist communication: Understanding the nature and practice of self-disclosure between group therapists. Paper presented at the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association Annual Conference, Albuquerque, NM.

Wachtel, M. A. (1997, May). The Test Anxiety Scale for Children: Does it really measure what it claims? Paper presented at the University of Denver College of Education Research Day, Denver, CO.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- American Psychological Association (APA)
- Colorado Psychological Association (ACA)
- Wyoming Psychological Association (WPA)
- American Psychology & Law Society (APA Division 41)
- Society for Clinical Neuropsychology (APA Division 40)
- Adult Development and Aging (APA Division 20)