

SARA E. STATZ, MS, ABVE/D, CLCP, CRC, CVE, IPEC

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EDUCATION

Capital University Law School, Columbus, OH

Life Care Planning Graduate Program

2020

University of Wisconsin-Stout, Menomonie, WI

Master of Science in Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling

2010

University of Wisconsin-Stout, Menomonie, WI

Bachelor of Science in Vocational Rehabilitation

2008

Emphasis: Social Work and Psychiatric Rehabilitation

Honors: Cum Laude

EXPERIENCE

Valley Vocational Services, LLC

Forensic Vocational Expert, Counselor & Life Care Planner

August 2015 – Present

Provides independent forensic vocational evaluations, loss of earning capacity analyses, transferable skills analyses, labor market analyses, life care plans, future care cost analyses, rebuttal reviews, and related consulting services in workers' compensation, personal injury, matrimonial/domestic-relations, disability, and other litigation or claims-based matters.

Social Security Administration

Vocational Expert

October 2015 – Present

Provides vocational expert testimony in Social Security Administration hearings before Administrative Law Judges, including opinions regarding exertional and skill levels of past relevant work, transferable skills, occupational information, and labor market issues. Has testified in thousands of disability hearings nationally.

Bock Consulting, Inc.

Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor

November 2015 – May 2016

Summarized labor market research in reports used by third-party administrators and state agencies to determine a claimant's eligibility for services and ability to benefit from retraining.

Idaho Industrial Commission- Rehabilitation Division

Rehabilitation Field Consultant

July 2012 – November 2015

Collaborated with key stakeholders in the workers' compensation field to facilitate an injured worker's return to work following an industrial injury. Prepared labor market survey reports used in litigated workers' compensation matters.

Idaho Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor

January 2010 – July 2012

Assisted individuals with disabilities in obtaining and maintaining employment through vocational counseling and guidance. Administered and interpreted academic and interest inventories.

CERTIFICATIONS

American Board of Vocational Experts Diplomate (Certificate #20411)	2024 – Present
Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification Certified Vocational Evaluator (Certificate # 00112747)	2020 – Present
International Commission on Health Care Certification Certified Life Care Planner (Certificate #1576)	2020 – Present
American Board of Vocational Experts International Psychometric Evaluation Certification (Certificate #20411)	2017 – Present
Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (Certificate # 00112747)	2010 – Present

PRIOR LICENSURE & CERTIFICATIONS

State of Utah Licensed Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor	2020 – 2024¹
American Board of Vocational Experts Fellow (Certificate #20411- promoted to Diplomate in 2024)	2017 – 2024

AWARDS

Presidential Citation (American Board of Vocational Experts)	2020
Emerging Professional (International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals)	2018
Rehabilitation of the Year (Idaho Division of Vocational Rehabilitation)	2012

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Board of Vocational Experts

- Board Treasurer (2024 to Present)
- Chair of Credentialing Committee (2024 to Present)
- Editor of “The Vocational Expert” (2017 to Present)
- Co-Chair of Credentialing Committee (2023 to 2024)
- Board Secretary (2017 to 2024)
- Served on Conference, Website Redesign, and Credentialing Committees

International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals

- Social Security Vocational Experts (SSVE) Member at Large & Director of the Regional Representatives to the SSVE Board (2016 to 2020)
- Served on Marketing Committee (2019 to 2020)

The National Rehabilitation Association

- Membership Secretary (2010 to 2012)

The Idaho Assistive Technology Project

- Advisory Board Member (2010 to 2012)

¹ The State of Utah’s Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor Licensing Act was repealed on 5/1/24, and therefore, the license was dissolved at that time. Ms. Statz’s license remained in good standing and was not surrendered or revoked.

PRESENTATIONS

International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals Annual Conference (Fort Worth, TX)

Invited to speak

- Are You Abiding by the Code of Ethics, 10/21/2022, co-presented with Terry Leslie to Rehabilitation Professionals

American Board of Vocational Experts Annual Conference (Tampa, FL)

- Personal Security and Safety for Vocational Experts, 3/25/2022, co-presented with Kourtney Layton to Vocational Experts

American Board of Vocational Experts Annual Conference (Tampa, FL)

Invited to speak

- Are You Abiding by the Code of Ethics, 3/26/2022, co-presented with Terry Leslie to Vocational Experts

American Board of Vocational Experts Annual Conference (Zoom)

- Best Practices & Methodologies for Social Security Vocational Experts, 3/21/2021
Co-presented with Michelle McBroom Weiss and Mitchell Schmidt to Vocational Experts

American Board of Vocational Experts Annual Conference (Salt Lake City, UT)

- Advancing Your Practice with Technology, 4/7/2018, co-presented with Kourtney Layton to Vocational Experts

International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals Annual Conference (St. Louis, MO)

- Advancing Your Practice with Technology, 10/12/2017, co-presented with Kourtney Layton to Rehabilitation Professionals

Utah Association of Justice Conference (Salt Lake City, UT)

Invited to speak

- Vocational Rehabilitation: Analysis in SSA Cases, 5/19/2017, co-presented with Kourtney Layton to attorneys practicing Social Security representation

Idaho Trial Lawyers Association Conference (Boise, ID)

Invited to speak

- Vocational Rehabilitation: A Fresh Look at Vocational Issues, 2/24/2017, co-presented with Kourtney Layton to attorneys in Idaho

CONTINUING EDUCATION

3/15/2026	AI-Guided Assistive Technology for Vocational Experts: Training for Future-Ready
3/15/2026	SSVE: How to Contextualize Expert Testimony
3/14/2026	The Disability Dilemma: Social Security and Other Definitions
3/14/2026	Credentialing in the Crosshairs: Elevating Standards in Vocational and Economic Forensics
3/14/2026	Integrating AI into Vocational Evaluation: Applications for Education and Practice
3/14/2026	So, you want to do divorce work? Everything you wanted to know but were afraid to ask
3/13/2026	Using Occupational Requirements Survey Data to support your clinical experience
3/13/2026	The Legal Rules of Professional Conduct, ABVE Code, and CRC Code
3/13/2026	Forensic Report Writing: A Scientific Methods Approach (Part 2)
3/13/2026	Transferable Skills Analysis: Theories and Forensic Application
1/15/2026	Introduction to Artificial Intelligence for Vocational Experts
12/3/2025	Artificial Intelligence 101: Don't Fear the Bot
10/24/2025	Using AI Without Losing Your Judgment: A Case-Study Conversation and Ethics Discussion
3/16/2025	Forensic Vocational Evaluation via Zoom
3/16/2025	Dumpty v. All the King's Men: Analyzing Complex Referral Data Best Practices
3/15/2025	Occupational Requirements Survey (ORS): Insights about the 2024 Data Set
3/15/2025	The Business of Being an Expert: Building a Vocational Practice with Insights
3/15/2025	Domestic Law: The Good, the Bad, and the Challenging
3/15/2025	From Paper to Pixels: How Technology is Shaping the Future of Life Care Planning
3/14/2025	Effect of Vocational Opinion on Personal Injury Awards in Ontario, A Twenty-Year Review
3/14/2025	Occupational Requirements Survey: A Look into Combined & Cumulative Job Requirements
3/14/2025	Vocational Experts on the Stand: A Mock Trial (sessions 1 & 2)
3/7/2025	Suicide Risk & Disability: Understanding the Impact of Ableism & Identity
2/4/2025	Professional Certifications in Life Care Planning
11/22/2024	Getting Started in Vocation-Focused Private Rehabilitation Counseling Careers
5/23/2024	National Symposium on Quality Employment 2024 LIVE
4/30/2024	Integrative Pain Management: Sociological & Clinical Perspectives
2/29/2024	The Essentials of Drafting a Life Care Plan
2/28/2024	Improving Long-Term Health & Family Outcomes through Case Management
4/4/2023	Current Trends in Orthotics and Prosthetics
3/31/2023	Ethics, Ambiguity, and Epistemic Uncertainty
3/31/2023	Unique Considerations in Pediatric Life Care Planning
3/31/2023	Overview of the Indego Therapy Exoskeleton
3/31/2023	ODG by MCG Overview
3/29/2023	Focusing on Can'ts Limits Future Employment Potential for People with Disabilities
3/29/2023	Diversity and Social Justice: A Starting Place
3/28/2023	Overview of Traumatic Brain Injury
3/28/2023	Diversification: Adding Life Care Management to Your Practice
3/28/2023	Job Analysis in Context: Practical and Forensic Considerations
3/25/2023	Four Strategies for Rehabilitation Professionals to Connect with Large Businesses
3/24/2022	ABVE 2022 Annual Conference
12/14/2021	Salary Survey 2021
11/5/2021	ABVE 2021 Annual Conference
3/2/2021	Introduction to Gender Inclusivity
2/25/2021	SSVE Core Elements & Best Practices
2/18/2021	Bone Anchored Prosthetics- Eliminating the Socket

12/29/2020 CRPS Legal Issues
12/10/2020 Triangulating Occupational, Educational, and Labor Market Data
12/10/2020 Pediatric Acquired Brain Injuries: Nuances & What Rehabilitation Professionals Need
12/10/2020 Management of Sexual Dysfunction and Male Infertility
12/10/2020 Difficult Hypotheticals-Typical Areas for Questioning, How to Answer, and Sources to Use
12/10/2020 A Daubert Challenge: What You Need to Know
10/7/2020 2020 IARP Virtual Conference & IALCP Virtual Symposium
8/28/2020 2020 American Board of Vocational Experts Annual Conference
8/27/2020 2020 American Board of Vocational Experts Annual Pre-Conference
7/18/2019 2019 Idaho NRA Conference "Catch the Vision" (Ethics)
7/18/2019 2019 Idaho NRA Conference "Catch the Vision"
6/21/2019 IARP 2019 Leadership Training (CRC)
4/14/2019 2019 American Board of Vocational Experts Annual Conference (CRC)
4/8/2018 2018 American Board of Vocational Experts Annual Conference (Ethics)
4/8/2018 2018 American Board of Vocational Experts Annual Conference
4/4/2018 A Look at Multicultural Counseling Competency: Pregnancy Discrimination and Retaliation
10/26/2017 2017 Annual Seminar on Workers' Compensation
10/14/2017 IARP 2017 Annual Conference (Ethics)
10/14/2017 IARP 2017 Annual Conference
8/10/2017 Cannabis in the Workplace
7/21/2017 2017 NRA Conference People, Purpose, Passion: The Pathway to Success
4/9/2017 2017 American Board of Vocational Experts Annual Conference (Ethics)
4/9/2017 2017 American Board of Vocational Experts Annual Conference
10/27/2016 2016 Annual Seminar on Workers' Compensation
8/11/2016 WIOA's Impact on VR: Transforming Challenges into Opportunities
7/22/2016 NRA and Idaho Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Building Bridges to Embrace Change
1/4/2016 Social Security Vocational Expert Handbook: Revised Edition
10/29/2015 2015 Annual Seminar on Workers' Compensation
7/24/2015 2015 NRA Conference (Ethics)
7/23/2015 2015 NRA Conference (Professional Development)
6/14/2015 Field Review of the Standards of Practice for Life Care Planners- 3rd Edition
6/13/2015 Tools of the Trade: Using Testing Statistics to Select and Interpret Tests
6/8/2015 ADA Title I: Employment Requirements
6/8/2015 Overview of Disability Rights
6/8/2015 Title II Tutorial
6/8/2015 Welcoming Customers with Disabilities
6/8/2015 ADA Basic Building Blocks Web Course
4/20/2015 The University of Idaho ADA updates and the upcoming 25th Anniversary of ADA