



HELLO MY NAME IS

By: Jennifer Franklyn
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KATHRYN HAAQUIST



This month's "Hello, My Name Is..." q-and-a column features Kathryn Haaquist. Kathryn is an Associate Attorney at Paine, Tarwater, & Bickers LLP, where she practices civil litigation, primarily in the area of toxic tort defense. She is a 2020 graduate of the University of Tennessee College of Law and holds bachelor's degrees in Art History from Hofstra University and in Nursing from St. John Fisher College. In addition, she is certified as a

Critical Care Registered Nurse (CCRN-BSN) in the state of New York. Kathryn is active in the KBA and serve as the Co-Chair of the KBA's New Lawyers Section. She is also a member of the TBA and East Tennessee Lawyers Association of Women (ETLAW).

Why did you decide to go to law school?

Before attending law school, I worked as a nurse on a cardiothoracic intensive care unit in western New York. I became interested in the legal side of medicine and went to work part time for a local medical malpractice attorney as a legal nurse consultant. I had never been around lawyers before, and the attorneys I worked with went out of their way to show me different areas of the law. They even brought me along to depositions and mediations for cases I had worked on. This experience inspired me to make a career change and go to law school.

What brought you to Knoxville?

When I decided to go to law school, my husband, Stephan, agreed to move anywhere, so long as it was warmer than western New York and had career opportunities for him (he is also a registered nurse who is currently attending LMU's nurse practitioner program). We visited many places, but the University of Tennessee and Knoxville felt like home. We moved here with the intention of staying after my graduation.



What do like to do as hobbies outside of work?

I enjoy reading, crocheting, and baking.

Tell me about your family.

My husband and I have a one-year-old son, Theodore. We also have three rescued dogs and two rescued cats. Our house is a bit of a zoo, but we love it that way!

What's your binge-watching guilty pleasure?

I would have to say my binge-watching guilty pleasure is the *Great British Baking Show*, but I don't feel that guilty about it.

Where do you volunteer your time?

I am currently on the Board of Horse Haven of Tennessee. Horse Haven is a non-profit organization that rescues, rehabilitates, and re-homes God's neglected or abused equines through programs of shelter, adoption, education, and assistance. I started volunteering with Horse Haven shortly after moving to Knoxville and have been involved ever since.

