

Dean Nelson graduated summa cum laude from Wake Forest University and went on to earn her juris doctor from Harvard Law School, where she served as a contracts teaching assistant to then-professor Elizabeth Warren. Dean Nelson first practiced employee benefits at Bracewell LLP in Houston, Texas and taught at the Thurgood Marshall School of Law before joining the faculty at the University of South Carolina School of Law. She taught at South Carolina Law for 13 years before serving as associate dean for academic affairs. Dean Nelson has been committed to public service throughout her career, serving on a number of important commissions and committees. She is also currently serving as a member of the Law School Admission Council Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee.