

# THE RECORD

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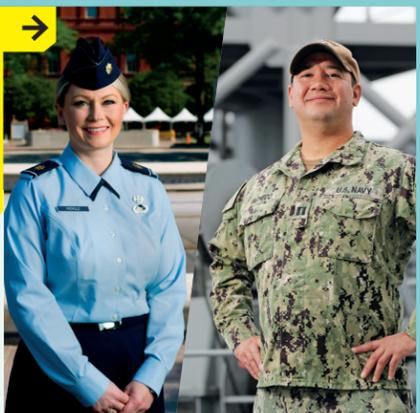
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**FROM THE DEAN'S DESK**

## WHAT WE TRADED

BY ANGELA ONWUACHI-WILLIG

All of us who are old enough to remember seeing the twin towers fall on **SEPTEMBER 11, 2001**, have a vivid memory of how we spent that day, how we felt that day, and how that day forever changed us. For me, 9/11 not only shook my sense of our nation's security, it also shaped my very first interactions with the city of Boston. Just days before, my husband and I had moved to Boston with our toddler. We were excited for my husband to start his postdoctoral research position and for me to start my work as an associate at Foley Hoag. It was only my second day at the firm, so I arrived that morning simply expecting to continue the acculturation and adjustment process at my new place of work.

What I remember most about that day is the chaos. What remains with me, and so many others, now, is a deep sadness for the people who were in those buildings and planes, for their families, and for the first responders who ran inside the burning buildings to save others.

I remember learning the news like it was yesterday. My department gathered in a small conference room after the planes first crashed into the towers, waiting to hear more details as the morning unfolded. Everyone was panicked. Two of the hijacked planes had taken off from **LOGAN AIRPORT**, and Boston was reeling. We were reeling. It was not lost on anyone that we, too, were in a tall building, and none of us knew what to expect next. I wanted to go home to be with my family, but I was too scared to leave early on just my second day. I recall feeling immense sadness as I wondered how many in the towers hesitated or didn't leave their buildings for similar fears. Then, my firm's managing partner, who just happened to be in my department and my assigned mentor, walked in and told us that the towers had fallen.

After that, the firm let us go for the day. I tried to call my husband and my mom, but all circuits were busy. No calls were going through.

When I walked outside, downtown Boston was in chaos. People were everywhere. I tried calling my husband again, but the lines remained busy. I normally took the train home, but that day I was afraid. I instead sat and took a break with two other associates, and we tried to process everything. I walked the four miles home to Brookline, still too frightened to get on the train.

**→ BU LAW PROFESSORS RECALL HOW THE ATTACKS ON 9/11 CHANGED THE LAW—20 YEARS AGO, AND STILL TODAY. PG. 10**



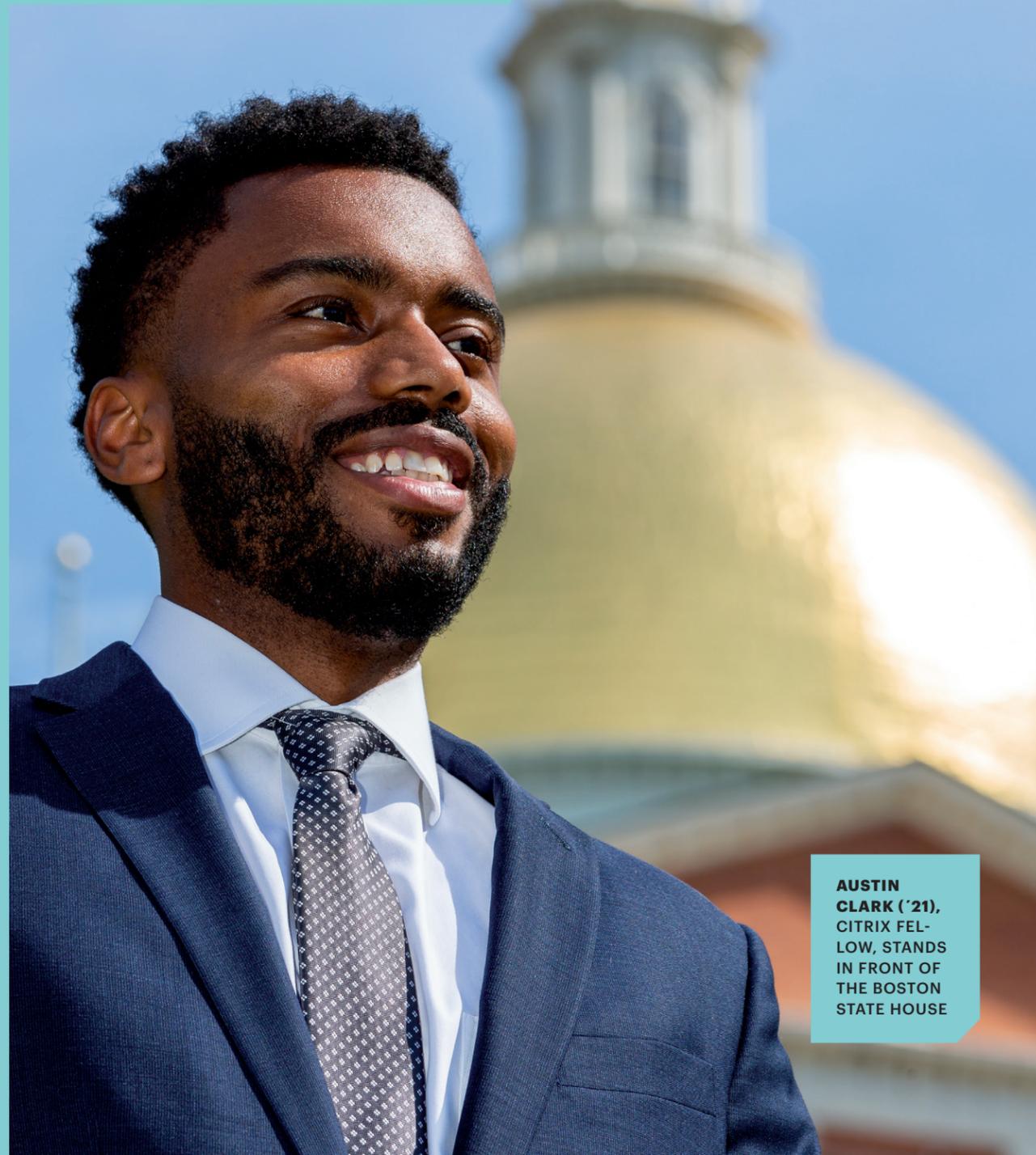
When we returned to work a couple of days later, we learned that one of our department's clients, a young man in his thirties, had been on one of the planes. Although I did not know him, it felt personal.

Perhaps that's why, when the law began to change in response to the attacks, I did not think much of it. The changes happened so quickly. Almost overnight, the **PATRIOT ACT** passed, airport security tightened, and 22 federal agencies consolidated into the **DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY**.

Over time, as I have read the work of scholars who study these issues, I have begun to view those changes, the laws that followed, and the unevenness with which they are applied, with more cynicism. Even then, I saw how Muslims quickly became the focus of the country's anger and how they and anyone perceived to be Muslim—including Sikhs and people of Arab and South Asian descent—endured not only a rise in hate crimes but also discriminatory treatment in the name of national security. There was (and there continues to be) a lot of prejudice and discrimination and very few people challenging them.

Twenty years later, we are still struggling with the direction that the country took after the attacks, including the heightened scrutiny and additional security checks that people of color and Muslims of all races face when they fly, the more-than-20-years war in Afghanistan that cost so many lives, and so much more. Today, I think many people, myself included, have come to recognize how much we may have traded away in an effort to ameliorate our anger and grief in that moment. ■

# INAUGURAL CITRIX FELLOW AUSTIN CLARK JOINS ACLU CRIMINAL LAW REFORM PROJECT



**AUSTIN CLARK** ('21), CITRIX FELLOW, STANDS IN FRONT OF THE BOSTON STATE HOUSE

PHOTO BY MICHAEL D. SPENCER

BY LAUREN ECKENROTH

**AUSTIN CLARK's** interest in reforming the criminal system and tackling mass incarceration was always in the back of his mind as he studied international policy, with a focus on US and Latin American relations, as an undergraduate at Bard College. Once he had the opportunity to work with clients as a defender in BU Law's Criminal Law Clinical Program, he knew immediately that it was a career path he wanted to follow.

"That was the first time that, in any lawyerly capacity, I was in a position to work directly with a client, and it felt so different from everything else that I'd done before," says Clark ('21). "I had done a lot of policy and classroom work and the criminal system can seem so abstract, but when I met with a client, it clicked. I knew it was something I wanted to do."

As the recipient of the inaugural **CITRIX FELLOWSHIP**, Clark is pursuing that goal with the Criminal Law Reform Project at the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) under the guidance of Senior Staff Attorney **SOMIL TRIVEDI** ('09).

Administered as a BU Law Post-Graduate Public Service Fellowship, the Citrix Fellowship is designed to support graduating students who are first-generation law students, students of color, or who have overcome substantial educational or economic obstacles to attend law school. The fellowship provides funds to cover salary, benefits, bar preparation, and, if needed, moving expenses to remove financial barriers as recent graduates begin their careers with public service organizations.

The fellowship is supported by a gift from Citrix Systems, made in partnership between the company's Legal, Compliance, and Audit team and its Black Professionals Network. It was organized by **ANTONIO GOMES** ('96), executive vice president and chief legal officer at Citrix, Dean's Advisory Board member, and longtime supporter of BU Law.

"With Dean **ANGELA ONWUACHI-WILLIG's** help and insight, we structured the fellowship in a way that directly addresses the needs of law students starting a public interest career," Gomes says. "As a nation, and as practitioners of the law, it's important that we make meaningful progress [on issues like] voting rights and criminal justice reform, while promoting inclusion in the legal profession by creating meaningful opportunities for diverse talent."

With the **ACLU**, Clark is working on habeas corpus writs to address the mismanagement of the **COVID-19** pandemic in prisons—something he has experience with after his 2L summer position with the **LEGAL AID SOCIETY** in Brooklyn—and conducting legal research for ongoing litigation projects.

"[Receiving this fellowship] means a lot to me," he says. "I couldn't think of a better opportunity to start my career. It's above and beyond anything that I could imagine, but at the same time it lines up exactly with everything I want to do. **I'm ready to put my heart and soul into this work.**" ■



## CAREERS THAT COUNT

In spring 2020, the coronavirus pandemic disrupted so much of what we consider routine in the experience of a 3L and new graduate. Classes and final exams moved online, recruiting stalled, bar exams were canceled and rescheduled. Even through such hardships, 89.4 percent\* of the **CLASS OF 2020** are employed in bar-passage-required or JD-advantage positions, compared to 81.8 percent nationally, according to the American Bar Association. These graduates are off to a bright start, and we can't wait to see what they do next.



**89.4%**  
Employed in Bar-Passage-Required or JD-Advantage Positions



**36.2%**  
Working in Firms with 501+ Employees



**19%**  
Working in Government or Public Interest Positions



**10.5%**  
Serving as Judicial Clerks

**MASSACHUSETTS; NEW YORK; CALIFORNIA; WASHINGTON, D.C.**

↑ Top Four Locations Where BU Law Graduates Are Employed

\*These statistics were reported to the ABA in April 2021.

BY LAURA ERNDE

# UPLIFTING NEIGHBORHOODS, ONE PROJECT AT A TIME



**DAISY FIGUEROA** ('21) started Hood Renovatonz, which provides free renovations to people in low-income neighborhoods.

In her final year at BU Law, if you didn't find Daisy Figueroa ('21) at her laptop, you may have found her reaching for a hammer and nails.

She and two classmates from her UC Berkeley undergraduate days spent much of their pandemic downtime completing free home remodels for low-income renters in the LA neighborhood where she grew up. They also built dozens of fold-away desks for K-12 and college students to make their transitions to remote learning a bit easier.

The pandemic-inspired construction projects eventually seeded a nonprofit, **Hood Renovatonz**.

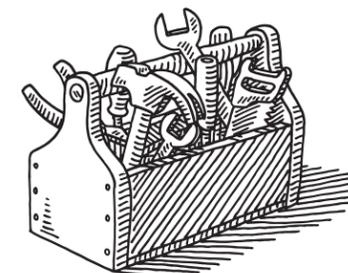
The idea for Hood Renovatonz sprang from a simple wish to make her parents' rental home more comfortable for them during the pandemic. The trio soon got requests to help others in the neighborhood. They endeavored to help as many people as they could using their own labor and supplies, aided by microdonations that flowed in as word spread. Hood Renovatonz was featured in **VICE** and on CBS' **THE TALK**, which gave \$1,000 to the cause.

Soon, the nonprofit will be eligible for grant funding, which will allow the team to hire someone with nonprofit start-up experience to bring the enterprise to the next level, including taking advantage of the volunteer database they've been building along the way.

Even as Figueroa enters the world of corporate business law as a first-year associate at Boston-based **GOODWIN PROCTER**, she and her workmates intend to keep nurturing and growing the budding social enterprise.

"We're all so passionate about this organization, and we realize it has a lot of potential," Figueroa says. "All three of us are equally invested in keeping this vision alive as far as we can possibly take it." ■

➔ [Read more about Figueroa and Hood Renovatonz at bu.edu/law/figueroa.](https://bu.edu/law/figueroa)



## MORE NEWS

### WELCOMING THE 2021-22 KLEH VISITING PROFESSOR

**SAHAR AZIZ**, professor of law and Chancellor's Social Justice Scholar at Rutgers University, is the 2021-22 William & Patricia Kleh Visiting Professor in International Law. Aziz's scholarship examines the intersections of national security, race, and civil rights with a focus on the adverse impact of national security laws and policies on racial, ethnic, and religious minorities in the US.

### HINTON DRUG LAB FALLOUT

Professor **DAVID ROSSMAN** discusses what the dismissal of thousands of criminal charges and convictions means for the Massachusetts criminal system and for the people who were convicted using faulty evidence.

### TAXING CRYPTOCURRENCY

Interim Assistant Dean and GTP Director **CHRISTINA RICE** and Adjunct Professor **RICHARD AINSWORTH** discuss proposals to tax cryptocurrency transactions. The tax could fund international programs that offer aid to countries fighting the opioid crisis and impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

➔ [Visit bu.edu/law/record](https://bu.edu/law/record) to read these stories and more.

# AN EVICTION CRISIS EMERGES, BU LAW STUDENTS STEP UP

**VOLUNTEERS HELP TENANTS NAVIGATE A COMPLICATED LEGAL SYSTEM.**

**BY GABRIELLE ORUM HERNÁNDEZ**

**MARIE TASHIMA ('23), MADE PROJECT VOLUNTEER**

**When the pandemic hit last year,** **JADE BROWN**, BU Law clinical instructor with the Civil Litigation & Justice Program, knew that she'd need a lot more help in housing court.

Brown, a Class of 2016 alum, returned to BU Law to teach in fall 2020 after spending four years as a staff attorney at **GREATER BOSTON LEGAL SERVICES** (GBLS). At GBLS, Brown often staffed a weekly clinic in housing court consulting with Boston-area tenants, many of whom had been served with eviction notices. She would usually start by helping tenants prepare an **"ANSWER,"** a legal document that shows a tenant's intention of challenging their eviction. Under Massachusetts law, tenants only have a short window to file an Answer; without filing one at all, tenants can

stand at a huge disadvantage in court.

The need for more support in housing court was already looming by early fall. Although the Boston Housing Authority set a moratorium on nonessential evictions in city public housing in March 2020, that order was initially set to expire in October 2020.

A September 2020 federal moratorium (extended several times by the Biden administration) protected some tenants, but the Supreme Court struck down nationwide protections in August 2021. Boston and other municipalities again established local bans, but housing attorneys anticipate a wave of eviction filings and hearings once the orders are lifted.

Not only was the need for support high, but none of the traditional means of connecting tenants with attorneys were possible at the height of **COVID-19** spread.

Brown saw an opportunity—with an online portal developed by a colleague at GBLS to prepare Answer documents—to tap into help from the law student population.

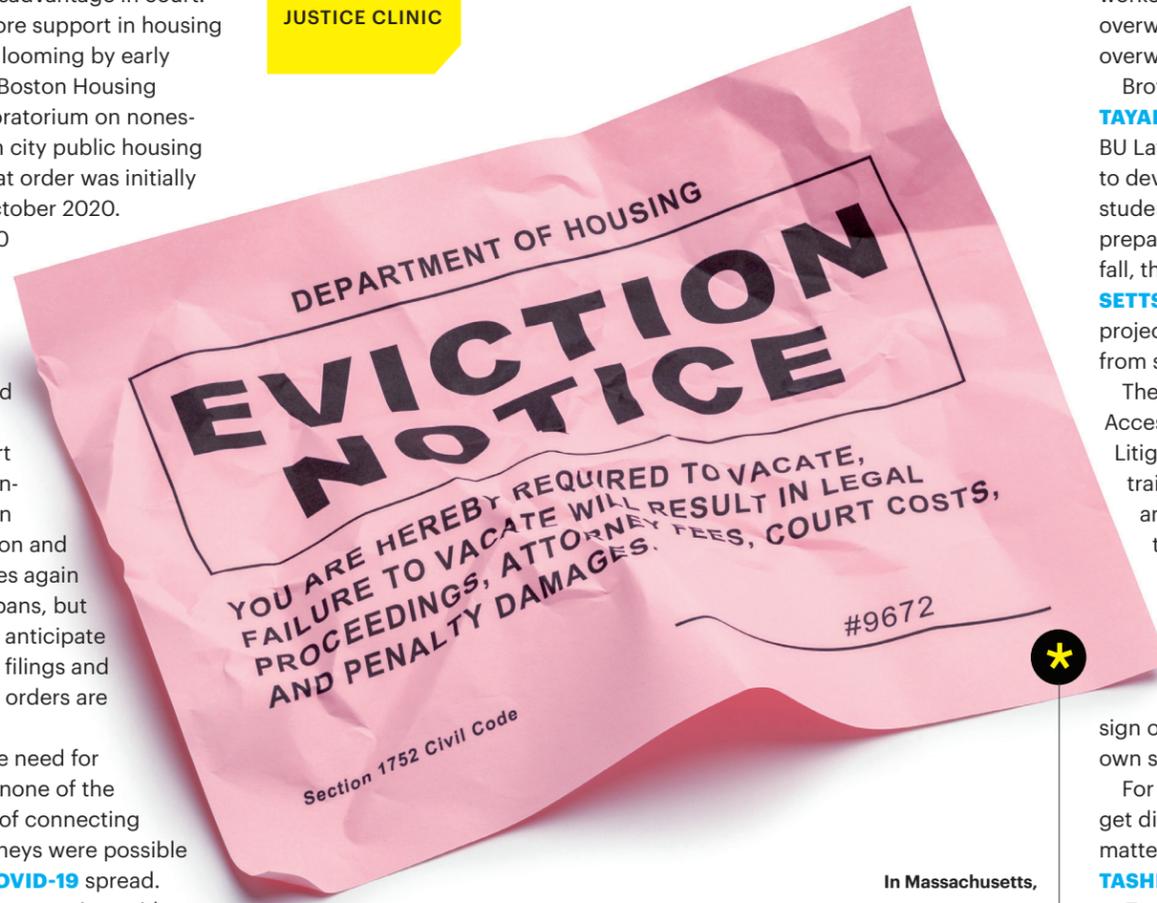
"I really felt we could reach a large number of people. I know, having



**JADE BROWN ('16), CLINICAL INSTRUCTOR IN THE ACCESS TO JUSTICE CLINIC**

**"I REALLY FELT WE COULD REACH A LARGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE. I KNOW, HAVING WORKED IN LEGAL SERVICES, JUST HOW OVERWHELMED THE SYSTEM IS AND HOW OVERWHELMED WE WERE."**

—JADE BROWN



**In Massachusetts, tenants only have a short window to contest an eviction; without the proper paperwork, they are at a huge disadvantage in court.**

worked in legal services, just how overwhelmed the system is and how overwhelmed we were," Brown says.

Brown set to work with **JACLYN TAYABJI** ('21), a research assistant with BU Law's **ACCESS TO JUSTICE CLINIC**, to develop a system to train BU Law students as volunteers to help tenants prepare Answers over the phone. Last fall, they soft-launched the **MASSACHUSETTS DEFENSE FOR EVICTION** (MADE) project and received a huge response from students looking to get involved.

The MADE project, run through the Access to Justice Clinic within the Civil Litigation & Justice Program, connects trained student volunteers with tenants needing some extra guidance to put together an Answer. Volunteers, at times using the help of a third-party translator, can complete the form through the MADE portal over the phone with tenants, and tenants can sign off on the document through their own smartphones.

For students, MADE offered a way to get directly involved in high-stakes legal matters from a (social) distance. **MARIE TASHIMA** ('23) was quick to respond to Tayabji's call for volunteers exactly because it offered a way to get involved from over the phone.

Tashima came to law school having already worked in housing advocacy in a few different cities, but she appreciated the way that MADE offered a

practical application of what she was learning in class. "I think I've really developed my civil procedure skills," Tashima says of the experience. "I was a paralegal before this, but even then, I didn't really know what happened."

While MADE goes a long way to help low-income tenants navigate an eviction system often stacked against them, Tayabji is careful to point out that it remains purely a harm-reduction measure for the city's broader housing insecurity issues.

"I think this project and the work that the volunteers do is very much a Band-Aid. It's very much responding to the most pressing and urgent need in a way that is manageable for us to do," she says.

As vaccination efforts continue and courts reopen, Brown is already looking toward MADE's work over the next few months.

"I'm really looking forward to being able to build up this project a little more over the next year, to get more volunteers trained. I think no one is looking forward to the flood of evictions, but we see it starting to happen," she says.

Tayabji also hopes to see Massachusetts lawmakers meet housing attorneys halfway.

"I think the work that we're doing is important—it's important in the life of the tenant's case; but the real change needs to come from systemic change. That needs to come from policymakers," she adds. ■



**JACLYN TAYABJI ('21), RESEARCH ASSISTANT WITH THE ACCESS TO JUSTICE CLINIC**

# FROM ANTIRACIST RESEARCH TO ANTIRACIST POLICY

BY GABRIELLE ORUM HERNÁNDEZ

**JASMINE GONZALES ROSE** holds many titles in her career that she is passionate about—professor at BU Law, critical race scholar, social justice advocate, and, most recently, deputy director of research and policy at the **BU CENTER FOR ANTIRACIST RESEARCH**—but the one she loves most is “teacher.”

Her love of teaching is connected to her roots in critical race theory, a body of legal scholarship pioneered by law professor and civil rights activists **DERRICK BELL**, **RICHARD DELGADO**, and several others studying the systems and structures of racism. The field examines racism by centering and valuing racialized experiences of people of color—who better to testify to the existence of racism than those who experience it?

“Growing up as a person of color, you have a certain reality. That reality is not reflected in the dominant white society. You try to make sense of it, try to name it and understand it, and if you don’t, you can internalize and think you’re just wrong. You’re trying to understand and name your experience,” she reflects.

The power of naming racist experiences drew her to pursue impact litigation, legal scholarship, and legal education. But it’s introducing this conceptualization around racism to students that for Gonzales Rose makes the job so meaningful.

“It’s this moment where students who’ve been grappling with this issue—either as individuals who have this experience or as allies who are very interested in serving communities who have this experience—they see, theorize, label, and explain these experiences they’ve had or witnessed in their lives,” she says.

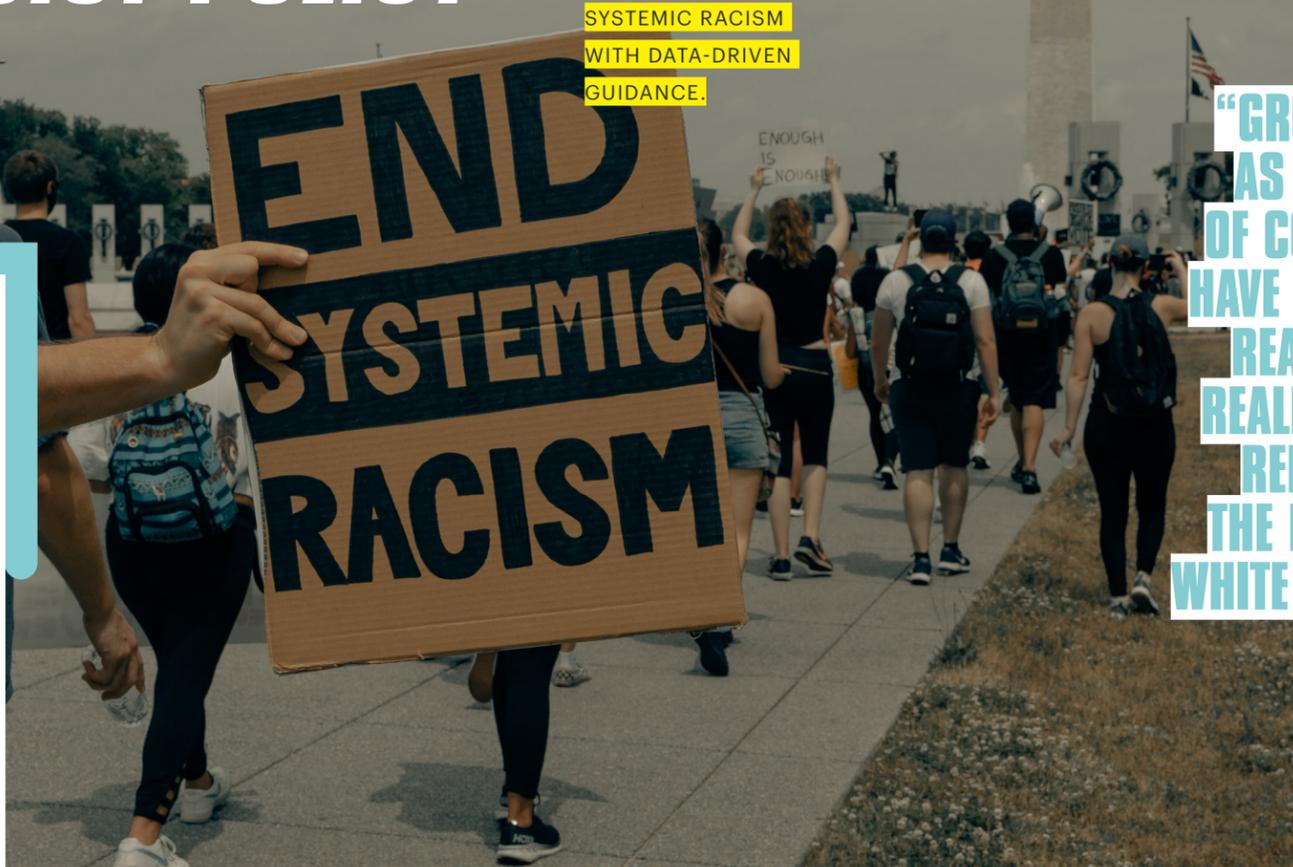
Gonzales Rose has designed her career around imagining what a justice grounded in dignity and care would really look like. Her next challenge: rooting those ideas in research and turning them into meaningful policy realities.

## HOW TO BUILD AN ANTIRACIST POLICY CENTER

Gonzales Rose started working with the BU Center for Antiracist Research in September 2020 (Professor **IBRAM X. KENDI** had launched the center in July), and already in that time she has built a policy office with a multipronged approach to bringing research-based guidance to antiracist policy work.

The policy office Gonzales Rose has built in this last year comprises a racial policy tracker, amicus brief practice, evidence equity project, model legis-

JASMINE GONZALES ROSE TACKLES SYSTEMIC RACISM WITH DATA-DRIVEN GUIDANCE.



“GROWING UP AS A PERSON OF COLOR, YOU HAVE A CERTAIN REALITY. THAT REALITY IS NOT REFLECTED IN THE DOMINANT WHITE SOCIETY.”

lation unit, continuing legal education offerings, and policy convenings.

Each of these projects relies on different forms of racial data to be able to identify disparities and inequities connected to various forms of policy. The data-based project Gonzales Rose has worked with most closely, the **COVID RACIAL DATA TRACKER**, was among the first efforts in the US to track the disproportionate testing and impact of COVID-19 on racialized communities.

“The COVID Racial Data Tracker project has revealed problematic data collection practices by states, which can obfuscate the existence and experience of racism,” she says. For example, data practices that measure Latinx as an ethnicity separate from other racial categories, and so classify Latinx communities as white, can misrepresent gaps in equity between white and Black populations, and conceal Latinx experiences of racism altogether.

“You have to have that [racial demographic] data,” Gonzales Rose says. “Data is important to understand and to track, and then to formulate policies to mitigate those disparities.”

## EVIDENCE, LINGUISTICISM, AND CRITICAL RACE THEORY

Gonzales Rose’s scholarship asks questions about how and where systemic racism plays out in legal procedure.

“Everything to me comes back to evidence, because evidence is about having knowledge, having a voice, and being able to prove something,” she explains. The courts have a long history of keeping Black, Indigenous, and other people of color from testifying or sitting on juries. Even when these communities make it into court to offer evidence, their testimonies are often devalued, discredited, or subject to extra scrutiny.

One specific problem Gonzales Rose has identified in evidentiary procedure is with **LINGUISTICISM**—discrimination based on particular uses or assumptions about language. Her recent work has found continuing issues with accent and other forms of linguistic discrimination in jury selection.

Gonzales Rose knows that these are ongoing problems, but Derrick Bell’s original idea that racism is endemic and permanent doesn’t scare her. It energizes her. She compares it to the work of putting out fires, saying, “You don’t give up because you know there will continue to be fires. You don’t just say, ‘Well, close the fire department.’ You simply say, ‘You need more support. More firefighters.’ Here we need more antiracist researchers, lawyers, and policymakers.”

“I feel like that’s what we have to do in the antiracist space,” she says. “Just keep working on it every day and encourage people to work on it every day.” ■



JASMINE GONZALES ROSE BU LAW PROFESSOR



Read more about the amicus brief project at [bu.edu/law/amicus](https://bu.edu/law/amicus).

# security state

TWO DECADES AFTER THE DEVASTATING TERROR ATTACKS OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001, THE UNITED STATES IS STILL GRAPPLING WITH HOW TO BALANCE CIVIL LIBERTIES AND NATIONAL SECURITY.

BY  
REBECCA  
BEYER



## AFTER THE TERRORIST ATTACKS OF SEPTEMBER 2001,

**CATHERINE MITRANO** (CAS'89, LAW'89) was among a select group of federal attorneys tasked with creating the newly authorized **US DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY** (DHS), a cabinet-level entity that consolidated all or part of nearly two dozen autonomous agencies, including US Customs, the Transportation Security Administration, the Secret Service, and the Department of Agriculture.

It was a massive undertaking, described in the press as the largest reorganization of the federal government since the Department of Defense's formation in 1947.

And it took less than a month. After Congress passed the **HOMELAND SECURITY ACT** in November 2002, the actual work of creating the agency began. Mitrano's first detail—or temporary assignment—from the US Coast Guard, where she worked on everything from labor and employment issues to administrative law matters, started on December 30, 2002. DHS began operating on January 24. Mitrano's detail was extended again and again and again. She never went back to the coast guard.

That something so huge could happen so fast was nothing short of a bureaucratic miracle, she says.

"The federal government moved like it had never moved at any time before that date, and it hasn't moved like that at any time since," she says. "It was remarkable."

Indeed, changes in response to 9/11 came quickly. But what is most remarkable about those changes is how permanent they have become. In the name of security, the United States strengthened its borders, its surveillance capabilities, and the power of its presidency. Looking back on two decades of post-9/11 policies, Mitrano and a trio of Boston University School of Law professors reflect on the impact those changes have had on the United States and its people.

### STREAMLINING US SECURITY

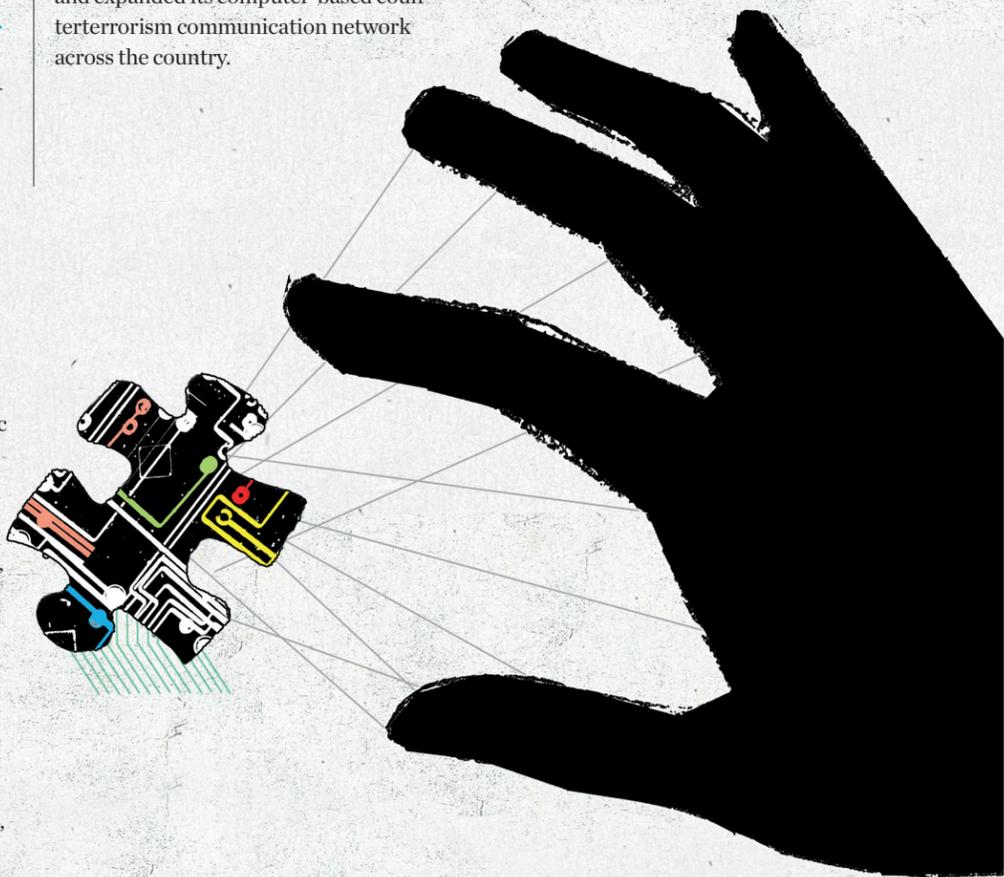
DHS was created, in part, to streamline communication-sharing between intelligence and law enforcement agencies. "There were threats throughout the summer leading up to 9/11 that many organizations knew part of, but no one had the whole picture," Mitrano explains. "Once that picture was synthesized, it was very clear that our level of readiness should have been at a higher state."

DHS was designed to house all the components of homeland security in one place. Among other accomplishments, it entered into agreements to screen cargo containers bound for the US, identified critical infrastructure protection roles, and expanded its computer-based counterterrorism communication network across the country.



PHOTO BY BRIAN CARLSON

**CATHERINE MITRANO**  
(CAS '89,  
LAW '89)



"We needed to have some sort of single point of accountability," Mitrano says. "The federal government has become more nimble as a whole in responding to crosscutting challenges, whatever they may be."

According to Associate Professor **AHMED GHAPPOUR**, however, one irony of the response to 9/11 is that, in an effort to keep people safe from hijacked planes and bombs, the United States has arguably made itself more vulnerable to a potentially even more pressing threat: **CYBER-ATTACKS**.

"The day before 9/11, our biggest security threat was not terrorism; it was cybersecurity," Ghappour says. And today, "our main security threat is cybersecurity,

**"THE DAY BEFORE 9/11, OUR BIGGEST SECURITY THREAT WAS NOT TERRORISM; IT WAS CYBERSECURITY. [AND TODAY] OUR MAIN SECURITY THREAT IS CYBERSECURITY..."** —**AHMED GHAPPOUR**

especially given our dependence on data, our interconnectivity, and the artificial intelligence that's being injected everywhere. All of these things are subject to hacking. All of these things will necessarily be made more vulnerable in a mass surveillance state."

Ghappour's personal and professional lives were forever altered by 9/11. That day, he was scheduled to have his US citizenship interview in New Jersey. He drove his sister to her company's Morristown location and then heard on Howard Stern's (CGS'74, COM'76) radio show that a plane had flown into the **WORLD TRADE CENTER** building where she normally worked. The siblings' mother, who worked near the towers, had to evacuate the area. When she finally called her children, it wasn't to let them know she was safe; it was to ask if Ghappour had made his interview. She was already anticipating a harder life ahead for their family, which is of Egyptian descent.

"She was like, 'Go swear in right now!'"

**AHMED GHAPPOUR**  
BU LAW  
ASSOCIATE  
PROFESSOR



Ghappour remembers. "It's not like Arab Americans and Muslim Americans were strangers to racism."

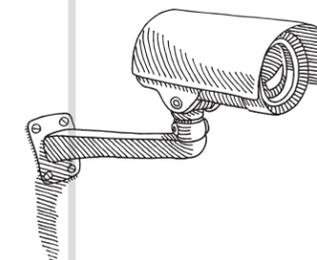
The 9/11 attacks and the resulting "war on terror" led Ghappour to the law. In 2004, he left his job as an engineer at a technology company in the Bay Area to attend law school. While an associate at Orrick, he worked on a *pro bono* case involving a Yemeni detainee at **GUANTÁNAMO BAY**. From there, he took a job as an attorney at Reprieve UK, resettling former inmates of the military prison. Next, he joined a civil rights and criminal defense firm in Seattle. Over the years, he represented more than 40 Guantánamo Bay prisoners, none of whom had any ties to the attacks of 9/11, which was the justification for opening the prison in the first place.

Ghappour says one of the most drastic post-9/11 shifts in the always-precarious balance between national security and civil liberties was the creation of the warrantless **TERRORIST SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM** (TSP).

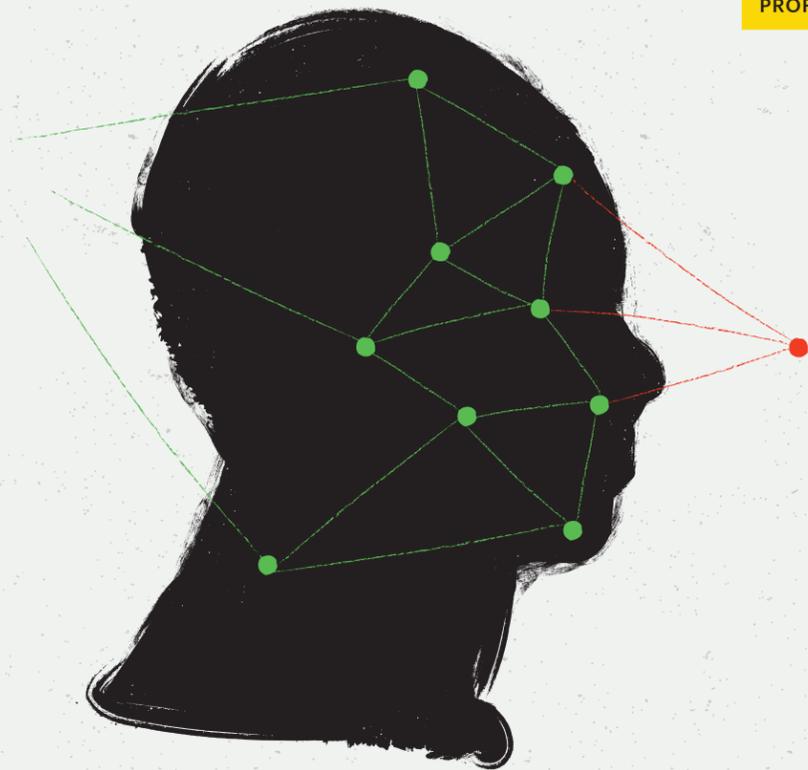
"The TSP was a temporary sort of surge on surveillance that became permanent over time," he says. "This is systematic surveillance by certain topics or selectors. There's a huge difference between surveilling associates of Bin Laden and capturing the communications of people who type the words 'Bin Laden' into a search engine."

Ghappour says the potential for civil liberties to be "usurped in the cybersecurity space" is huge.

"That's just the nature of securing computers," he says. "It's so much more data-intensive than anyone can imagine, and most people don't understand the actual issues involved or their magnitude because of the technical complexity." Take the **NO FLY LIST** created after 9/11, which the ACLU and other civil rights organizations have challenged for years. Being stopped at the airport and prevented from boarding a plane is a tangible harm, whereas someone might not even be aware of how their actions are being thwarted or manipulated online.



Ghappour says one of the most drastic post-9/11 shifts in the balance between national security and civil liberties was the creation of the **TERRORIST SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM**.



## BATTLE AT THE BORDERS

Another area that changed dramatically after 9/11 is immigration law. In the days and months before the attacks, President **GEORGE W. BUSH** was advocating for bipartisan immigration reforms that seem almost impossible to imagine today: a temporary worker program, the DREAM Act, and a process by which most unauthorized immigrants could obtain lawful permanent residence status without leaving the country. On September 6, 2001, Bush and Mexican President **VICENTE FOX** pledged to complete a deal between their countries by the end of that year.

Five days later, everything changed. “We became a country that sees enforcement and detention as the default,” says Clinical Associate Professor **SARAH SHERMAN-STOKES**, associate director of the Immigrants’ Rights & Human Trafficking Program, who was a first-year college student in 2001.

In place of reform came retaliation. One example: the **NATIONAL SECURITY ENTRY-EXIT REGISTRATION SYSTEM**, known as NSEERS, created in 2002. The program required men over the age of 16 from 25 countries—most of which were predominantly Muslim—to be fingerprinted and photographed upon arrival and to report to US immigration officials every 12 months thereafter.

“It was a deeply discriminatory policy couched in counterterrorism terms,” Sherman-Stokes says. “And understandably, it completely eroded any trust Muslim Americans may have had in the government.”

The Department of Homeland Security removed the designated countries from the NSEERS program in 2011 and dismantled the regulations entirely in 2016, calling them “redundant” and “obsolete.”

But the problem with implementing such processes in the first place is that they seem to pave the way for similarly discriminatory processes. When he

**SARAH SHERMAN-STOKES**  
BU LAW  
CLINICAL  
ASSOCIATE  
PROFESSOR



took office, President **DONALD TRUMP** considered a Muslim registration system; instead, he issued a ban on travel from predominantly Muslim countries.

“People say, ‘How could this happen here?’” says Sherman-Stokes, rattling off a list of other racist and xenophobic US policies, including the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II and the practice of forcing Native American children off reservations and into boarding schools where many faced abuse and all were prohibited even from speaking their own languages. “The answer is: of course this can happen here. Institutionalized racism and xenophobia were always baked into US immigration law but were reinvigorated after 9/11.”

## PRECEDENT FOR A POWERFUL PRESIDENT

In other words, in many ways, 9/11 was a precipitating event for ideas and beliefs long held, already underway, or lying dangerously dormant in the United States.

Professor **ROBERT TSAI**, who was working at the ACLU in 2001 and has written recently about the impact of 9/11 on US policy and politics, says one trend accelerated by 9/11 was the expansion of the US executive branch.

The presidency was “supposed to be a restrained office,” Tsai says. But, over time, “average Americans began to look to the president as the primary constitutional actor who will keep the country safe.”

Encouraging that view have been scholars who argue for a so-called unitary executive. When some of those scholars joined the Bush administration, those

**ROBERT TSAI**  
BU LAW  
PROFESSOR



theories were put into practice, leading to the Terrorist Surveillance Program, Guantánamo Bay, and an expanded use of extraordinary rendition—the process by which a government takes a person from one country to another to circumvent laws on torture, detention, or interrogation.

“They created this legal infrastructure that allowed the government to broadly reconsider constitutional commitments to privacy and, of course, bodily integrity and speech,” says Tsai. “Part of that trend has sidelined Congress as the place where these conversations are supposed to be happening.”

In “Manufactured Emergencies,” a 2020 *Yale Law Journal* article, Tsai argues a unitary executive makes the US people vulnerable to manipulation, including the creation of a constant state of crisis to justify governance outside democratic norms.

“In that environment, it’s very easy to assert power and have no accountability,” Tsai says.

## “INSTITUTIONALIZED RACISM AND XENOPHOBIA WERE ALWAYS BAKED INTO US IMMIGRATION LAW BUT WERE REINVIGORATED AFTER 9/11.”

—SARAH SHERMAN-STOKES

Once established, unitary power is also hard to relinquish. Tsai points out that although President **BARACK OBAMA** took some steps to reverse his predecessor’s “war on terror” policies, he likewise embraced an expansive view of his office, including by legitimizing drone strikes without congressional authorization.

“If you believe somebody has dignity, you’re saying they should be treated as an equal member of our community,” Tsai explains. “But when they’re finding ways to justify things like grabbing people in foreign countries for extraordinary rendition, there’s no equality, no dignity, no fairness.”

## A SOCIETAL DILEMMA

Of course, the burdens of increased surveillance and detention have been borne almost entirely by communities of color in this country, which may be one reason people in power have looked the other way as civil liberties have taken a back seat to security concerns. But now that the **BIDEN** administration has stepped up funding and resources to prevent domestic extremism in this country, including by

DHS oversees or oversaw some of the post-9/11 policies that faced criticism from civil liberties and human rights advocates, including aspects of the ban on travel from Muslim countries and the No Fly List. Other policies took place outside the agency’s realm: the FBI, which is not part of DHS, conducted an extensive surveillance campaign among Muslim American communities; and neither the CIA, which led extraordinary rendition, nor the National Security Agency, which created the TPS, is under DHS’ control. One of Mitrano’s initiatives at DHS was establishing the agency’s **OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS AND CIVIL LIBERTIES**, which is charged with advocating for people’s rights and investigating complaints filed by the public.

“I had a personal motivation in making sure we did right by that part of the legislation, giving it the autonomy it needed,” she says. “We were very focused on that in the early days.”

Now senior counsel to the general counsel at the US Department of Veterans Affairs, Mitrano says DHS “on balance does more good than bad.”

“Where you stand on an issue depends on where you sit,” she says. “On the one hand, it’s good to have all the information in one place. On the other hand, information is only wonderful if it’s used for good. Overall, our country is safer, but there’s got to be a way to mitigate second- and third-order harms that come from amassing that much information and authority.”

Because priorities change at least as often as presidential administrations, Mitrano says the public must do the real work on these issues.

“Administrations are a reflection of society,” she says. “If society is in a protectionist mode, an agency will be used in that mode; if it’s in a more expansionist mode, it will support those ends as well. These are questions for society to ask itself. What do we prioritize? Ultimately, that’s what the law will reflect.” ■

TWO BU LAW GRADUATES FOUND THEIR MISSION IN THE MILITARY'S JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL'S CORPS, ADVISING SERVICEMEMBERS AND COMMANDERS ON ISSUES RANGING FROM COMBAT OPERATIONS TO END-OF-LIFE PLANNING.

# CALLED TO SERVE



WHEN DAYLE PERCLE ('11) FIRST CAME TO BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW TO BEGIN HER LEGAL STUDIES, SHE EXPERIENCED A SORT OF CULTURE SHOCK.

The Michigan native had spent the past six years of her life in the military—first at the US Air Force Academy and then as a squadron section commander at a base in Italy.

The more casual atmosphere on BU's campus was "a big adjustment," she laughs, remembering thinking: "What do you mean people wear pajamas to school?"

"People called their professors by their first names. I would stand outside professors' doors to speak with them [until invited in]," she says.

Nevertheless, Percle didn't have any trouble finding her place. She already knew she would return to the AIR FORCE as part of the JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL'S (JAG) Corps after graduation, so she chose her classes accordingly, including offerings on criminal law, trusts and estates, and federal courts.

"I tried to tailor my curriculum to what I expected life as a JAG to be," she explains.

According to Percle and fellow BU Law graduate SEBASTIÁN PACHECO ('13), a JAG in the US NAVY, that path offers the opportunity for a diverse and rewarding legal practice ranging from advising servicemembers on their wills and individual client representation in the courtroom to counseling commanders on operations during combat or humanitarian disasters. Among other assignments, Percle spent several months presenting evidence in prisoner-of-war detention hearings in Afghanistan. Pacheco investigated a January 2016 incident in which 10 US naval personnel were detained by the Iranian military in the Persian Gulf.

"I would never make a different choice," says Pacheco, who is currently serving as part of a PHIBRON, the navy's shorthand for an amphibious squadron. "Being part of the national defense mission—I feel like it's a higher calling."

Like Percle, Pacheco began his career at a military academy. After attending the Naval Academy Preparatory School, he spent two years at the US NAVAL ACADEMY before detouring to pursue another passion—music.

"WHEN YOU'RE WORKING WITH PEOPLE WHO ARE TRYING TO DO GOOD WITH INTEGRITY, THAT'S A VERY MOTIVATING ENVIRONMENT TO BE IN."



DAYLE PERCLE ('11)  
JAG, US AIR FORCE

BY REBECCA BEYER



**“I WOULD NEVER MAKE A DIFFERENT CHOICE. BEING PART OF THE NATIONAL DEFENSE MISSION—I FEEL LIKE IT’S A HIGHER CALLING.”**

**SEBASTIÁN PACHECO** ('13)  
JAG, US NAVY

“At the two-year point at the academy, they ask you to make a choice to sign a contract and get a commission,” he remembers. “I was 20 years old and in love with classical guitar.”

Pacheco, who grew up in Colorado and Arizona, voluntarily resigned and enrolled at the **UNIVERSITY OF DENVER LAW-ONT SCHOOL OF MUSIC**, where he majored in classical guitar performance and minored in Japanese. After graduating, he taught English for three years in Japan as part of the Japanese consulate’s Japan Exchange and Teaching Program. When the 2008 presidential election piqued his interest in the law and the political process, he returned to the United States to attend BU Law.

Unlike Percle, Pacheco didn’t know he would be returning to the military after law school. He spent time in the Legislative Policy & Drafting Clinic, served on the staff of the *American Journal of Law & Medicine*, and spent a year in the Criminal Law Clinical Program (Percle did too—they both won their first trials as prosecutors).

“I tried to experience as much as I could,” Pacheco says.

After graduation, he accepted a clerkship with Massachusetts Appeals Court Associate Justice Diana Maldonado. Then, he worked at the Bristol County District Attorney’s Office as an appellate prosecutor before rejoining the navy as a JAG at the age of 39. Pacheco had assumed he was too old to rejoin until navy recruiters came to BU Law during his time there. “I figured it was a young person’s game,” he laughs. Hearing he was still eligible was “amazing,” he recalls. Serving in the navy had been a goal of his since he was a child listening to his grandfather’s stories about his service during **WORLD WAR II**. He achieved that goal early on, left the service to follow another interest, and was grateful to get the chance to return.

“Coming back was very organic,” he says. “It had always been a dream of mine.”

Pacheco has had a series of assignments since commissioning in 2015, including serving as defense counsel for sailors facing administrative proceedings and investigating the Iranian incident with Navy Expeditionary Combat Command. He also served at **NAVAL MEDICAL CENTER** San Diego where the courses he took on health law at BU came in handy; part of his role there was to provide legal advice to Institutional Review Boards (IRBs) for medical studies, including biometric analysis of sailors on ships during the **COVID-19** pandemic.

In his current role, Pacheco is assigned to a PHIBRON preparing for deployment. The position is the first in which he’s been called upon to offer advice on the law of the sea and the law of armed conflict. He also has to be up to speed on international rules and laws governing humanitarian assistance.

“That’s the most exciting part of this job for me,” he says.

Even the preparatory missions—known as going “underway”—are challenging. Pacheco recalls one night when a sailor spotted what he thought was a fire on the horizon. It turned out to be nothing, but, because ships have a duty to rescue, Pacheco was gearing up to advise on the legal aspects of such a maneuver.

**“The pace is challenging when you’re at sea,” he says. “Things can come up at any time.”**

Percle, who recently became a military judge after serving as air force appellate counsel for three years, has also cycled through a variety of roles as a JAG in the air force. After BU Law, she worked briefly on a base outside Seattle prosecuting cases and counseling base leaders on how to account for the presence of an endangered bird, among other issues. In 2012, she deployed to **AFGHANISTAN**, where she spent six months working in detention operations with members of other branches of the military.

“It was a very interesting environment to be in,” she says. “It was very isolated—just the prison, the military police, the Afghan police, a whole bunch of lawyers, and the detainees.”

When she returned, she worked again as a prosecutor before being competitively selected for a defense assignment.

“It’s kind of the equivalent of hanging a shingle,” she says. “You’re no longer part of the base community. Your boss is your client, and you report to another senior defense counsel. You need that autonomy.”

Percle, who has also worked in a joint defense assignment in Norfolk advising a military planning unit, says she’s thankful for her experience on the defense side.

“It was such a rewarding job,” she says. “I grew so much as a person and an officer and a lawyer in seeing the good in everyone, no matter what they were alleged to have done.”

As trial and appellate counsel, Percle handled a range of cases, including sexual assault, an area that has received intense focus from congressional leaders in recent years. When she first arrived at Joint Base Andrews for her appellate position, the office was preparing a case for the US Solicitor General’s office to argue at the US Supreme Court. The office prevailed when the high court ruled 8-0 in *US v. Briggs* that there is no statute of limitations for rape cases under the **UNIFORM CODE OF MILITARY JUSTICE**.

“We got the result we were looking for,” Percle says.

Serving as a lawyer in the military means making sacrifices. Both Percle and Pacheco have lived apart from their spouses and families over the years. But the work is worth it, they say.

“It’s highly rewarding,” Pacheco says.

Percle, whose service commitment expired for the first time earlier this year, says she knew from the moment she arrived at the Air Force Academy that she had made the right career choice.

“I love what I do,” she says. “When you’re working with people who are trying to do good with integrity, that’s a very motivating environment to be in.” ■



**Editor’s note:** Both Percle and Pacheco spoke in their individual capacities and not as representatives of any branch of the military or the Department of Defense.



→  
**LEANNE ERDBERG  
 STEADMAN ('08)  
 FOCUSES ON  
 PEACE TO PREVENT  
 TERRORISM.**  
*By Meghan Laska*

# CONFRONTING EXTREMISM

**IN 2015, AL-SHABAAB, A SOMALI  
 EXTREMIST GROUP, LAUNCHED  
 THE WORST TERRORIST ATTACK IN  
 KENYA SINCE THE 1998 BOMBING  
 OF THE US EMBASSY THERE.**

Moving among dorms at a local university, terrorists separated Christian students from Muslim students and killed the Christians. By the end of the attack, 147 students were killed.

In response, a local network of women called **SISTERS WITHOUT BORDERS** jumped into action. They connected community leaders and officials to de-escalate ethnic tensions and reach agreements on how to improve security. They are now helping the government of Kenya revise its strategy on countering violent extremism to include the role of women.

This type of collaboration between government leaders and a women's network is an example of a "powerful peacebuilding tool" to prevent terrorism, says **LEANNE ERDBERG STEADMAN** (COM'05, LAW'08). As director of countering violent extremism at the **US INSTITUTE OF PEACE**, she leads the institute's work to better understand the causes of violent extremism and methods to prevent it. She also builds partnerships with groups like Sisters Without Borders and develops tools that emphasize pathways for individuals to disengage from terrorist organizations and reenter society.

Erdberg Steadman, a former counterterrorism advisor to the undersecretary of state in the US Department of State, brings more than a decade of experience with alternative approaches to fighting terrorism. "Instead of focusing on preventing terrorist attacks and arresting violent people, a peacebuilding approach involves going further upstream to stop people from joining extremist groups in the first place," she explains.



PHOTOS BY RYAN DEARTH



“No community in the world is totally immune from the impact of terrorist organizations. Since September 11, we have seen different types of violent extremist organizations emerge around the world, even in countries that never before experienced this problem. It’s a huge loss to society in terms of the young people who could have contributed to their communities but were instead mobilized into a life of harm,” says Erdberg Steadman, who focuses on sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, and the Middle East.

At the institute, she takes a holistic view of the role of peace in national security. “There is room for a more human rights-oriented approach, but it involves collaborations and different notions of justice and accountability for people who leave extremist organizations. We have peacebuilding tools and strategies to help that process of disengagement and reconciliation.”

## A COMMUNITY APPROACH TO PEACEBUILDING

From ISIS and Boko Haram to the Taliban and al-Shabaab, extremist groups tend to emerge and thrive in regions of instability and political conflict. Erdberg Steadman’s main peacebuilding tool is the provision of research, training, and expertise to practitioners and policymakers on the causes of extremism and local solutions.

Leading a global research consortium called the **RESOLVE NETWORK**, which is housed at the institute, she focuses on why violent extremism is expanding in a particular community, whether it poses a threat to stability, and what policies and actions will effectively counter it. Research topics range from conflict mitigation efforts in sub-Saharan Africa to the dynamics of ethnically motivated extremism in the Middle East.

One of the institute’s long-standing strategies involves working with women in local communities. “The goal is to empower women who know their communities best and have insight into how individuals could be radicalizing. We try to develop women’s agency to impact their

**“THERE ARE INDIVIDUALS WHO WERE PART OF VIOLENT GROUPS, BUT THEIR FUTURE DOES NOT HAVE TO BE DEFINED BY THEIR PAST. IT SOUNDS LOFTY, BUT THERE CAN BE RESTORATION AT THE END OF SOMEONE’S COMMITMENT TO VIOLENCE.”** —LEANNE ERDBERG STEADMAN

own national governments,” explains Erdberg Steadman.

The work began in Kenya and Nigeria through the Women Preventing Extremist Violence program and has grown into Sisters Without Borders. “This network of community leaders throughout East Africa has achieved previously unknown levels of cooperation, thwarted attacks, and changed the trajectories of people’s lives,” she says.

Women’s roles are often underestimated, says Erdberg Steadman, “as they may be perceived only as victims of violence rather than potential conscripts or powerful recruitment disruptors. We help women find their own paths and elevate their voices in preventing violent extremism, rather than joining it.”

Additional strategies involve **DISENGAGEMENT** and **RECONCILIATION**. “There are individuals who were part of violent groups, but their future does not have to be defined by their past,” she says. “It sounds lofty, but there can be restoration at the end of someone’s commitment to violence. I am proud of how we have been able to introduce a new way to think about reconciliation because there is space for a peacebuilding lens.”

As for policing and military force, she

says that any abuse or corruption can lead to distrust and the radicalization of individuals, making the problem worse. The institute seeks to bring together government officials and citizens to work on the root causes of the problems and cooperatively rebuild security. It also developed a model for proactive community policing with a focus on increasing trust.

While her focus is international, Erdberg Steadman points out that much of her work at the institute is applicable to extremism in the US. “Research shows that people join extremist groups for meaning, purpose, and significance. People become deeply bonded with these organizations, which provide a worldview that makes sense to members and diffuses blame onto others. These characteristics are consistent with violent extremism in the US.”

Peacebuilding strategies can help people change their views, but societies must find ways to reconcile people who leave those groups. “The vast majority of individuals who are extremist in the US are not committing acts of violence and won’t be prosecuted,” she says, “but communities still need ways to bring them back into society. They need to fulfill some of those same human needs—like purpose

and validation—that were so twisted by extremist groups. There are many good groups in the US working on this, but more can be done.”

“We can learn a lot from peacebuilding experiences in other countries,” she adds, “like the importance of community dialogues. People with hateful beliefs do not need to have them for life.”

## A PASSION FOR PROTECTING HUMAN RIGHTS

Erdberg Steadman’s legal career is “deeply connected” to her family’s history of escaping persecution. Her father fled Poland in the 1960s, during that country’s anti-Jewish campaign. Before that, his parents were Holocaust survivors. It also relates to her experience growing up in Miami, where she met many refugees who were forced to leave their home countries. “Those experiences shaped who I am and my strong beliefs in the importance of human rights and respecting individuals’ dignities,” she says.

In law school, she discovered the “uniqueness of America’s democracy” when it comes to protecting human rights. “Even when it fails to do so,” she says, “there are levers for change in our democracy, and citizens can demand new ways to right past wrongs. I decided that I wanted to focus my career on protecting these rights.”

After graduation, Erdberg Steadman began a **PRESIDENTIAL MANAGEMENT FELLOWSHIP**, which involved rotations in the US Department of Homeland Security and the US Department of State. “That was my first foray into foreign policymaking and counterterrorism. At the state department, I worked on portfolios focusing on the Middle East and Africa, and I was able to spend time in the field to better understand our goals and strategies from a counterterrorism perspective.”

As director for African Affairs for the National Security Council and later counterterrorism advisor to the undersecretary of state, Erdberg Steadman learned the value of building global coalitions to prevent people from joining terrorist

organizations. “What would it look like if we empowered communities to push back on hateful speech instead of just arresting people?” she asks. “What if we could off-ramp those individuals to other livelihoods? That flipped the counterterrorism paradigm.”

She also traveled with the undersecretary around the world to meet with individuals who had survived attacks or had been beaten or jailed for their views. “There are many places where [both] terrorists and governments are abusing the rights of community members, and it is sometimes hard to tell the good guys from the bad guys. It’s important to hear different perspectives when you are defining partners in counterterrorism.”

Returning to the White House for the end of President **BARACK OBAMA**’s final term, Erdberg Steadman worked with the National Security Council as senior advisor to the deputy homeland security advisor, where she crafted responses to security challenges such as natural disasters, terrorism, and global health. She even worked on a global pandemic exercise, an “eerily prescient” project in light of the **COVID-19** pandemic.

After years of government and policymaking experience, she decided to apply

**ERDBERG STEADMAN WITH FORMER PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA FOLLOWING HER TIME ON THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL STAFF.**

her passion for protecting human rights at the Institute of Peace. “I was excited to join the institute because peace provides an important lens and tools to counter the idea that systemic change is only possible through violence. It’s much more practical and beneficial for society to have a peace mentality.”

Looking back, Erdberg Steadman credits BU Law with helping her discover this unique career track, particularly an international law class with Professor **ROBERT SLOANE**. “It was post-September 11 and I had spent the summer before law school traveling around Europe, having conversations with students in other countries about war and conflict. That was starting to percolate, and when I took International Law, it all clicked into place. I knew this was going to be the foundation for my legal career.”



# SPEAKER SERIES HIGHLIGHTS RACE, LAW & INEQUALITY



BU Law Race and the Law Speaker Series 2020-2021 featuring Deborah Archer, NYU School of Law

Professor **DEBORAH ARCHER** of NYU School of Law presents "Jim Crow in the 21st Century: The Impact of Crime Free Housing Ordinances and Mass Criminalization on Racial Segregation." View Professor Archer's lecture and a variety of other guest speakers at [youtube.com/buschooloflaw/videos](https://www.youtube.com/buschooloflaw/videos).

For upcoming events, visit [bu.edu/law/events-calendar](https://www.bu.edu/law/events-calendar).

Throughout the 2020–21 academic year, the **BARBARA JORDAN Speaker Series on Race, Law & Inequality** at BU Law brought together leading scholars to offer insights on how to pursue fundamental change that will bring equity and justice for all.

**"SHE WAS ONE OF THE NAMES MY MOTHER ALWAYS INVOKED AROUND THE HOUSE AS SOMEONE I SHOULD LOOK UP TO, TO SEE ALL THE POSSIBILITIES I HAD HERE IN THE UNITED STATES."** —ANGELA ONWUACHI-WILLIG

The inaugural series featured scholars from NYU School of Law, Yale Law School, UCLA School of Law, and Duke Law School. Lectures addressed issues including police and prosecutorial discrimination, the impact of crime-free housing ordinances on racial segregation, and racialized appearance norms.

"Part of what it takes to dismantle racism in this country is a real bravery, both internally and externally," Dean **ANGELA ONWUACHI-WILLIG** said in a December 2020 *BU Today* piece. "Externally, to challenge the people and institutions around you, but also internally, to look at ways you externalize racism or facilitate racism in your daily life."

Named after one of Onwuachi-Willig's childhood inspirations, the series celebrates the memory of Barbara Jordan (LAW'59, Hon.'69), the first African American woman to be elected as a US representative in the South (Texas) and a household name for Houston-native Onwuachi-Willig.

"She was one of the names my mother always invoked around the house as someone I should look up to, to see all the possibilities I had here in the United States," Onwuachi-Willig says.

First elected to Congress in 1972, Jordan is remembered for her powerful 1974 speech to the House Judiciary Committee supporting the impeachment of President **RICHARD NIXON**. She went on to be the first African American and first woman to

deliver a keynote address at the Democratic National Convention in 1976, and she was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President **BILL CLINTON** in 1994.

**GARY TISCHLER** ('87), the cofounder and managing partner of Vanbarton Group LLC, a commercial real estate advisory firm in New York City, supported the series with a generous gift.

"For me, it was a timely and unique opportunity to partner with Dean Onwuachi-Willig and the School of Law to support a program that would shine a light, inform, educate, and weigh in on the issues around racism and inequality," Tischler said. ■



**1976**  
Politician and civil rights activist **BARBARA JORDAN** giving the keynote speech at the 1976 Democratic National Convention in New York City.

# CLASS NOTES



If you would like to submit an update for *The Record*, please visit [BU.EDU/LAW/CLASS-NOTES](http://BU.EDU/LAW/CLASS-NOTES).

## JURIS DOCTOR (JD) PROGRAM

### 1965

**MARTIN LOBEL** retired at the end of 2020 after 50 years on the board of *Tax Notes*, most of which he served as chair. He notes that he is “still practicing what is euphemistically termed ‘Washington law.’”

### 1969

**ERNEST DORCHESTER BUFF** has been honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award by the International Association of Top Professionals for his outstanding dedication and commitment to the legal profession.

### 1976

**HON. O. ROGERIEE THOMPSON** received an honorary Doctor of Laws from Brown University.

### 1977

**COL OWENS** authored a memoir, *Bending the Arc Toward Justice*, about his life and career working in legal aid.

### 1978

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**SHARI REDSTONE** (LLM in Taxation’81), chair of ViacomCBS, was named to the *Forbes* list of the World’s Most Powerful Women.

### 1981

**BRUCE D. BRANDLER** was named acting US attorney for the middle district of Pennsylvania.

**JIM HOLTON** (LLM in Taxation’82) has been reappointed to the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority Governing Board.

**RICHARD TREMBOWICZ** is vice president of provider network management at Health Alliance Plan, a Michigan-based nonprofit health plan.

**MICHAEL A. URSILLO**, a partner in the Providence, Rhode Island, law firm of Ursillo, Teitz & Ritch, has been appointed to a two-year term as city solicitor for the City of Warwick by Mayor Frank Picozzi.



### 1982

**HELEN FREMONT** authored *The Escape Artist: A Memoir*, published by Simon & Schuster in 2020, which was featured in the “Editor’s Choice” section of the *New York Times Book Review*.



**DENISE PROVOST** has left office after serving as a Massachusetts state representative for 15 years.

### 1983

**PAUL S. HORN** is a board member of three 100 percent employee-owned companies in the Washington, D.C., region—FEDSched, Mosaic, and Wise Consulting.

.....  
**JEFFREY A. MAZER** is the CFO of Wyld, the largest cannabis edibles company in the US. “It’s been fascinating watching this newly legal industry take off,” he says.

### 1984

**WILLIAM M. JOSEPH** (LLM in Taxation’89) was selected by *Georgia Trend* magazine as one of its 2020 “Legal Elite” in the category of taxes/estates/trusts law. He was also selected for inclusion in the 2021 *Georgia Super Lawyers* list. Joseph is a partner in the Atlanta office of Stites & Harbison.

**MICHAEL N. UNGAR** was selected for inclusion in the *Ohio Super Lawyers* and *Ohio Super Lawyers* “Rising Stars” lists, receiving a special distinction as one of the top ten lawyers in Ohio and top five in Cleveland.

### 1985

**ANTHONY R. CALLOBRE** (LLM in Banking & Financial Law’86) joined Blank Rome as a partner in the Los Angeles office. Callobre represents lenders and borrowers in commercial loan transactions, with a particular focus on asset-based lending and fund finance.

← Read more about Fremont’s work at [bu.edu/law/fremont](http://bu.edu/law/fremont).

**HON. RANDY SUE MARBER** has been reelected to the New York Supreme Court. In 2021, she began her twentieth year as a judge following many years of private practice as a trial attorney and two years as a principal law clerk.

**STEPHANIE LOVELL** joined the Trans-Medics board of directors.

### 1986

**KEVIN CHAPMAN** published his fifth true-crime novel, *Fatal Infraction: A Mike Stoneman Thriller*.

**PENNIE K. MCLAUGHLIN** was awarded the California Judges Association Alba Witkin Humanitarian Award and the San Diego County Bar Association Community Service Award.

### 1987

**PETER MORAN** was named a partner at Pellegrini, Seeley, Ryan & Blakesley.

**LISA SCALES**, president and CEO of the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank, was named “Pittsburgher of the Year” by *Pittsburgh Magazine*.

### 1989

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**HON. LISA G. BECKERMAN** has been appointed as a US bankruptcy judge for the Southern District of New York.

**ABBIE ELIASBERG FUCHS** has been selected for inclusion on the BTI Consulting 2020 Client Service All-Stars list, a designation extended to only 475 attorneys nationwide.

### 1990

**CATHY CREIGHTON** has been named director of the Buffalo Co-Lab at the Cornell University School of Industrial and Labor Relations.

**ALAN OSTFIELD** was named chief executive officer of US Sailing.

### 1992

**ERIC W. BECKER** joined the strategic communications and advisory firm ICR as senior vice president of consumer, media, and entertainment on the corporate communications team. Becker was most recently principal of Becker PR and prior to that served for 18 years as senior vice president of corporate communications for Starz.

**THOMAS P. LAMBERT** is managing partner of FLB Law, a full-service law firm based in Westport, Connecticut. He is joined by his longtime partners, Stephen B. Fogerty and Eric Bernheim, and a team of talented lawyers and experienced staff. FLB Law’s legal services include litigation; real estate transactions, finance, and development; banking and commercial transactions; employment law; family law; and trust and estates.

**RICHARD C. ROSENZWEIG** was appointed senior vice president and general counsel of AngioDynamics.

**DAVID SIMON** joined Newtek Merchant Solutions as chief operating officer.

### 1993

**MICHELE BRADFORD** was named managing attorney for the new Pennsylvania office of Orlans PC.

**CATHERINE S. STEMPIEN** was appointed president and CEO of Avangrid Networks.

**NIGEL TELMAN** was appointed head of the Chicago office of Proskauer Rose.

### 1994

**HON. LINDA REKAS SLOAN** was appointed to the Rhode Island Superior Court.

.....  
**LAWRENCE T. WEISS** was named senior vice president and chief legal officer of Emulate Inc. Based in Boston, Emulate creates living platforms that mimic the complexities of human biology to advance product innovation, design, and safety in drug development and

other industries. He also serves on the board of directors of Greater Boston Legal Services and the New England Legal Foundation.

### 1995

**PETE CECCHINI** joined Axonic Capital as director of research.

**JAY REILLY** was elevated to partner at Saul Ewing Arnstein & Lehr. Reilly represents biotech, medical device, and diagnostic companies, as well as universities and nonprofits, in strategic transactions in the life sciences industry, particularly complex collaborative arrangements and technology acquisitions and dispositions.

**DANIEL D. RUBINSTEIN** joined the white-collar practice in the Chicago office of Sidley Austin.

### 1998

**ANGELA CURRY** was named general counsel at University of Louisville.

**HEIDI A. NAASKO** was elected to the membership at her firm Dykema Gossett PLLC, where she’s directed the firm’s *pro bono* activities since 2006. She also received the John Cumminsky *Pro Bono* Award from the State Bar of Michigan, which is the highest honor to a Michigan State Bar member for *pro bono* service.

**ROSS E. SCHREIBER**, of the Schreiber Law Firm LLC, represented the plaintiff in *Nandjou v. Marriott* in her successful appeal before the First Circuit Court of Appeals. The decision holds implications for American franchised hotels located outside of the United States, and their franchisors, as the First Circuit held, *inter alia*, that the franchisor’s promotion of the international hotel in Massachusetts provided a basis to assert personal jurisdiction over the hotel in the Commonwealth.

### 2000

**JENNIFER W. CORINIS** left her position as an assistant US attorney in Tampa to join Greenberg Traurig as of counsel in its Labor & Employment Practice.



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**MONICA J. LERMA** started a new position as associate general counsel and compliance officer at Vericast Corp.

## 2001

**ROBERT FISHER**, former assistant US attorney, is interviewed in two Netflix documentaries: *This Is a Robbery*, about the greatest art heist in history, the theft of 13 artworks from Boston's Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum; and *Operation Varsity Blues*, about the 2019 college admissions scandal.

**KATHLEEN A. MCGEE** has been promoted to partner at Lowenstein Sandler. With close to two decades of experience as a prosecutor and leading regulator, including as chief of the New York Attorney General's Bureau of Internet and Technology, McGee leverages her extensive experience in the public sector by representing clients before federal, state, and local law enforcement and regulators on issues ranging from white-collar criminal defense matters and criminal and civil investigations before the DOJ, SEC, FTC, and state attorneys general, to commercial disputes and advisory matters involving technology, data commodification, cybersecurity and privacy, consumer protection issues, tech M&A, data governance, and corporate governance.

**ELIZABETH A. LATIF MULREADY** was named associate professor of legal skills at Quinnipiac University School of Law.

## 2002

**TARUNA GARG** has been appointed to partner at Murtha Cullina LLP.

**STEPHANA PATTON** has been named chief legal officer of InterVenn Biosciences.

## 2003

**SERENA HALLOWELL** joined the securities practice of Motley Rice in its New York City office.

## 2004

**CAITLYN M. CAMPBELL**, former SEC senior counsel, joined McDermott Will & Emery as a partner in the litigation group.

**MICHAEL D. SILBERFARB** has been elected partner at Blank Rome. He represents clients in the technology, healthcare data, automotive, consumer packaged goods, and real estate industries.

## 2005

**HEATHER SLAVKIN CORZO**, formerly of the AFL-CIO, was named policy director at the Securities and Exchange Commission.

**COLIN VAN DYKE** has been appointed managing partner of Anderson Kreiger, a 40-lawyer firm based in Boston.

## 2006

**NAVEEN KATHURIA** was named CEO of eFamilyCare, a telehealth platform with a proprietary care model to support family caregivers.

## 2008

**MARK ESPOSITO** was named of counsel at Shatz, Schwartz and Fentin PC.

## 2009

**BRET A. FINKELSTEIN** has been elected a shareholder of Lane Powell PC. He is a commercial litigator with a broad range of experience defending companies and individuals in securities, professional liability, and other complex commercial disputes and litigation.

**DHRUV KAUSHAL** joined Armstrong Teasdale as a partner in the firm's intellectual property practice.

**MENDY PIEKARSKI** was elected partner at Thomas Hine LLP.

**MAGGIE E. SCHROEDTER** was elected to serve as president of the Lawyers Club of San Diego for the 2021-22 year. The Lawyers Club of San Diego was founded in 1972 and its mission is to "advance the status of women in the law and society." It is the largest specialty bar association in San Diego and a proud affiliate of the National Conference of Women's Bar Associations, the National Association of Women Lawyers, and California Women Lawyers.

## 2010

**TATYANA ROZENBERG BLOOM** (LLM in Banking & Financial Law'11) has been elected to partner in the business group of Holland & Knight.

**ANTHONY A. GOSTANIAN** has been promoted to counsel in Latham & Watkins' San Diego office. He is a member of the Corporate Department who represents both public companies and underwriters in a variety of capital-raising transactions, including initial public offerings, follow-on offerings, and at-the-market offerings. He also routinely advises public and private companies on general corporate governance, M&A, and securities law matters.

**ARIEL GREENSTEIN** was promoted to counsel at the Denver office of Faegre Drinker.

**LANA HARPER** authored the young adult novel *Payback's a Witch*.

## 2011

**AMANDA R. GURMAN** has been elected partner at Rivkin Radler LLP.

**DAVID MICHEL** was elevated to partner in Sherin and Lodgen's litigation department.

**JENNIFER L. MIKELS**, a trial lawyer at Goulston & Storrs in Boston, has been named a 2021 "Up & Coming Lawyer" by *Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly*. The award recognizes the rising stars of the Massachusetts legal industry who have been practicing for 10 years or fewer and have distinguished themselves professionally and in the community. Mikels focuses her practice on professional liability defense and complex commercial disputes, particularly those involving business divorces and unfair and deceptive business practices.

## 2012

**JACK T. GANNON** is the newest partner at Dallas-based McGuire, Craddock & Strother. Gannon has significant experience guiding clients through corporate finance and commercial real estate transactions, as well as contractual, employment, dispute resolution, and general business matters. During the COVID-19 pandemic, he provided valuable guidance for businesses navigating state and federal orders and related financial issues. In addition, he has taken on leadership roles in legal and professional organizations, including the Dallas Association of Young Lawyers and the Dallas Bar Association, and he previously served as an adjunct professor at University of North Texas at Dallas College of Law.

**ALEX P. GARENS** was promoted to partner at Day Pitney. Garens advises corporations on issues at the intersection of intellectual property and technology. He assists clients on trademark, copyright, and advertising issues, and regularly guides clients throughout the life cycle of brand management. Garens also assists clients with structuring, drafting, and negotiating agreements and transactions that relate to intellectual property, technology, data, and privacy.

**ADAM PONTE** has been named a director at Fletcher Tilton PC. Ponte's practice is focused on complex civil litigation where he represents businesses and individuals in legal matters such as business litigation, construction disputes and risk management, real estate disputes, and employment litigation.

**GABRIELA M. VENTURA** joined Oscar Health as associate director, west region counsel.

## 2013

**NATHAN HERTZOG** was elected partner at Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis LLP. Hertzog assists clients in private equity transactions, including venture capital investments, leveraged buyouts, mergers and acquisitions, fund formations, and investments in private funds and alternative assets.

## 2014

**KYLE T. BREKKE** has joined Hawley Troxell as a senior associate in the firm's Business and Real Estate Practice Groups.

**MICHAEL WANG**, of LPL Financial, has been selected for the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity's 2021 Fellows Program.

## 2016

**KAILEIGH CALLENDER** was named to the National Black Lawyers Top 40 Under 40 list and the Lawyers of Color 2020 Hot List.

## 2017

**JOEL ANTWI** (LLM in Banking & Financial Law'17) has been named to the National Black Lawyers Top 40 Under 40 list, which recognizes Black attorneys who are rising stars in their respective areas of the law.

## 2018

**BRYNN E. FELIX** joined Peninsula Community Health Services as general counsel in Bremerton, Washington.

## 2020

**MICHAEL J. FARR** (LLM in Banking & Financial Law'20) joined the business and corporate and estate planning practice groups of Blalock Walters PA.

**ALICIA SIANI** joined Verrill Dana as a healthcare attorney in the firm's Boston office. Siani represents clients in a wide range of regulatory issues, including HIPAA privacy matters, the Stark Law and Anti-Kickback Statute, licensing and certification, and fraud and abuse issues and investigations.

## LLM IN AMERICAN LAW

### 2002

**TOSHIYUKI MURO**, after over 34 enjoyable years at Ajinomoto Company, has joined Mabuchi Motor Co. Mabuchi is the global largest supplier of small-sized electric motors, mainly for automobiles; its motors exist in door mirrors, automatic door locks, power windows, and power seats in your luxury (or compact) car.

### 2010

**HERNANDO PARRA NIETO** was elected rector of Universidad Externado de Colombia.

### 2013

**BRUNA TOLEDO PACHECO** was promoted to partner at Demarest Advogados.

## LLM IN BANKING & FINANCIAL LAW

### 2009

**IBRAHIM SIDDIKI** joined the Dubai office of Bracewell as a dual English and Saudi qualified partner.

**CYRO GOLDSTEIN TROPER** joined Loggi, a Brazilian developer of online shipping logistics platforms, as a chief compliance officer and data protection officer. He lives in São Paulo, Brazil, with his wife, Helena, and his daughters, Lia Yael and Rachel.





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## 2014

**CAMILO TORRES GEROSA GOMES** has been promoted to partner at Machado Meyer Advogados in São Paulo, Brazil.

## 2016

**BRIAN W. FISCHER** was promoted to partner at Day Pitney. Fischer represents private equity and venture capital firms, public companies, privately held companies, and emerging growth companies in formation, debt, and equity financings; mergers and acquisitions; strategic joint ventures; technology arrangements; and general corporate matters. He advises clients in structuring, forming, and operating private investment funds, partnerships, and joint ventures. Fischer also has significant experience in transition planning for family-owned and closely held businesses and assisting owners and management in preparing for and executing sale transactions and other transitions to the next generation of owners and management.

## 2019

**HEENA M. WOZNY** is an in-house attorney at MassHousing. MassHousing is a state agency that raises capital by selling bonds and lends the proceeds to developers who build or preserve affordable housing in Massachusetts. As a part of the legal team, Wozny practices transactional real

estate finance and represents MassHousing's various business teams in structuring and executing real estate financing deals such as acquisition, construction, and permanent lending.

## LLM IN TAXATION

### 1973

**HARRY A. FLANNERY** authored *What Is Real Love? Researched and Answered*.

### 1987

**KENNETH L. RICE** has been appointed chief financial officer and executive vice president of Metamaterial Inc.

### 1990

**WILLIAM C. LAMAR** joined the Mississippi Attorney General's office as a special assistant attorney general prosecuting Medicaid fraud.

### 1993

**GABRIELLE CLEMENS** and her team at Clemens Private Wealth Management Group have been selected to be members of the RBC Wealth Management Senior Portfolio Manager—Portfolio Focus Group, an exclusive company designation reserved for financial advisors who have achieved a high level of success in building discretionary portfolio management businesses.

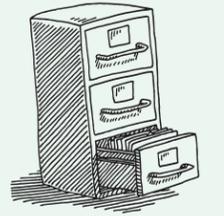
### 1995

**JEFFREY KOONCE** was promoted to partner at Bernhard Capital Partners.

## IN MEMORIAM

James N. Barrett ('50)  
 Stephen J. Beardsley ('71)  
 Victor J. Beretta ('54)  
 Dorothea M. Blizzard (LLM'81)  
 Thaddeus Buczko ('51)  
 Jason A. Camhi ('98)  
 Bernard P. Campbell ('50)  
 Edward L. Colby (LLB'65, LLM'74)  
 Robert W. Corcoran ('75)  
 Francis D. Corkery (LLM'81)  
 Edward J. Crane ('65)  
 Louis A. D'Angio ('55)  
 Alan T. Dworkin ('59)  
 C. A. Foehl ('63)  
 Carl A. Forest ('77)  
 Roland O. Fournier ('50)  
 Doris T. Friedman ('57)  
 Andrew J. Friedrich ('58)  
 George E. Gill ('55)  
 Glen E. Graper ('61)  
 Katherine M. Greenleaf ('73)  
 Douglas H. Haley ('65)  
 Hugh F. Hall ('94)  
 Artemis A. Joukowsky ('58)  
 James C. Krieg ('76)  
 Michael C. Lehane ('68)  
 James R. Lyons (LLB'59, LLM'64)  
 Kenneth J. Macksoud ('64)  
 Leo E. Mahoney ('52)  
 Michael J. Martin ('74)  
 Donald L. Massery ('60)  
 Jan J. Mauritz ('76)  
 Austin J. McGuigan ('72)  
 Charla T. McMillian ('93)  
 Charles B. Moegelin ('75)  
 Charles E. Moreshead ('65)  
 Victor I. Moses ('63)  
 Richard J. Mulhern ('58)  
 Daniel D. Muller ('69)  
 J. R. Olenn ('72)  
 Sidney W. Paull ('62)  
 Michael V. Pinelli ('53)  
 William F. Robinson ('84)  
 Anthony J. Ruggiero ('64)  
 Samuel J. Simon ('74)  
 Sydney W. Skoler ('42)  
 Walter R. Snyder ('55)  
 Mark S. Solomon ('83)  
 Marvin Sperling ('55)  
 Daniel J. Triggs (LLB'62, LLM'72)  
 William B. Tyler ('51)  
 Barry L. Vaughn ('62)  
 Stewart E. Walls ('69)  
 Donald M. Walsh ('52)  
 Alice M. Weiss ('77)  
 Benjamin V. White ('74)  
 Alton W. Wiley ('56)  
 Gretchen Witt ('81)  
 Stacy E. Wolfe (LLM'79)

# FROM THE ARCHIVES



## FIRST OLYMPIC GOLD

Law school stress gets to the best of us, but as much as you may have wanted to “run away” from a particularly daunting cold call or final, most students can't *literally* run their way out. But **THOMAS EDMUND BURKE**, Class of 1897, did just that.

When Burke got the opportunity to compete in the first-ever modern **OLYMPICS** in 1896, he petitioned then-Dean Edmund H. Bennett for a six-week leave of absence from the law school. Burke was an avid runner and a member of the Boston Athletic Association, which organized an impromptu team to compete in the first modern Olympiad in Athens.

Bennett granted his request, and Burke went on to win two **GOLD MEDALS**—in the 100-meter and 400-meter dash. A year later, as Olympic champion Burke was about to receive his degree from BU Law, he ran in the inaugural **BOSTON MARATHON**.



READ THE FULL STORY AT [BU.EDU/LAW/BURKE](http://BU.EDU/LAW/BURKE).



**ALEXANDRA TROBE ('21), RICK MCCOMBS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT**

# COMMUNITY SUPPORT



Like many veterans, **ALEXANDRA TROBE** ('21) found the transition to law school from the US military—in which she served as a US Air Force public affairs officer in South Carolina, Texas, and Panama—difficult.

“I went from a system that really values community goals to one that felt very individualized,” she says. However, when she got involved with the **STUDENT VETERANS ASSOCIATION** and legal aid clinics like Veterans Legal Services, everything changed for her. “Finding a way to give back really helped center me. I knew I had found my people and my community.”

As a reflection of that community support, Trobe received a scholarship from the Rick McCombs Veterans Assistance Fund. “I’m so grateful to have been selected,” she says. “I was a judicial intern with the District Court of Massachusetts after my 1L year, and after graduation I accepted a clerkship with the Court of International Trade. These are opportunities I would not have been able to consider without this financial support.”

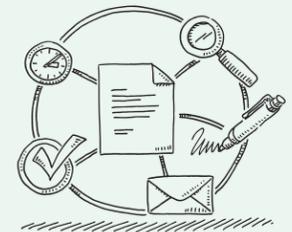
Established by Dean’s Advisory Board member **RICK MCCOMBS** ('73), himself a US Army veteran who served

in Vietnam 1969–70, the first-of-its-kind fund provides scholarships and financial assistance to help student veterans at BU Law pursue opportunities and secure employment. For BU’s **GIVING DAY** in April 2020, McCombs offered a \$50,000 matching challenge, and the community responded, providing the school with even more resources to support student veterans in the years ahead.

“These grants could be the difference between someone applying for a clerkship or a public service opportunity that would be really great for their career,” Trobe says. “It means so much. I’m really excited about the next set of opportunities that future veterans will get to take advantage of.”

➔ **Support the school and students like Alexandra at [bu.edu/lawgiving](https://bu.edu/lawgiving).**

## KEEP IN TOUCH.



Learn the many ways to stay connected with BU Law and its alumni at [bu.edu/law/stay-connected](https://bu.edu/law/stay-connected).

Email [lawalum@bu.edu](mailto:lawalum@bu.edu) to receive *The Record Monthly*, our newsletter for alumni.

To submit a class note, please visit [bu.edu/law/class-notes](https://bu.edu/law/class-notes).

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# CALLED TO SERVE



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**TWO BU LAW  
GRADS FIND THEIR  
MISSION WITH JAG.**