

TEMPLE ESQ.

Temple University
James E. Beasley School of Law
Alumni News • September 2019

HOUSING LAW Healing or Harming?



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A MESSAGE FROM DEAN GREGORY MANDEL

As I write this, we have just welcomed the entering class of 2019—an exceptionally bright, diverse group whose backgrounds are as varied as their reasons for pursuing a law degree. We have also welcomed, over the summer months, an extraordinary cohort of new and visiting faculty with expertise that spans the legal spectrum: Shanda Sibley, who will run a new Social Justice Lawyering

clinic at the Sheller Center for Social Justice; Stephanie Didwania, who brings an empirical focus to both criminal procedure and intellectual property law; Andrew Weiner, who after a decade at the DOJ will lead the LL.M. in Tax program; Michelle Cosby, our new Director of the Law Library; and Robert Tsai, a nationally acclaimed constitutional law professor, who visits us this year as the Clifford Scott Green Chair in Constitutional Law.

Each of them is poised to make significant contributions to an already outstanding faculty, many of whom are also pioneers and leading thinkers in their fields. Professor Tom Lin, whose work gave rise to the notion of “cyborg finance,” explores the perils and

possibilities inherent in what he calls “corporate social activism” in new work presented by the Temple 10-Q (p. 9). Professor Ellie Margolis, a nationally recognized figure in legal research and writing, advocates persuasively against legal jargon and for greater clarity in legal writing (p. 13). And Professor Scott Burris, one of the co-founders of legal epidemiology, is celebrating the tenth anniversary of the Center for Public Health Law Research by continuing to lead that field in new directions (p. 6).

We are also extraordinarily proud of our many graduates whose work and leadership pushes the law in new directions, often toward greater human freedom. I have been particularly inspired by the work of Nadeem Bezar '91, who transitioned from a highly successful medical malpractice career to become an advocate for the victims and survivors of human trafficking (p. 14).

An institution is only as strong as the commitment and leadership of its people, and I am proud to report that Temple Law School is exceptionally strong. Thank you for all you do to ensure that our beloved institution continues to flourish and to push the law in new directions.

Yours,



Gregory Mandel, Dean



Housing Law



HEALING OR HARMING?

Housing laws and some unintended consequences

Research shows that where you live can influence both how long and how healthy your life will be. Someone living in a ZIP code near Temple's campus in North Philadelphia can expect to live to 71. Living only a mile and a half away, close to the art museum, may buy you five additional years, according to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's calculations.

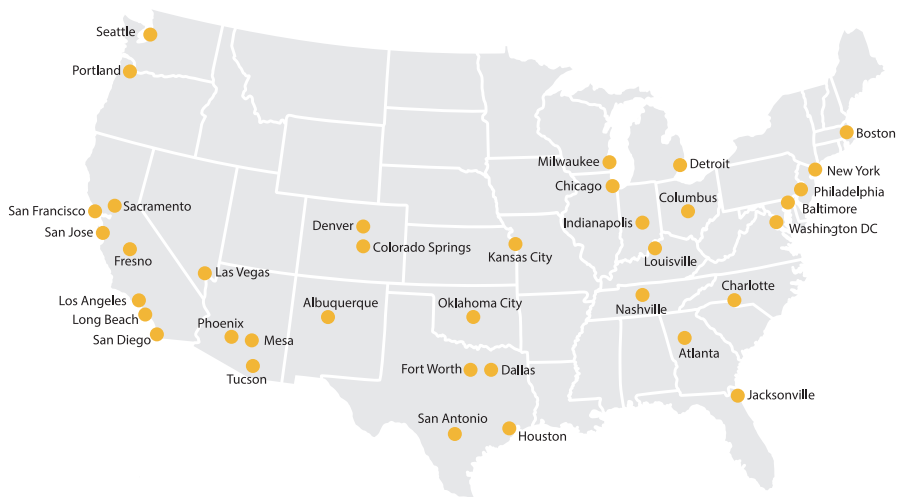
North Philadelphia residents face overcrowding, poor quality education, discrimination, violence, racism, drugs, and food deserts. Housing is an umbrella for many of those issues, since your dwelling and your neighborhood will determine so much about your vulnerability—or immunity—to health threats.

Healthy, safe, affordable and stable housing, and the laws that govern housing conditions, have obvious and extensive implications for health and life expectancy. Laws and policies are one mechanism public health officials can employ to improve health, well-being, and equity. Unfortunately, some housing laws—in this case nuisance property laws—enacted with avowed good intentions, can have unintended consequences.

How one well-intentioned law backfired

In the U.S., an average of 24 people per minute are victims of rape, physical violence, or stalking by an intimate partner. This amounts to more than 12 million victims over the course of a year, according to the National Domestic Violence Hotline. For many of the victims, a call to 911 is their only lifeline. That call had unexpected consequences for Norristown, PA, resident Lakisha Briggs.

In 2012, when Briggs called the police because her boyfriend was beating her, the responding officer offered to help but warned her that if she kept calling, the police would have to tell the landlord to evict her. A few weeks later, when her



37 of the 40 most populous U.S. cities have ordinances governing nuisance properties. Using an interactive map like this one, found on the Center for Public Health Law Research's LawAtlas.org website, visitors can find detailed information about each city's nuisance ordinance, and a variety of other public health-focused laws.

abuser returned and beat and stabbed her in the neck, she was so afraid that she crawled out into the street instead of calling 911. A neighbor, however, did call 911. Briggs was airlifted to a hospital and survived. The day after she returned from the hospital, her landlord evicted her.

Briggs was a casualty of a provision of a nuisance property law, or “crime-free” ordinance, which require landlords to regulate the conduct of their tenants, sometimes through eviction, and often penalize the landlords when they fail to do so. Although these laws were initially enacted beginning in the late 1980s to target drug use, many ordinances now include a wide range of actions that the city deems to be a nuisance.

The Norristown ordinance included language that would mark a property as a “nuisance” if the police were called to that property three times in four months for “disorderly behavior,” including calls for protection from domestic violence. To resolve the designation as a nuisance, Norristown was permitted to revoke a landlord’s rental license, which could result in landlords evicting the residents involved in disturbances. Such laws, which may force tenants to choose between calling the police in an emergency and being threatened with eviction, can have a disproportionate effect on domestic violence survivors—or people with disabilities—who may have to call the police for help more often than others.

Temple Law’s Center identifies harmful laws

In 2016, sociologist Matthew Desmond’s bestselling book, *Evicted*, first brought the crisis of housing instability to the attention of a broad audience. The pandemic of evictions nationwide described in Desmond’s book are the result of multiple and overlapping factors. Nuisance property ordinances are among those causes; from Lakisha Briggs’ hometown of Norristown to Milwaukee (where Desmond and his colleague Nicol Valdez centered their research) these ordinances were having severe unintended consequences for victims of domestic violence.

At Temple Law, the Center for Public Health Law Research (CPHLR) strives to understand the impact of laws on the public’s health, and identify those laws that may be causing harm. In recent years, the Center has focused its attention on housing laws. CPHLR researchers teamed up to amass data on nuisance ordinances in cities across the U.S. A resulting paper, “Public Health Implications of Housing Laws: Nuisance Evictions,” by Scott Burris, Professor of Law and CPHLR Director, and researchers Katie Moran-McCabe ’08 and Abraham Gutman describes the ordinances’ role in the “legal ecology of eviction”:

... eviction, broadly defined to include informal evictions and other forms of dispossession, is much more common than had been appreciated ... nuisance property ordinances may be particularly problematic. Research by Desmond and Valdez in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, showed that during 2008-2009, about 1 in 3 nuisance citations were for incidents of domestic violence. An American Civil Liberties Union report tracking nuisance citations in Binghamton and Fulton, New York, found that

“domestic violence was the single largest category of enforcement” of both cities’ ordinances. One national poverty law organization estimated that more than 2000 municipalities had nuisance property ordinances of some kind as of 2017...*

In Milwaukee, a 2004 internal investigation found that the city’s ordinance had been partially successful in abating the cited nuisances, but the study failed to investigate *how* landlords were abating those nuisances. The study neglected to measure any effect of the nuisance ordinance on legitimate help-seekers—individuals like Norristown’s Lakisha Briggs.

‘A law is like a drug: let’s test it to see if it works’

“There is the intention of the law, and then there is the effect,” says Burris. “The effect can only be assessed over time, as we see how that law and its enforcement interacts with social and economic realities on the ground.”

Because of CPHLR’s holistic approach to public health, their interest in housing law has gone well beyond the obvious health risks posed by factors such as access to heat and safe water, or the presence of lead or asbestos. They are working with a definition of public health that includes all factors that affect health, both physical and mental.

“Everybody who deals with law understands that it’s not enough to have the words. Nobody passed nuisance property laws to inflict violence on women, but we have to have our eyes open if that’s the result,” says Burris. “The law has to do the things you want it to do—which means you have to evaluate it after it’s passed. A law is like a drug, let’s test it to see if it works. And don’t forget the side effects.”

How to ‘measure’ the law

In a scientific legal research process they call policy surveillance, researchers at Temple Law’s CPHLR compile datasets, converting the provisions of laws into numerical data. This “legal mapping

continued on following page

Health law professor
Scott Burris



* “Public Health Implications of Housing Laws: Nuisance Evictions” by Katie Moran-McCabe ’08, Abraham Gutman, and Professor Scott Burris. *Public Health Reports (Sage Journals)* 2018

process” is essentially content analysis of the law—it establishes a nuanced and granular look at what the laws actually say and where, and in many cases, how they have changed over time. These data are used in evaluation to understand the impact of laws on health outcomes, or in practice by lawyers, advocates, policymakers, the media, and others.

Housing laws are just one of two dozen hot-button topics they are examining—from environmental laws, to food safety laws, injury prevention, and laws that control or regulate alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs. CPHLR has recently built an extensive suite of datasets on laws governing reproductive health and sexuality. All told, they’ve published more than 100 legal datasets to a website they run for the purpose of sharing those data, *LawAtlas.org*.

In their article, “Public Health Implications of Housing Laws: Nuisance Evictions,” authors Moran-McCabe, Gutman, and Burris explain the value of compiling accurate datasets, and how they can be applied to advance the role of laws in improving public health:

The first step in evaluating the possible effects of a law is often simply to “measure” the law. By measurement, we mean using explicit, scientific methods to create a dataset of the observable elements of the law across jurisdictions. Such a dataset allows researchers to investigate the effects of laws, or specific elements of laws, on important health and social outcomes, and to identify those provisions that create the risk of unintended and undesirable consequences. With this research in mind, we built a dataset of nuisance eviction ordinances in the 40 most populous US cities. We then determined how many cities had provisions that might allow victims of domestic violence to be evicted for seeking help from emergency services.

As of August 1, 2017, all but 3 of the 40 cities (El Paso, Texas; Austin, Texas; and Memphis, Tennessee) had a nuisance property ordinance. Only 5 cities (Albuquerque, New Mexico; Boston, Massachusetts; Chicago, Illinois; Fresno, California; and Milwaukee, Wisconsin) explicitly counted 911 calls as nuisances, but in most of them, nuisance categories could easily include a tenant experiencing domestic violence.



CPHLR housing law researcher Katie Moran-McCabe '08 is the award-winning co-author of “Public Health Implications of Housing Laws: Nuisance Evictions.”

“

Finding so many places where the law seemed to allow domestic violence victims to be evicted for seeking help led us to consider the possibility that other laws might provide countervailing protection. . . .

Only 15 states, Washington, DC, and half of the large cities we examined gave tenants the right to change their locks after a domestic violence incident.

”

Twenty-eight cities classified a disturbance or disorderly conduct complaint as a nuisance, and 17 included some type of violence. Only 6 cities explicitly exempted domestic violence-related incidents (Charlotte, North Carolina; Chicago, Illinois; Fresno, California; Houston, Texas; Kansas City, Missouri; and Milwaukee, Wisconsin, which amended its ordinance in 2011). In 30 of the 40 cities, no conduct was exempt from the law.

Authors Burris and Moran-McCabe go on to draw some conclusions that could influence policymakers:

Finding so many places where the law seemed to allow domestic violence victims to be evicted for seeking help led us to consider the possibility that other laws might provide countervailing protection. The relationship of landlords and tenants is governed by local law and state law, so we looked next to the state-level datasets we built on landlord-tenant and fair-housing law. Ideally, these laws would protect—or at least not make life harder for—victims of domestic violence, but the laws as written raise some concern. Only 15 states, Washington, DC, and half of the large cities we examined gave tenants the right to change their locks after a domestic violence incident. Only 24 states, Washington, DC, and 29 of the largest cities allowed tenants fleeing an abuser to terminate their lease early without penalty. Domestic violence survivors in 23 states and 10 of the largest cities had neither option.

A person who has been evicted for calling 911 or who breaks a lease to flee an abuser sooner or later will be renting again, or trying to rent again. Fair-housing law is intended to protect vulnerable people from unjust discrimination. However, only 3 of the 40 largest US cities are in the 3 states (Illinois, Washington, DC, and Rhode Island) whose fair-housing law defined victims of domestic violence as a protected class. In every other city, landlords could legally deny a lease for a history of an eviction or broken lease caused entirely by domestic violence.

'When laws don't work, we should get rid of them'

In Norristown, at least in theory, tenants no longer have to choose between eviction and calling 911. Following Briggs' traumatic experience, the American Civil Liberties Union, the ACLU of Pennsylvania, and the Philadelphia law firm of Pepper Hamilton filed a federal lawsuit challenging the city's ordinance, claiming it punished innocent tenants and their landlords for requesting police assistance. As a result, in 2014, Norristown voted to repeal its ordinance and agreed to pay both attorneys' fees and damages to Briggs to settle the case.

"We can't test a law in advance, so we need to do it continuously once it's enacted. Nuisance property laws, concussion laws, syringe exchange laws, all of these have profound implications for people and their health," says Burris. "The NIH, the CDC, and governments at all levels should be seeing if the laws they implement harm health, and when they don't work, we should get rid of them. We can't let failures become the default situation."

TACKLING HOUSING PROBLEMS IN PHILADELPHIA

GRACE OSA-EDOH '16

At Community Legal Services of Philadelphia, Grace Osa-Edoh '16 is charged with addressing issues of housing habitability. Her practice is based at CLS's medical-legal partnership at Karabots Pediatric Care Center, a clinic run by Children's Hospital of Pennsylvania. Medical-legal partnerships, like this one in West Philadelphia, have been shown to have positive outcomes, providing low-income families one-stop shopping to address multiple, interrelated issues. "Access to safe, stable housing and quality education are two of the biggest determinants of positive outcomes for kids," says Osa-Edoh, who previously worked at a firm where she represented students with special needs whose educational institutions were not providing appropriate accommodations and educational plans.

At the neighborhood clinic where she practices, Osa-Edoh educates and represents families who have come to the clinic with health problems, but may also have problems that would benefit from legal advice. She says families often don't know their rights when it comes to accessing health insurance or nutrition assistance, or confronting landlords about health hazards.

How Philadelphia's lead paint law had an unexpected outcome

Osa-Edoh advocates for her clients in many ways. It is well known that lead exposure causes long-term harm in adults, and that children under six are particularly vulnerable to the adverse health effects from chipped lead paint. What is less well known is how, in Philadelphia, the very law that was intended to remediate the problem can work to disadvantage a vulnerable population.

In 2011, Philadelphia enacted the Lead Paint Disclosure Ordinance, requiring landlords of properties built before 1978 to test their properties for lead before renting to a family with children under age six, and



provide a certificate to the family confirming that the property was "lead safe." Osa-Edoh explains that although this was an important step in the right direction for Philadelphia, the ordinance governing lead has fallen short of its goal of protecting the public health, saying: "The unfortunate result of this age prerequisite is that landlords are then incentivized to discriminate against families with young children, in violation of Philadelphia's anti-discrimination ordinance."

While it is illegal for landlords to discriminate against families based on familial status in Philadelphia, the lead paint ordinance has still had the effect of tightening the Philadelphia housing market for people—families with young children—who are often already struggling to find affordable housing. "CLS has been advocating for a restructuring [of the lead paint ordinance] that removes this incentive for landlords to discriminate," says Osa-Edoh. "We're working to help City Council pass an ordinance that will ban renting a property to anyone, unless it has been declared lead-free or lead-safe."

A decade of innovation in legal epidemiology

SEPTEMBER 13, 2019 Temple Law's Center for Public Health Law Research's (CPHLR) innovative work in legal epidemiology, scientific legal mapping, and policy surveillance was the subject of a symposium to mark the Center's 10th anniversary in 2019.

At the one-day symposium at Temple Law, prominent legal scholars and legal epidemiologists discussed four of the many topics that have been the focus of the Center's work: reproductive rights, the pharmaceutical industry and the opioid crisis, city-level health policy, and the social determinants of health. Speakers also explored the role of legal epidemiology in law reform, both for laws on the books and policies on the horizon.

CPHLR was founded in 2009 by Professor Scott Burris and now works through partnerships with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the World Health Organization, Pew Charitable Trusts, and others. The Center's vast collection of evidence explores a wide range of laws related to housing, economic security and equity, reproductive rights, violence and injury prevention, and infectious diseases, to name a few. Government and regulatory institutions, researchers, advocates, and news media rely on the Center's legal data, evaluation study results, and novel methodologies for their work.



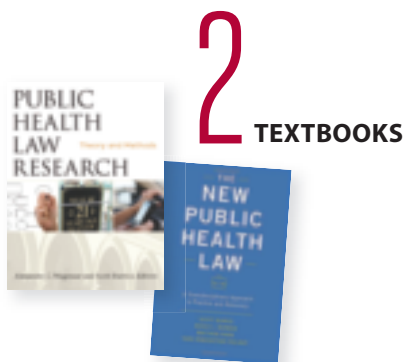
Lindsay K. Cloud is director of CPHLR's Policy Surveillance Program

SOME DEFINITIONS

Legal mapping is a set of techniques used to capture important features of laws and policies, and identify how they vary across jurisdictions or institutions, and over time. Legal mapping takes many forms. It can be conducted using transparent scientific methods for empirical research in legal epidemiology, or it can rely on conventional legal research methods to answer important questions in public health law practice.

Legal epidemiology is the scientific study of law as a factor in the cause, distribution, and prevention of disease and injury in a population.

Policy surveillance is a type of legal mapping. It is the systematic, scientific collection and analysis of laws of public health significance.



2 TEXTBOOKS

THE CPHLR EVIDENCE LIBRARY
houses nearly



research study results,
legal data, and other
evidence-based materials.



POLICY SURVEILLANCE DATA
found on LawAtlas.org
have been cited in scholarly
publications nearly

100

times since 2014

CENTER HAS GROWN RAPIDLY IN THE DECADE SINCE IT WAS FOUNDED

Today, under the leadership of co-directors Scott Burris and Heidi Grunwald, Ph.D., the Center boasts 14 full-time staff members, five student interns, and five research fellows. The CPHLR staff includes three Temple Law alumni: Katie Moran-McCabe '08, an award-winning housing law researcher, Adrienne Ghorashi '14, who primarily conducts research in reproductive rights, and Amy Cook '07, a law and policy analyst who works on a variety of projects in the Policy Surveillance Program.

In summer 2019, CPHLR's new fellowship program welcomed three scholars from across the country. Partnering with the Center, the fellows are examining city-level eviction laws, reproductive rights, medical-legal partnerships, and laws related to the opioid epidemic and access to treatment. At CPHLR's 2019 Summer Institute, 67 researchers from 25 states and two Canadian provinces gathered in Philadelphia to get hands-on training in policy surveillance. Through programs including the annual Summer Institute, CPHLR has trained nearly 1,000 U.S. and international professionals in legal epidemiology and policy surveillance methods, and offers the first certificate program for public health law research.

**Watch for a special
symposium edition of
the *Temple Law Review* in
February 2020.**



Adrienne Ghorashi '14 (left) and student intern Allison Goldberg '21 join a growing team of researchers at CPHLR.



JUNE 6, 2019 67 researchers from 25 states and two Canadian provinces convened for CPHLR's Policy Surveillance Summer Institute. The Center has trained nearly 1,000 professionals from around the world in legal epidemiology and policy surveillance methods since 2017.

6,000
Monthly average number of
users of **LawAtlas.org**

There are
more than **100** **LEGAL DATASETS**
available for free and open
use on LawAtlas.org.



Rachel Rebouché, Professor of Law and Associate Dean for Research, is a faculty fellow at CPHLR, working on the Center's reproductive health policy work. "Abortion care is an important part of women's reproductive health, though it is often treated as a contraband service under the law," says Rebouché. CPHLR's extensive mapping of the country's many legal restrictions on abortion can help legal researchers understand abortion law's relationship to health outcomes.

Health law pioneer Scott Burris

CPHLR'S FOUNDER 'ALWAYS WANTED TO BE A WRITER'



"Starting in high school, I always wanted to be a writer, I just didn't know what kind," says Professor Scott Burris. Over the years, he has done a lot of writing.

Today, Burris is an international leader in the field of legal epidemiology. He has taught at Temple Law School since 1994, and is co-director of the Center for Public Health Law Research. He is also a professor in Temple's

College of Health Professions and Social Work. He earned the American Public Health Association Law Section Lifetime Achievement Award in 2014 and the Jay Healey Health Law Professors Award in 2018.

But, he says, it was a circuitous path to his career in the law. After high school in Evanston, Illinois, Burris went to Washington University, for its strong writing program. There, he and a friend began writing for a satire troupe. After graduation, the two collaborators moved to Chicago, and produced a play. Inspired by that play's success, Burris stuck with theater for a while.

"When my friend decided to go to law school, I stayed with playwriting and moved to New York to work in off-off Broadway," he says. At this point, Burris was juggling part-time jobs to pay the rent. "I was doing things like writing game show questions, and took a job as a building super. After three years of making little money and little social change, I reconsidered. I wanted to have more impact."

When Burris followed his friend to law school, he chose Yale, which he describes as "a writer's paradise." Not ready to leave his life in theater behind, he took a libretto writing workshop at BMI, for which he traveled to New York City every week. "I was on the train back to New Haven one night, and I read an article about a child who had gotten Herpes simplex in utero, and had to sue to be able to go to kindergarten," remembers Burris. "A lightbulb went on. This was 1985, and in 1984, the San Francisco health commissioners had just closed down sex venues to slow the spread of HIV/AIDS. I realized that kids with HIV would be going to school, and there would be discrimination."

"Had anyone written about this?" Burris remembers wondering. "I wrote a paper about the state's ability to take emergency measures to protect public health. There hadn't been a major epidemic in the U.S. since polio in the 50s and 60s, and we hadn't had communicable disease issues since 1905 with the plague and smallpox. I knew the public health response and discrimination against people affected by the virus meant that a strong legal

response was going to be critical." Burris' article, in the first of what would become hundreds of publications, appeared in the *Yale Law and Policy Review* while he was still in law school. He went on to edit the country's first book on HIV and the law.

When he graduated from law school in 1987, the HIV/AIDS epidemic was growing at alarming rates, and Burris was a leading expert on laws protecting the affected population. He was hired by the AIDS and Civil Liberties Project of the American Civil Liberties Union of Pennsylvania. There, in addition to suing on behalf of HIV-infected health care workers, he sometimes used innovative tactics to ferret out discrimination. "We organized a sting where people called dentists and told them they were HIV positive," Burris remembers. "One-third of the dentists would not treat the callers." The complaints from the sting operation were submitted to the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission, and were settled without a lawsuit.

Since joining the Temple Law faculty in 1994, Burris has continued as a health law scholar and become a leader in the field of legal epidemiology—a field which has grown largely because of his work developing and codifying methods—and evangelizing for the discipline. Ten years ago he founded Temple's Center for Public Health Law Research with funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. In 2009, he was named director of the foundation's National Public Health Law Research Program; in 2015 he was named director of its Policies for Action Program, which now resides at the Urban Institute.

Today, Burris travels widely to teach and speak. Accompanied by his wife, Sung-Hey Lee, he was in Switzerland last year as a visiting professor at the University of Neuchâtel, and he spent three months of 2019 at the University of Groningen on a government grant to work as a mentor to Dutch legal researchers.

Burris' passion for writing has served him well. He is the author of more than 200 books, book chapters, articles, and reports on cutting edge issues at the intersection of public health and the law. In addition to addressing discrimination against people with HIV and other disabilities, he has written extensively about needle exchange; research ethics; and the health effects of criminal law and drug policy. He says that he is particularly interested in developing theory and methods aimed at promoting effective local health governance.

Burris says there's no shortage of important issues to explore. "Everything is public health or law or overlapping, so I don't worry about boundaries," says Burris with a smile. "A critical part of my work now is supporting the next generation. Not only mentoring our students and the staff at CPHLR, but also working to get a transdisciplinary model of public health law into the curricula of law and health schools worldwide."

The New Corporate Social Activism

by Professor Tom C.W. Lin

This article was adapted from "Incorporating Social Activism," published in the Boston University Law Review, and is reprinted from The Temple 10-Q, the electronic newsletter turned blog about business law at Temple University Beasley School of Law.

Corporations and their executives are actively engaged in many of the leading social issues and debates of the day. Through pronouncements, policies, boycotts, sponsorships, lobbying, and fundraising, corporations and their executives have very publicly engaged on a wide range of social issues like immigration policy, gun regulation, income equality, and religious freedom. Why are they doing this? How did we get here? What does it mean for business and society going forward?



Tom C.W. Lin is a Professor of Law at Temple Law School. His research and teaching expertise are in the areas of business organizations, corporations, securities regulation, financial technology, financial regulation, and compliance. Prior to entering academia, Lin practiced law in New York City.

This new corporate social activism is fostered in part by three larger, interconnected factors in business, law, and society: (1) the convergence of government and private enterprise, (2) the maturation of corporate social responsibility efforts, and (3) the expansion of corporate political rights. First, the public responsibilities of government and the private endeavors of business have blurred as government and business frequently act in interchangeable ways. Given this public-private convergence, activists seeking social change will pursue not only traditional public channels of government but also the new private channels of corporations to achieve their goals. Moreover, contemporary political gridlock and obstructionist partisanship have made new corporate channels of social change more appealing relative to the traditional public channels of government. Second, the maturation of corporate social responsibility efforts is another key contributing factor in the rise of contemporary corporate social activism. As businesses profess and position themselves to be socially conscious, social activists will more readily try to leverage the tools and resources of businesses towards achieving their aims. Third, the expansion of corporate political rights has played a significant role in fostering contemporary corporate social activism. Following the landmark cases of *Citizens United v. FEC* and *Burwell v. Hobby Lobby Stores, Inc.*, business interests are playing an ever-growing role in politics, policymaking, and social activism. Consequently, social activists have made greater efforts to leverage the expanding political means and influence of corporations to serve their ends. Collectively, these three factors have created fertile conditions for corporations and social activists to engage one another on some of the large, pressing issues confronting contemporary society, leading to a new form of corporate social activism.

Contemporary corporate social activism presents both significant rewards as well as serious risks for businesses, activists, and society. On the upside, as detailed in the article, thoughtful corporate social activism could broaden and deepen the impact of activism, improve efficiencies of activism, and enhance corporate value.

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10Q | The New Corporate Social Activism

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On the downside, heedless corporate social activism could further politicize an already balkanized marketplace, marginalize important social issues, and corrode core democratic values and institutions.

This new corporate social activism also has broad implications for law, business, and society beyond affecting just the insular, contested social issues themselves. In particular, corporate stakeholders, social activists, lawyers, and policymakers should be mindful of the impact of such activism on corporate purpose, corporate governance, and public interest lawyering as they navigate the changing terrain of business and social activism. First, corporate social activism could markedly shift businesses from their traditional singular, amoral purpose of profit maximization to a new multivariate aim that takes into greater consideration social impact and social value on an equivalent or nearly equivalent basis to profit maximization. Second, it complicates the dynamic interplay among managers, directors, and shareholders over control of the corporation by injecting social activists into the arena of corporate governance. Corporate executives have to measure their business decisions by more than the traditional financial metrics of the past, and now have to better account for the social responses that can arise from their business decisions. Third, corporate social activism could help diversify the types of individuals that pursue public interest law, and expand the vocational paths that one classifies as public interest lawyering. It can attract a wider, more diverse pool of law students and lawyers to work for corporations and corporate law firms as a means to help effectuate positive social change.

In sum, the rise of this new corporate social activism will impact many aspects of law, business, and society. The dynamic conflicts and collaborations between and amongst businesses and activists will likely present some of the most challenging questions for business leaders in the years to come. While corporations are not selfless entities that cause no social harm, corporate power, expertise, and resources can be leveraged to lighten the heavy burdens confronting society. Many of the social challenges of our time are simply too important, too large, and too complex to be left to governments and nonprofits to face on their own. While one can be reasonably and cautiously optimistic about the long-term outlook of corporate social activism, one should also recognize the very real, potentially corrosive effects that such activism can have on our politics, our markets, and our society. Ultimately, the new corporate social activism will be one of the most consequential recent developments for businesses, law, and society, and will remain so for years to come—in ways large and small.

FACULTY NEWS



Nancy Knauer is the inaugural Sheller Professor of Public Interest Law. Knauer is director of Temple's Law and Public Policy Program, and teaches courses in taxation, trusts and estates, property, religion and the law, and political and civil rights. She is the co-founder of the Aging, Law and Society Collaborative Research Network of the

National Law and Society Association and served on the executive committee of the Family Law Institute of the National LGBT Association. Knauer earned a J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania Law School.



Duncan Hollis is one of three professors university-wide to be appointed Laura Carnell Professors in recognition of significant achievements in research, teaching, and scholarship. Hollis is a renowned expert on international law and cybersecurity. He has been a senior fellow at Melbourne Law School and a visiting

professor at LUISS Università Guido Carli. He is currently a non-resident scholar at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and has been a regular contributor to the international law blog, *Opinio Juris*. Hollis earned a Masters in International Law and Diplomacy from the Fletcher School at Tufts University and a J.D. from Boston College Law School.



Michelle Cosby joins Temple Law as the new director of the law library and an associate professor of law. Cosby is the incoming President of the American Association of Law Libraries. She previously served as associate director at the University of Tennessee Joel A. Katz Law Library, senior reference and instructional services

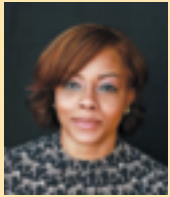
librarian at the North Carolina Central University School of Law library, and as a reference librarian at the law libraries of the universities of Kentucky and Miami. Cosby earned a J.D. from Indiana University Bloomington Maurer School of Law and a M.L.S. from Indiana University Bloomington.



Stephanie Didwania joins the Temple Law faculty as an assistant professor of law. Didwania is an empirical scholar who studies the law and economics of the criminal legal system. Didwania, who earned a J.D. from the University of Chicago Law School and a Ph.D. in Managerial Economics and Strategy from Kellogg School of Management at

Northwestern University, teaches courses on criminal law and criminal procedure.

LAW SCHOOL NEWS



Shanda Sibley joins Temple Law as an assistant clinical professor at the Sheller Center for Social Justice, where she will work with students on issues related to the collateral consequences experienced by individuals who have had contact with the criminal legal system. Sibley was previously an acting assistant professor of lawyering at New York University School of Law. Prior to teaching, Sibley was an appellate public defender in New York City. She earned a J.D. from New York University School of Law.



Visiting Professor **Robert Tsai** joins the faculty as the Clifford Scott Green Chair in Law. Tsai is Professor of Law at American University, and the author of three books on constitutional law, democratic theory, and legal history. His latest book is *Practical Equality: Forging Justice in a Divided Nation*. Tsai earned a J.D. from Yale Law School.



Andrew Weiner joins Temple Law as the new director of the Graduate Tax Program and a practice professor of law. Prior to joining Temple, Weiner spent more than a decade as an attorney in the tax division of the Department of Justice, initially in the appellate section, and then at the trial level in the Court of Federal Claims section. He earned a J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania Law School and an LL.M. in Taxation from the Georgetown University Law Center.



'CHOKEHOLD: POLICING BLACK MEN'

APRIL 3, 2019 Paul Butler, Albert Brick Professor in Law at Georgetown University Law Center, presented the annual Hon. Clifford Scott Green Memorial Lecture, "Chokehold: Policing Black Men." Butler, who serves as a legal analyst for MSNBC, is one of the nation's most frequently consulted scholars on issues of race and criminal justice. His book, *Chokehold: Policing Black Men*, was published in 2017. The *Washington Post* named it one of the 50 best non-fiction books of the year and *The New York Times* described it as the best book on criminal justice reform since *The New Jim Crow*.



TEMPLE TEAM REPRESENTS THE U.S. AT INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

JUNE 21, 2019 For the second year in a row, a team of Temple Law students traveled to The Hague to represent the U.S. at the international round of the International Criminal Court moot court competition. The path to the Netherlands went through Pace Law School, where Alison Smeallie '19, Julia Wilkins '20, and Layal Issa '20 spent a March weekend prevailing against teams from 15 schools throughout the U.S., Canada, and Central America, including NYU Law, Michigan Law, Emory Law, Tulane Law, and Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies. The team's performance earned them the right to go to the international competition, where they competed in the preliminary round.

LAW SCHOOL NEWS

ORDER OF THE COIF INDUCTS TOP RECENT GRADS



MAY 2019 New members of the Temple Law chapter of the Order of the Coif joined Dean Greg Mandel and Professors Kristen Murray and Andrea Monroe following an induction ceremony into the prestigious organization. Order of the Coif is an honor society of law schools with roots stretching back more than a century in the U.S. Temple Law was granted a charter to establish a chapter in 2014. Only students who graduate in the top ten percent of the class are eligible for the distinction.

CHINESE LL.M. CANDIDATES VISIT PHILADELPHIA



JUNE 2019 44 Chinese LL.M. candidates visited the federal courthouse in Philadelphia, where they met with Judge Anthony Scirica and Judge Felipe Restrepo. The visit was part of the students' two-month summer session in Philadelphia. The 15-month LL.M. program, launched in 1999 to educate Chinese judges, prosecutors, government officials, law professors, and lawyers in U.S. and international legal rule-of-law principles, operates in collaboration with Tsinghua University School of Law in Beijing.



Robin Holts '97 (center) and Allison Tanchyk '03 (right) were featured panelists at the compliance and ethics conference.

WOMEN LEADERS IN COMPLIANCE AND ETHICS CONVENE AT TEMPLE LAW CENTER

JUNE 19, 2019 Across industries, compliance and ethics has emerged as a particularly rewarding career opportunity for women, with accessible pathways to senior leadership and the means to shape company culture. The Temple Law Center for Compliance and Ethics, with the support of founding sponsor Ernst & Young and event sponsor Morgan Lewis, gathered women in compliance and ethics-related positions in industry and government for a conversation about finding success in this challenging field.

Conference panelists included Temple Law alumnae Janet Holcombe '81, Vice President, Chief Compliance and Privacy Officer at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia; Robin Holts '97, Assistant Vice President and Chief Compliance Officer, Lincoln Financial Retirement Plan Services; and Allison Tanchyk '03, Partner, Morgan Lewis. Other conference participants represented a wide range of organizations, including Comcast, Aramark, Philadelphia Board of Ethics, Endo International, and Vanguard. The former law school dean, Temple University Provost JoAnne A. Epps, provided closing remarks.

Established in 2015, the Center for Compliance and Ethics seeks to improve the understanding and practice of compliance across disciplines and industries through educational programming, public-private sector dialogue, and research.

TOP TIPS FOR LEGAL WRITING

Good legal writing is a lawyer's stock-in-trade. Use these tips to up your writing game.

—Professor Ellie Margolis is a published expert on appellate brief writing and advocacy.

1

MAKE IT EASY FOR YOUR READER: Legal readers are busy. They don't want to have to stop and think to figure out what you mean or why you are saying it. What do they need from your document? How can you make it easy? All other advice flows from this.

2

STATE YOUR MAIN POINT UP FRONT: Don't lead your reader to the answer. A brief isn't like a mystery novel. State your main point at the beginning and then show the reader how you got there. When you are drafting, look at your last sentence, consider whether it is your bottom-line point, and if so, move it to the beginning.

3

AVOID MINDLESS BOILERPLATE: Just because you see a lot of documents full of "Now comes [party] by and through counsel" and "heretofore" and Latin phrases doesn't mean you have to use those words. Think about what you want to say and do it in plain English.

4

USE ADJECTIVES AND ADVERBS WITH CAUTION: Don't clutter up your sentences with lots of descriptive words. Your point isn't clear just because you use the word "clearly." Use strong nouns and verbs instead. "The thief sprinted across the lot" is shorter and more memorable than "the man ran very quickly across the lot."

5

VARY SENTENCE LENGTH: Keep the sentences shorter to create a sense of movement and make them easy to read, but vary length to avoid monotony. A very short sentence after longer ones packs a punch.

6

USE STRUCTURE TO HIGHLIGHT POINTS: Readers remember what they see at the beginning and end of what they read. Use that to your advantage by putting your most important points at the start of your sections, paragraphs, and sentences. That means don't clutter them up with a lot of introductory filler. For example, don't start a paragraph with "In *Smith v. Jones* . . ." unless your point is that this particular case made the statement. If your point is really the substance of the court's opinion, put that first and the citation at the end.

7

INCLUDE VISUALS: Don't be afraid to use images, graphs, charts, or bullet points, if they make your point effectively. The phrase "a picture is worth a thousand words" didn't come from nowhere. A quick visual reference can make your point easier to grasp than a long string of text. Judges like them too. Just make sure that any words included in the images are part of the word count.

8

MAKE IT YOUR OWN: Nobody likes a bunch of quotes strung together or a book-report-style description of the law. Instead of describing cases, use them to illustrate the point that advances your analysis. Paraphrase so the law fits the situation you are applying it to. As I tell my students, don't just give me a bag full of avocados if I ask for guacamole.

9

GET WORDS ON THE PAGE: Don't get bogged down trying to craft the perfect sentence. The first time through, get your content on the page to make sure you understand what you are saying and see how it all fits together. You can make it pretty later.

10

EDIT, EDIT, EDIT: The best legal writers edit their own work multiple times. Edit for one thing at a time—typos, citation, organization, clarity. Make a checklist of your personal verbal crutches and look for those. My favorite tricks for helping you see what's on the page: read a hard copy, put in a different (ugly) font, change your location, work standing up (or sitting if you usually stand). All these help you see what is actually on the page and not just what you thought you wrote.



Q+A

'WE HAVE TO PROTECT THESE CHILDREN' NADEEM BEZAR '91

Nadeem Bezar '91 is a partner at the Philadelphia law firm of Kline & Specter PC. After more than two decades of success in the area of medical malpractice law, Bezar currently focuses on advocating for victims of child abuse, human trafficking, and Title IX violations on college and university campuses.

Bezar recently received the Temple Law Alumni Association Diversity Leadership Award. He is also an adjunct professor at the University of Pennsylvania Law School, where he teaches a course on medical malpractice.

How did a child of two doctors end up in the legal field?

I'm a first-generation U.S. citizen. My parents had completed their medical training in India and were literally on a train, moving to Pakistan when political events in that country became unstable. They ended up changing direction and doing their medical residencies in the United States. They eventually settled in New York, where they raised me and my sister and brother.

There was always the assumption that I would be a doctor. My parents and all my parents' friends were doctors. I remember being given old stethoscopes and used scrubs to play with. But it wasn't really who I was. I went to school for engineering, and even completed a master's before deciding to go to law school.

How did you choose Temple Law, and what clicked for you there?

I knew I wanted to be in a city, and the minute I drove over the Ben [Franklin Bridge] I was hooked. Of course I loved the history, but Philadelphia—and Temple—had the right level of grittiness for me. Temple Law felt like part of that—very down to earth in a way that would prepare us to represent the people of Philadelphia.

I loved the law school. Since I came from out of town, my whole world—my intellectual life, my social life—was the law school. I pretty much left engineering behind—I was immediately attracted to trial advocacy and did moot court. My favorite professors were Sonenshein, Bocchino, and Singley, who I consider mentors and who have continued to encourage me over the years.

How did your career choices lead to your current position at Kline & Specter?

My first real job was at Kolsby Gordon, where over 25 years I built a practice in medical negligence. About 15 years ago, a case came across my desk that changed everything. I agreed to represent a three-year-old girl who was in the child welfare system and was killed while residing with her aunt.

That work became my passion. After 25 years at Kolsby Gordon, it was hard to leave. It had become like family. Allan Gordon '66 was like a father figure to me. But Kline & Specter offered me an amazing opportunity to scale up the work that was becoming my passion. It's the biggest plaintiff firm in Philadelphia and perhaps the country, with 43 trial lawyers.



Today, you represent approximately 75 clients, most of whom have suffered immeasurably. Why do you do this work, and how do you handle it emotionally?

Over the past few years, my career has taken a turn towards the dark. It's Hannibal Lecter stuff, but it's real—real people doing really bad things to other people. I do it because we have to protect these children, we can do better by these victims. It's personal for me—very personal—and that's where I get the energy to do it. I try not to connect it to my family, as in 'what if this happened to my child?' It would be too painful. I would be paralyzed.

I've always been someone people would confide in and trust. I spend a lot of time getting to know clients. I want to see the child, let them play in my office and start to talk to me a little. I'm not patient about people's first world problems, but when it comes to hearing about tragedy, I have all the time in the world.

It's a longer process helping underage victims of sex trafficking. They're emotionally and often physically traumatized and fragile, and I don't want to retraumatize them. They're not voluntary sex workers—they were being raped day in and day out, sometimes for years.

This is a way to create change. Powerful and meaningful reform comes through civil litigation, holding agencies accountable. My wife, Gina, says I'm stopping the bleeding. These settlements can be life-changing for families. The hope is that a victim of abuse for whom I have gained some relief will break the cycle, and not abuse another generation. I'm not a burn-down-the-house guy. The system is overburdened, but I don't blame the system. But it's overburdened, and mistakes are made.

In addition to your practice, you serve on the boards of a lot of local agencies. Where does the energy come from?

This is difficult work: I get energy from it. Working with these organizations is awesome. These are all brilliant people who are working to improve the lives of the most vulnerable people in our society—it's a chance to interact, a form of support both mentally and occupationally.

I have been on the boards of The Field Center for Children's Policy, Practice and Research [at Penn], the Juvenile Law Center, Community Legal Services, and Philadelphia Legal Assistance. And the Villanova Law Institute to Address Commercial Sexual Exploitation—they are doing amazing, amazing work.

How do you relax? What about work-life balance?

Well I do work a lot. I live in Society Hill with my wife Gina. I have two amazing daughters. Mia is about to go to Penn and Giovanna, Temple '06, lives in Abington and is a school teacher.

I go to the gym. I run. I played baseball in high school and then when I went to college (at Bates College in Maine), I was a pitcher, an apt position for someone who likes to be on the team but in an individual position. Sports are my outlet. I enjoy my life and my work, but in my head, I'm keeping score all the time.

Now I run marathons. I ran the Boston Marathon in 2013, and finished a few seconds before the bombs exploded. I felt the ground shake under my feet but wasn't injured. In fact, I went back the next year to run the race again. This year, I'm training to run in the Philadelphia and New York marathons in the same month.

I don't really have any guilty pleasures. Last night I ate an ice cream cone, but it was vegan. I really ate it to keep my daughter company.

SOME RECENT CASES

As a partner at the Philadelphia firm of Kline & Specter, Nadeem A. Bezar has won scores of million-dollar-plus verdicts and settlements for the clients he represents. Because of his record, Bezar has become a leading legal expert in the Philadelphia region in all matters concerning child and sexual abuse, including infractions by foster services, placement agencies, and area institutions.

- In November 2018, Bezar won a jury verdict against the Defender Association of Philadelphia, a foster care agency, and the foster parents of young Philadelphia twins who were abused after being placed in a Lancaster, PA home.
- In a highly publicized case in 2017, Bezar filed the first civil lawsuit under Pennsylvania's 2014 human trafficking statute, in which he sued a Philadelphia motel owner and operator on behalf of a teenage girl who was enslaved and forced to perform sexual acts with men.
- In 2017, Bezar's representation of a 10-year-old foster child, Ethan Okula, who died of an intestinal blockage following years of abuse, brought extensive media attention to the issue of child abuse and neglect within the child welfare system.
- Also in 2017, Bezar won a significant settlement for an eight-year-old boy who was sexually assaulted by a teenager at a Montgomery County residential youth facility. The victim was supposed to have been supervised at all times but was not.
- In 2016, Bezar won a jury verdict against Presbyterian Children's Village for twice placing a young girl in the home of a temporary foster family where she was sexually molested. One foster parent pleaded guilty to criminal charges of sexually abusing the girl and to committing sex crimes against two other victims.

Noelia Rivera-Calderón '19 authors report on Latinx mental health

Recent graduate Noelia Rivera-Calderón '19 is the driving force behind *We Are Not Invisible (No Somos Invisibles): Latina Girls, Mental Health, and Philadelphia Schools*, which documents the intense struggle and extraordinary resilience of Latina and Latinx middle and high school students. The statistics compiled by Rivera-Calderón are compelling: half of Latina girls feel persistently sad or hopeless, and more than one in five have considered suicide. The numbers increase dramatically for Latinx youth who are also LGBTQ. According to the CDC, these figures haven't changed substantially for the past twenty years. Overlooking them carries a significant social cost in terms of the potential contributions these students could make: as the report also documents, 98% want to graduate from high school; 85% are interested in college; and 69% are interested in graduate school.

Rivera-Calderón's project began when she was interning at the National Women's Law Center (NWLC) in D.C. as a Temple Law and Public Policy Scholar, and she became the report's lead author. The final report is co-authored with Philadelphia Latina and Latinx students.

While at Temple Law, Rivera-Calderón wrote and presented locally, nationally, and internationally on education policy, including testifying before the Federal Commission on School Safety about harmful school policing and

presenting on school discipline reform at the 2018 annual meeting of the Law and Society Association in Toronto.

In the wake of *We Are Not Invisible's* release, Rivera-Calderón has heard from both Philadelphia Councilwoman Maria Quiñones-Sánchez and U.S. Representative Mary Gay Scanlon (D-PA) regarding policy proposals and potential federal legislation based on the report's recommendations. Beginning this fall, Rivera-Calderón joins NWLC as part of a larger project focused on the educational experiences of LGBTQ youth of color.



Noelia Rivera-Calderón '19 joins the National Women's Law Center this fall.

Nikki Hatza '20 (second from left) was a 2018-19 co-coordinator of the Name Change Project, which helps transgender Philadelphians access free legal name changes in collaboration with the Mazzoni Center. Participants on a panel about the Name Change Project are (from left) Thomas Ude, Jasper Katz '19, Steven Johnston '18, and Professor Kathy Mandelbaum.



Nikki Hatza '20 honored as student leader in LGBTQ+ advocacy

JUNE 18, 2019 Temple Law student Nikki Hatza '20's commitment to LGBTQ+ issues in her academic and advocacy work recently earned her the 2019 David M. Rosenblum Law Student Leader Award, awarded annually by the LGBT rights committee of the Philadelphia Bar Association.

Hatza's LGBTQ+ advocacy began well before law school. She taught at a high school on the Navajo Nation, where she worked with queer and trans students to start the Gender and Sexuality Alliance. As a Fulbright English teaching assistant in Spain, she helped develop the first gender and sexuality course at the University of Cantabria, and taught a course on gender and sexual diversity. As the professional development manager at Philadelphia's Mazzoni Center, Hatza helped institutions cultivate LGBTQ+ inclusive environments.

During her time at Temple Law, Hatza has helped organize educational events for the school community around LGBTQ+ rights issues, including parental rights, gender marker policy issues, transgender individuals in government, and the trans military ban. As a Law and Public Policy Scholar, Hatza wrote a policy paper proposing more LGBTQ+ inclusive asylum practices. As a staff editor for the *Temple Law Review*, she wrote a comment, "This Bill is Killing Us: The Human Cost of FOSTA," about the harmful impact of FOSTA, the Fight Online Sex Trafficking Act, and SESTA, the Stop Enabling Sex Traffickers Act, on transgender sex workers. Hatza was also a student

coordinator for the Name Change Project, in which about 85 law students were trained to draft and file legal name change petitions for transgender individuals.

Kimya Forouzan '19 and Priya Mehta '19 use J.D./M.P.H. degrees to push for change

Earning a dual degree in law and public health is hard work, but Kimya Forouzan '19 and Priya Mehta '19 agree it is worth it. Forouzan and Mehta graduated in May with J.D./M.P.H. degrees, ready to hit the ground running at the intersection of law and public health after completing a four-year program that included courses at Temple Law and at the department of public health in the Temple College of Health Professions.

Forouzan entered law school with an interest in gender-based violence and public health. When Mehta enrolled, she was focused on access to health care, including Medicaid and Medicare, as well as pressing public health issues like the opioid epidemic. Each aspired to use a legal/public health education to address critical policy issues in public health issues, so it is no coincidence that they both became Law & Public Policy Scholars while at law school.

Based in Washington, D.C. and Philadelphia, the Law & Public Policy Program offers Temple law students the opportunity to study the intersection of law, politics, and policy. The program, directed by Professor Nancy Knauer, includes specialized coursework, internships, publications, presentations, and mentorships, all giving the students the skills to affect changes at the federal, state, and local levels.

As a Law & Public Policy Scholar in 2016, Forouzan completed an internship with the International Association of Women Judges. Mehta was a Scholar in 2018, and interned with the policy center of the American Foundation for the Blind.

Forouzan and Mehta also packed their four years with additional internships and clinics. An internship at the National Women's Law Center gave Forouzan her first taste of federal policy work. She also worked at the Women's Law Project in Philadelphia as a public health fieldwork researcher, at Temple University's Institute on Disabilities, Temple Legal Aid Office, and Temple Law's Center for Public Health Law Research.

Like Forouzan, Mehta had a wide range of experiences outside the classroom. She learned to provide direct services during a clinic with the Elderly Law Project. As an intern for the Philadelphia Law Department, she conducted legal research, and had her first court appearance where she argued a motion to quash. She competed in moot court, was an honor code representative, and served as co-chair of the Student Public Interest Network (SPIN) auction.

Their dual degrees and experience in public policy opened up a range of career options for Forouzan and Mehta. Upon graduation, Forouzan was selected to be an If/When/How Reproductive Justice Fellow. This fall, she begins as a federal policy fellow at the National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum, where she will work on issues including reproductive health and rights, immigration, and economic justice work.

"I entered law school interested in gender-based violence and public health," recalls Forouzan. "Through my internship work, I shifted my focus to reproductive rights and justice work. However, I know there is a lot of overlap on these two topics, so I remain very passionate about combating gender-based violence. I think my J.D./M.P.H. gives me an advantage because it fuses an understanding of how policies can be better shaped to meet people's needs. Laws can be written and enacted with the best of intentions, but they may not fully reach the intended goals or have unintended consequences."

Mehta has accepted a position with Vietnam Veterans of America, where, as a national appeals attorney, she will represent veterans who have been denied benefits, such as health care services, by Veterans Affairs. Mehta says that, although she has chosen to practice law following graduation, she hopes to eventually work in policy. "Personally, I have my own opinions on how access should be resolved, which are rooted in public health and international law; however, understanding the constitutional issues that access to health care creates and the cases that exemplify these issues will eventually help me work towards solutions."

Dual degree in law and public health . . . 'fuses an understanding of how policies can be better shaped to meet people's needs.'



Priya Mehta '19 (left) and Kimya Forouzan '19

CLASS NOTES

1970s

In August 2019, **GERALD F. RAGLAND JR. '75** joined the Washington, DC office of Eckert Seamans as a member of the firm's professional and products liability litigation practices.

HON. JOSE L. LINARES '78, former Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey, has joined McCarter & English's Newark office as a partner and head of the alternative dispute resolution practice. Linares was first nominated to the bench by President George W. Bush in 2002.



In April 2019, **NEIL A. MORRIS '79** presented "The Heart and Lung Act: What You Don't Know Will Hurt You," at the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors' annual conference. Morris is chair of Offit Kurman's Philadelphia labor and employment group.

1980s



LEONARD BERNSTEIN '83 has been named president of the board of directors of the Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House. Bernstein is a partner at Holland & Knight.

GREG VARALLO '83 has been named to lead Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossman's newly opened office in Wilmington, DE. Varallo previously practiced at Richards Layton & Finger for 36 years, and was the firm's president for the past three years.

In August 2019, **MARC AUERBACH '84** joined Genuine Health Group, a Miami-based, integrated healthcare company, as chief legal officer and general counsel. Auerbach previously practiced in the healthcare group of McDonald Hopkins.

CARLTON L. JOHNSON '84 was the 2019 recipient of the Barristers' Association of Philadelphia's J. Austin Norris Award, presented annually to an attorney of color in recognition of J. Austin Norris' focus on improving the position of Blacks in the Philadelphia legal community. Johnson is a partner at Archer, and an active member of the firm's diversity committee. He is also an adviser and mentor to the Black Law Student Association at Temple Law.

MÁRIA ZULICK NUCCI '84 published "Every Unhappy Airport: Santa Monica and the Municipal Airport Conundrum"

in *The Air & Space Lawyer*, the journal of the American Bar Association Forum on Air and Space Law. Nucci's interest and experience in general aviation developed when she handled matters at Reno-Stead Airport in Reno, NV. She also published "All They Seek is to Serve Their Nation: Transgender Troops' Fight for Equality," in *Open Court*, the newsletter of the Pennsylvania Bar Association GLBT rights committee.

CARMINA Y. D'AVERSA '85 was developer, editor, and co-author of the second edition of the book, *Tax, Estate, and Lifetime Planning for Minors*, published by the American Bar Association's real property, probate, and trust law section. She developed and edited the book's first edition. Formerly with the IRS' international estate and gift tax group, D'Aversa focuses her practice on international and domestic tax planning and compliance.

RENARDO L. HICKS, LL.M. '85, was recently named chief counsel of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission.

JAN P. LEVINE '85 has been elected to membership in the American Law Institute, an organization that produces scholarly work to clarify, modernize, and otherwise improve the law. Levine is a partner with Pepper Hamilton in Philadelphia, where she practices in the health sciences department.



In February 2019, **HON. CHEREE BUGGS '86** of the Queens County, NY Supreme Court, Civil Term, convened a public forum on the issue of New York's new "Raise the Age" law, which raises the age of criminal responsibility for youth. New York State and North Carolina were the last states in the nation to enact such a law. Buggs joined the family court bench in 2008 and moved to the civil court in 2009. She was an acting Supreme Court Justice from 2012 to 2016, when she was elected to the Supreme Court.

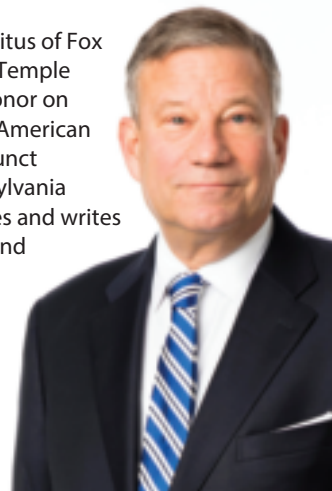


Goulston Street, a debut novel by **JANIS WILSON '86**, has been published by Halcombe Press. In it, Wilson tells the story of a disgraced aristocrat who lives in Whitechapel at the time of the Jack the Ripper murders, when circumstances compel her to investigate. Wilson was a featured speaker at the Maryland Writers Association annual conference and has also provided true crime commentary on the Oxygen Channel's *Killer Couples*.

ABE REICH '74 HONORED BY PBA

In April 2019, Abe Reich '74 was awarded the Philadelphia Bar Association's Bar Medal. The medal is not awarded every year; it is presented at the discretion of the Chancellor in recognition of extraordinary service. Reich was the 1995 PBA Chancellor and is a member of the House of Delegates of the American Bar Association.

Reich is a partner and chair emeritus of Fox Rothschild in Philadelphia. In 2010, Temple Law awarded him a Certificate of Honor on Founder's Day. He is a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, and an adjunct professor at the University of Pennsylvania School of Law. He frequently lectures and writes on business litigation, legal ethics, and professional responsibility.



Worcester County, MA Sheriff **LEWIS EVANGELIDIS '87** was recently appointed to a bipartisan advisory committee to review and provide recommendations on federal district court candidates across Massachusetts. Evangelidis also serves as chair of the Massachusetts Port Authority.

AARP Florida honored **PHYLLIS BROSS '88** with the Dr. Ethel Percy Andrus Community Trailblazer Award for her contributions to the Tampa Bay area community.

HARRIS J. CHERNOW '88 has been appointed counsel to the Temple University Alumni Association. Chernow, who previously served on the board of TUA for several years, is chair of Reger Rizzo & Darnall's franchise and distribution practice group.

In March 2019, **BETH JOHNSTON '88** was named coordinator of the Healthy Aging Program at the Kandiyohi County, MN Area YMCA. Johnston has been a longtime member of the YMCA and in 2017 became an instructor of the SilverSneakers fitness program for older adults. Johnson previously worked with Bremer Bank in Willmar, where she helped nonprofits connect to resources.

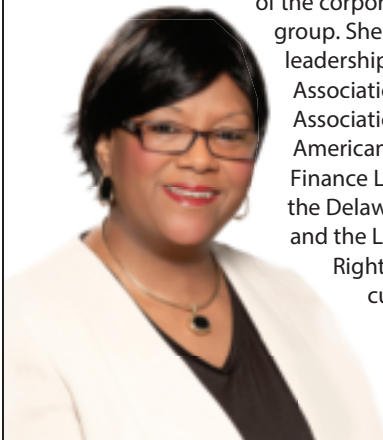
JOHN C. RAFFERTY JR. '88 was inducted as an honorary firefighter by the Collegeville, PA Fire Company. Former Pennsylvania State Senator Rafferty was honored for his work on behalf of volunteer firefighters and for obtaining a state grant to help with the cost of the Collegeville Fire Company's firehouse, that was dedicated in 2019. Rafferty rejoined Hamburg, Rubin, Mullin, Maxwell & Lupin after 16 years as a state legislator.

NANCY CONRAD '89 was the recipient of the 2019 Anne X. Alpern Award, presented annually by the Pennsylvania Bar Association Commission on Women in the Profession. Conrad is managing partner of the Lehigh Valley, PA office of White and Williams, where she is chair of the labor and employment and education groups.

DONEENE DAMON '92 ASSUMES TOP POSITION AT DELAWARE'S LARGEST FIRM

JULY 2019 Doneene K. Damon '92 assumed the role of president of Richards, Layton & Finger, the largest law firm in Delaware. Her election to leadership of the firm represents two historic firsts: Damon is the first woman to serve as president of the firm, and the first African American to serve as president of a large Delaware law firm. In her new role, she is among a handful of minority women in executive leadership positions in major U.S. law firms.

Damon is co-chair of the firm's business department and chair of the corporate trust and agency services group. She also has held numerous leadership positions in the American Bar Association and the Delaware State Bar Association. She is a fellow of the American College of Commercial Finance Lawyers, serves on the boards of the Delaware Community Foundation and the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, and she is currently the chair of the board of directors of Christiana Care Health System.



STEVEN A. HANN '89, principal at Hamburg, Rubin, Mullin, Maxwell & Lupin, and the east region solicitor for the Pennsylvania Municipal Authorities Association, was the sole presenter at three webinars designed for PMAA members. Hann also recently presented "Developments in Federal and Pennsylvania Environmental Law" at the HalfMoon Education's engineering law and ethics seminar.

DAVID J. STEERMAN '89, a partner in Klehr Harrison Harvey Branzburg's family law department, was recently the moderator of "Parenting Coordination in Philadelphia: What Attorneys Should Know," a program presented by the

alternative dispute resolution committee of the family law section of the Philadelphia Bar Association.

1990s

Delaware County Bar Association Executive Director **WILLIAM L. BALDWIN '90** received the PBA Conference of County Bar Leaders Arthur J. Birdsall Award in February 2019.

KURT KWAK '90 has joined the Philadelphia firm of Willig, Williams & Davidson, where he focuses his practice on workers' compensation and social security disability.

GRACE DEON '92 was recently appointed a member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association legal services for exceptional

children committee, a committee she previously chaired. Deon was honored in May 2015 with a PBA Special Achievement Award for her efforts supervising this committee. Deon is a shareholder and member of Eastburn and Gray's management committee.

RICK GELLER '92, a partner with Fishback Dominick in Winter Park, FL, has become a board-certified specialist in city, county, and local government law. Geller, a litigator for 27 years, represents several central Florida cities.

In February 2019, **GREGORY T. MAYES '95** was appointed to the board of directors of AVEO Oncology in Cambridge, MA. Mayes is the president, chief executive officer, and founder of Engage Therapeutics, a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company. Prior to his position at Engage, Mayes served as chief operating officer of Advaxis Immunotherapies.

ELGIN THOMPSON '96 has joined the New York City office of JMP Securities as a managing director in its technology investment banking group. Prior to joining JMP, Thompson was managing director at Digital Capitol Advisors.

In January 2019, the American Retirement Association named **ALLISON WIELOBOB '96** to the position of general counsel. Wielobob joined ARA from the Washington, DC office of Eversheds Sutherland. Prior to that, she worked for ten years as an attorney with the U.S. Department of Labor, where she was on the staff of the Office of Regulations and Interpretations of the Employee Benefits Security Administration.

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NEWS!**

TEMPLE ESQ. welcomes news and photos of our alumni/ae. Please include: Full name, class, degree, and a way to reach you if we need to confirm information.

Email janet.goldwater@temple.edu or update your contact information and share your news at https://www.law.temple.edu/_alumni/

ALUMNI EVENTS

LAW DAY

SEPTEMBER 26, 2018 Temple Law alumni and members of the state and federal judiciary gathered for a networking reception and a CLE, "Immigration: Insight from the Experts."



ALUMNI EVENTS



MARCH 9, 2019 Alumni gathered at the **BEN LEVY RECEPTION AND SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATION** prior to the Temple Owls vs. University of Central Florida basketball game. The scholarship, which honors the memory of **BENJAMIN LEVY '66**, former president of the Temple Law Alumni Association, was awarded to **CAMERON REDFERN '19**. Redfern (center) is shown with Susan Levy and **DAVID HERMAN '14**.



From left: Leigh Skipper, Hon. Sheila Woods-Skipper '83, Carlton Johnson '84



Alan Benjamini '89, former TLAA President with his son, David Benjamini



From left: Hon. Sandra M. Moss '75, outgoing TLAA President, Dorothy M. Arimond '87, current TLAA President



KELBY BRICK '97 was honored with *The Daily Record* Leadership in Law Award during National Deaf History Month. Brick is the director of the Maryland Office of Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Prior to that position, he was president of regulatory and strategic policy at Purple Communications. Brick is the first deaf graduate of Temple Law and a certified deaf interpreter.

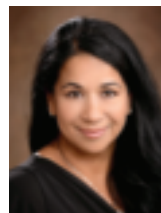
LORI ARMSTRONG HALBER '97 has joined the Philadelphia office of Reed Smith as partner in the labor and employment practice.



LISA M. SCIDURLO '97 was appointed co-chair of the labor and employment department of Stevens & Lee in Reading, PA.

RICHARD WALKER '98, a senior litigator in the Federal Defender's Office for Northern West Virginia has been named West Virginia State Bar young lawyers section 2019 mentor of the year. Walker began his legal career as an assistant public defender in Miami-Dade County, FL, from 1998 through 2001.

In June 2019, **JOSEPH P. BRAUN '99** joined the management team of Dorman Products in Colmar, PA as senior vice president and general counsel. Dorman Products is a supplier of automotive dealer replacement parts. Braun joins Dorman from his post as chief legal officer and corporate secretary of Avantor.



YASMEEN S. KHALEEL, LL.M. IN TAXATION '99, has been named to Capehart Scatchard's executive committee. She is resident in the firm's Mt. Laurel, NJ office, where she is a shareholder in the business and tax department and the estates, trusts, and wills department.



LISA A. LORI, J.D. '99, LL.M. IN TRIAL ADVOCACY '05, was recently named a fellow of the Litigation Counsel of America. Based in Philadelphia, Lori is a partner in the litigation practice group of Klehr Harrison Harvey Branzburg.

MATTHEW J. WILSON '99 has been named the new president of Missouri Western State University. Wilson was president of the University of Akron from 2016 to 2018. Previously, he was dean of the University of Akron School of Law, associate dean of the University of Wyoming College of Law and senior associate dean and general counsel of Temple University Japan.

Stay connected



2000s

Obermayer partner **MICHAEL E. BERTIN '00** was elected chair of the family law section for the Pennsylvania Bar Association. Bertin co-authored the book, *Pennsylvania Child Custody Law, Practice, and Procedure*. He is also chair of Obermayer's *pro bono* committee.

KIMBERLY A. JUSTICE '00 joined the Philadelphia office of Freed Kanner London & Miller as a partner with a focus on antitrust and securities fraud litigation. Prior to joining the firm, Justice was co-chair of the antitrust practice group at Kessler Topaz Meltzer Check. She also served as a Department of Justice antitrust prosecutor for nearly a decade.

NANDA KUMAR '00 has joined Dilworth Paxson as a partner in the firm's intellectual property group, resident in the firm's Princeton and Philadelphia offices.



Blank Rome partner **SOPHIA LEE '00** has been elected to the board of directors of the Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania for a two-year term. She also serves on the boards of the Asian Arts Initiative, Pennsylvanians for Modern Courts and the Philadelphia Education Fund. Lee was recently named as Blank Rome's chief diversity and inclusion officer.

M&T Bank has named **BERNARD SHIELDS '01** regional president for Philadelphia and South Jersey. He formerly managed the Buffalo-based bank's commercial real estate group.



In July 2019, **TRACEY WALDMANN '01** joined the education law department of the Montgomery County, PA firm of Wisler Pearlstine as senior counsel. Previously, Waldman was a special education attorney at Raffaele Puppio.

In April 2019, **JAMES MCGRATH, LL.M. '02**, became the new president and dean of Western Michigan University's Cooley Law School. McGrath previously was a professor and associate dean at Texas A&M University law school.

PETER CATALANOTTI '03 has joined Wilson Elser's San Francisco office as a partner. Catalanotti is the co-chair of the Bar Association of San Francisco's LGBT equality committee and previously sat on the board of the National LGBT Bar Association. Prior to joining Wilson Elser, Catalanotti was a partner at Freeman Mathis & Gary.



NADINE DOOLITTLE '04, a partner at Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis' Philadelphia office, was recently elected to the firm's executive committee. Doolittle also chairs the firm's tax and wealth management department.

TARA GILL NALENCZ '04 is now a shareholder in Marshall Dennehey Warner Coleman & Goggin's Philadelphia casualty department.

BENJAMIN V. SANCHEZ '04 has been elected to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives for the 153rd legislative district (Montgomery County) for a two-year term that began in January 2019. **KAREN GELD SANCHEZ '04** is a partner at Obermayer Rebmann Maxwell and Hippel and also the elected controller of Montgomery County, PA. Karen and Ben Sr. welcomed their third child, Ben Jr., in August 2018.

MARK H. TULLOSS '04 has joined Kalbian Hagerty's United Arab Emirates office as senior counsel.

MELISSA E. SCOTT '04 was recently elevated to partner in the Exton, PA office of Fox Rothschild, where she focuses her practice on complex commercial litigation matters.

The Houston, TX firm of BoyarMiller promoted **P. CYRUS CHIN, LL.M. IN TAXATION '06**, to the position of senior associate. Prior to joining the firm's business group in 2013, Chin worked in-house for several Houston oil and gas companies.

NATALIYA RYMER, J.D. '05, LL.M. IN TRANSNATIONAL LAW '06, was recently elevated to shareholder at Greenberg Traurig. Rymer is a business immigration attorney in the firm's Philadelphia office.

ELIZABETH FINEMAN, J.D. '06, LL.M. IN TAXATION '09, has been named co-editor of *Pennsylvania Family Lawyer*. Fineman is a partner at Antheil Maslow & MacMinn, in Doylestown, PA.



RANDALL P. HSIA '06 has joined Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis as a partner in the litigation services department. He practices criminal defense and internal investigations in the firm's Philadelphia office. Hsia previously worked in the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and with the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office.

BETHANY R. NIKITENKO '07 has joined the Philadelphia personal injury law firm Feldman Shepherd Wohlgelemer Tanner Weinstock & Dodig. She was previously a partner at McLaughlin & Lauricella.

ALPHONSO DAVID '00 TO LEAD HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN

JUNE 2019 Alphonso David '00, who has been serving as chief counsel to New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo, was named president of the Human Rights Campaign, the largest LGBTQ-rights

organization in the U.S. David has been Cuomo's chief counsel since 2015, and before that served as New York's Counsel for Civil Rights. He played key roles in the legalizing of same-sex marriage in New York in 2011, banning so-called conversion therapy for LGBTQ minors, and establishing non-discrimination protections for transgender New Yorkers. Prior to his work for New York State, David was a staff attorney at the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund.



CHENG I. TO '07 has been elected partner in Rawle & Henderson's Philadelphia office, where she represents businesses and individuals in complex litigation matters.



PRIYA GHOSH AHOLA '08 has joined the National Guard Association of the U.S. as deputy legislative director and general counsel. She joined NGAUS from the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board, where she was outreach manager since 2016. Ghosh Ahola has also led a government relations consulting firm, PGA & Associates, and worked as a legislative assistant for former U.S. Senator Barbara Mikulski.

In June 2019, **DAVID SPAULDING '08** joined the immigration law firm Green and Spiegel in Philadelphia as head of the firm's compliance and regulatory practice section. Spaulding's previous position was supervisor of the investigation group for the Department of Homeland Security, where he served for more than seven years.



CASEY COYLE '09 has been appointed to a three-year term on the Third Circuit Court of Appeals lawyers advisory committee. Coyle also was recently promoted to member at Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, where he practices complex commercial litigation.

ALUMNI HONORED FOR SERVICE

JUNE 2019 JUDGE ANNETTE RIZZO '83 (far left) was presented Temple Law Alumni Association's Women's Champion Award by (from left) **LORI GARBER '88**, **AMANDA DAVIDSON '94**, and **JUDGE SHEILA WOODS-SKIPPER '83**, at the TLAA Day of Service award ceremony.



Sophia Lee '00 (center) and '04, and Hon. Sandra Mazer Moss '75 presenting Albert Dandridge '78 with the TLAA Diversity Award.

2010s

AMANDA DOUGHERTY '11 was elected in May 2019 to the Philadelphia Board of Revision of Taxes. Dougherty is an associate at Klehr Harrison Harvey Branzburg.

CHRISTIAN J. FISHER '11 has been named partner in the Atlantic City, NJ office of Fox Rothschild. Fisher represents clients in a range of corporate and gaming law matters.

SCOTT KUHAGEN '12 has joined the Chicago firm of Ice Miller in its immigration practice, focusing on employment-based immigration. Kuhagen's prior position was senior associate at Global Immigration Associates.

JESSICA L. BOWMAN '13 is an associate at the Mayers Firm in Plymouth Meeting, PA, where she practices in the areas of personal injury and property damage claims, insurance coverage, insurance fraud, insurance bad faith claims, and commercial litigation. Bowman also volunteers for the Montgomery Child Advocacy Project.

District Attorney **MARK GRIMALDI '13** recently prosecuted a highly publicized first-degree murder case in Boulder, CO. The two-week jury trial resulted in a sentence of life imprisonment without the possibility of parole for the defendant, who was convicted of shooting an acquaintance in a downtown Boulder restaurant.

MEAGHAN HOGAN, LL.M. IN TAXATION '13, has been named vice dean of institutional advancement at Penn Vet, the school of veterinary medicine at The University of Pennsylvania. Hogan previously was an associate vice president of development at Temple University in Philadelphia.



ROBERT S. KAPLAN '13 has joined the labor and employment group of Cozen O'Connor's

Philadelphia office as a member, and will be part of the group's employee benefits practice.

AMEY PARK '13 has joined the consumer protection practice group of Berger Montague, a plaintiff's firm in Philadelphia. Park previously practiced as a litigation associate at Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis.



DOMINGOS SILVA '13 is now counsel at Saul Ewing Arnstein & Lehr in the firm's Philadelphia office. Silva joined Saul Ewing in 2013 in the business and finance department.

WILLIAM L. WILKINS, J.D. '13, LL.M. IN TAXATION '17, has joined the Newark, NJ office of Sills Cummis & Gross as an associate in the firm's corporate practice group.

CHRISTOPHER BEDOR '15 presented "A Legal Update on Property Coverage in Pennsylvania" at the Philadelphia Loss Conference in May 2019. Bedor represents insurance carriers in first-party property coverage disputes at Butler Weihmuller Katz Craig.

SARA JANE HOLLAND, LL.M. IN TAXATION '15, has joined the business practice group of Lewis Brisbois as a partner in the firm's Newark, NJ office.



NICOLE LEACH '15 was named associate general counsel for the Dallas Mavericks in February 2019. Leach is a former professional athlete and two-time NCAA champion. Before joining the Mavericks, she worked in the Philadelphia office of Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis an associate in the mergers and acquisitions and sports law practice groups.



ZACHARY A. SIVERTSEN '15, a member of the Montgomery Bar Association's Leadership Academy, helped to organize and run the inaugural Montgomery Bar Association Reentry Day in June 2019. The program included clinics and informational resources for those reentering the community after incarceration. Sivertsen practices land use and zoning, real estate, litigation, construction, and municipal law at Eastburn and Gray.



ANDREW R. STOLL '15 has joined Fox Rothschild in Bucks County, PA as an associate in the litigation department.

BENJAMIN SMITH '16 has joined the Law Offices of Anthony J. Leonard as an associate in the firm's Philadelphia office, where he will focus his practice on serious injury cases.

LEA EMILY THIERMAN, LL.M. IN TAXATION '16, has joined the Begley Law Group in Moorestown, NJ, where she concentrates her practice on estate administration.

SILVIO A. TRENTALANGE '16 has joined the Philadelphia firm of Dilworth Paxson as an associate in the litigation department. Prior to joining Dilworth Paxson, Trentalange was an associate at Cohen, Placitella & Roth.

DANIEL J. ABRAMS '17 recently joined Eckert Seamans as an associate in the business division of the firm's Richmond, VA office.



JANICE SUED AGRESTI '17, who practices in the New York office of Littler, an employment and labor law firm representing management, has been accepted to the Hispanic National Bar Association's (HNBA) 2019 Latina Leadership Academy. In addition to the HNBA, Agresti is a member of the Dominican Bar Association. She was also selected as a National Employment Law Council 2019 Academy Fellow.



NEW GRAD IS WASHINGTON LOBBYIST

KERRI COLFER '19 has accepted a 27-month fellowship/policy position with the Friends Committee on National Legislation. Colfer will spend her fellowship as a lobbyist for the organization in Washington, DC.

BRIAN T. NEWMAN '17 has joined the Pennsylvania law firm of Rogers Castor, where he will practice criminal defense and civil litigation.

TAYLOR A. SMITH '17 has moved to the private client services group of the Conshohocken, PA firm of Royer Cooper Cohen Braunfeld. Smith previously worked at Kaplin Stewart, and before that, at Dilworth Paxson.

ADRIAN DEAN II '18 has joined Barley Snyder's real estate practice group, and will work out of the Harrisburg and Lancaster offices.



DEVIN L. RALPH, INTERNATIONAL LL.M. '18, has joined the Fort Washington, PA-based Timoney Knox as an associate in the business, corporate, and tax law

department. Prior to joining the firm, Ralph practiced law in Brisbane, Australia for eight years, most recently as in-house counsel for a start-up company.

IN MEMORIAM

Hon. Richard A. Powers III '62
James J. Baldwin '68
Frederick H. Altergott '72
Donald Ackart Bussard '76
Mary A. Maher Jacobs '80
Ruth Kafrissen Horwitz '91
Richard Tyler '94
Denise Baker Brown '96

2019 Conwell Society Reception

JUNE 11, 2019 Dean Gregory N. Mandel and Temple Law School administrators gathered with members of the Conwell Society at an annual reception at the Water Works Restaurant on boathouse row in Philadelphia. The reception is hosted every June as a festive opportunity for Dean Mandel and members of the law school community to meet and connect with our Conwell members to thank them for their generous support.



*Leonard Bernstein '83,
Dean Gregory Mandel
with his wife Alyson*



Sandy and Stephen Sheller, Honorary degree '19



*Mark '90 and Kathy
Tanner, Hon. Tom
Rogers '92*



Sherri Reich '74 and Patrick Plunkett



*Michael Dunn '80,
Teresa Dunn and
Joseph Mistrano '59
and Bobbie Cramer*

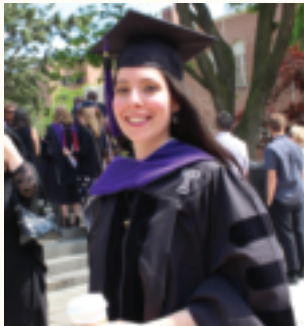
Marilyn Murray '79 and Thomas Hanna '81



*Jonathan Brode '83,
Joy Jay Bernstein
'83 and Leonard
Bernstein '83*



For more information on how to become a member of the Law School's Conwell Society, contact Colleen A. Uhniat, Ex. Director of Development at colleen.uhniat@temple.edu



CELEBRATING THE CLASS OF 2019



MAY 16, 2019 Temple Law School conferred 216 J.D. degrees, 92 LL.M. and S.J.D. degrees at this year's commencement exercises. Stephen A. Sheller was awarded an honorary doctor of humane letters (pictured at left); Sheller and his wife, Sandy, established the Sheller Center for Social Justice in 2013. The graduates were celebrated and challenged in remarks by Dean Gregory Mandel, guest speaker Emily Bazelon, evening division class speaker Grace Chehoud-Vangelo, and day division class speaker Brianna Shaw.

Noting that the "grand experiment" of American democracy began in Philadelphia, Dean Mandel said: "Who better ... than Temple Law students to inherit responsibility for America's grand experiment—an undertaking that is still unfolding today in Philadelphia, across the country, and around the globe? Your drive, energy, and enthusiasm for making our world better are vitally important, for you are the inventors and innovators who will lead us into the future."

As the Class of 2019 prepared to join the ranks of Temple lawyers worldwide, they were given one final instruction from their Dean: "Wherever your practice takes you—however you use your legal skill, creativity, and innovative vision—my charge to you is this: in all you do, strive, relentlessly, to make things better."



EXCERPTS FROM EMILY BAZELON'S ADDRESS TO THE CLASS OF 2019

“We built it to pump at a high velocity when crime was high,” says author Emily Bazelon of the criminal justice system. “Now crime is much lower, but it’s still pumping . . .”

The United States spends far too much money locking up far too many people for far too long. A few years ago, a politician had to be brave to say anything like that out loud. Now it’s a mainstream and bipartisan view.

In a 2018 survey conducted for the American Civil Liberties Union, nearly 60 percent of respondents said they would be more likely to support than oppose a candidate who supports reducing the prison population. Achieving that goal is now an accomplishment that politicians showcase.

In December, Congress by wide margins passed the First Step Act to reduce some drug sentences and improve conditions in federal prisons. President Trump, despite painting a frightening picture of crime-ridden “American carnage” at his inauguration, invited the first drug offender released [as a result of the First Step Act] to the State of the Union address. Kim Kardashian persuaded Trump to grant clemency to one sympathetic drug offender, and she now plans to make a documentary called *The Justice Project* and to become a lawyer, like you. My own feeling is that we should welcome her to our ranks, because this is what it means for a cause to go truly mainstream.

It’s all pretty head-spinning after decades of elected officials competing to lock more people up and spotlight the scariest crimes. Now, with public opinion shifting far and fast and politicians hurrying to catch up, you could even argue that criminal justice reform has become the new marriage equality in terms of the turnaround in public attitudes.

. . . Local prosecutors, led by the elected district attorney, are the single actors in the system who can end mass incarceration without changing a single law. We often think of prosecutors and defense lawyers as points of a triangle on the same plane, with the judge poised above them: equal contest, level playing

field, neutral arbiter, *et cetera*. That image is entirely out of date. It’s not how the system works anymore. Because of mandatory-minimum sentences and the expanding criminal code, the key decisions in a case are decisions prosecutors either hugely influence or entirely control. I’m talking about requesting bail, choosing charges, and setting the terms of a plea deal. At each stage, it is prosecutors, not judges, who are effectively pulling the levers. . . . They can protect against convicting the innocent. They can guard against racial bias. They can curtail mass incarceration.

Change who occupies the prosecutor’s office, and you can make the system begin to operate differently. The power of the D.A. makes him or her the actor—the only actor—who can start to fix what’s broken without changing a single law. And in the end, their power is our power, because we the people—local voters—elect prosecutors. . . .

The First Step Act got national media coverage, and its bipartisan support is important for the national narrative about the appeal of reform, but it will affect a tiny fraction of the country’s 2.2 million prisoners. In reality, you don’t have to fix Washington to fix criminal justice. You don’t even have to start by fixing Harrisburg or any other state capitol. This is a reform movement that starts at home, with cities and suburbs. About 95 percent of criminal cases are prosecuted in local courts, not federal courts.

Legal scholars have called for a kind of liberal federalism that draws on the idea that the states are laboratories of democracy.

Traditionally, conservatives have been attuned to the value of federalism and the importance of state and local government. Liberals too are starting to learn this lesson and seize the chances to lead that come with it . . . If the national government sets the floor, by protecting civil rights and basic freedoms, and providing for some access to social services, states can do more. They can create a ceiling for their residents. . . . Think of marriage equality, or equalizing school funding, or reducing carbon emissions, or, if you’re inclined, the legalization of marijuana. Whether you are liberal or conservative, or

continued on next page



continued from p. 27

somewhere in between, the opportunity exists to make your state more generous and hospitable to all its citizens. . . .

The movement to transform American prosecution is bipartisan. It has roots in civil rights history, the Black Lives Matter campaign against violence and racism, libertarian skepticism of government overreach, and conservative concerns about waste and spending. So far, the newly elected D.A.s represent a small fraction of the more than 2,400 prosecutors who hold elected office nationwide. But they include Democrats and Republicans, in red states as well as purple and blue ones, and they hold the reins of law enforcement in an increasing number of major cities.

One of the leading new D.A.s is Larry Krasner in Philadelphia. When Krasner ran for office in 2017, no one like him had ever been a big-city D.A. before. He joked that he'd spent his career "becoming completely unelectable" by suing the city's police department 75 times. But Krasner's record became a selling point in a city with the highest rate of imprisonment per capita of the nation's ten biggest metropolitan areas, a trail of wrongful convictions (often in cases in which prosecutors or the police concealed exonerating evidence), and a history of brutal and racist policing.

Krasner won election in 2017 with 75 percent of the vote. . . . My sister Dana works for Krasner as a policy advisor. Dana was previously a defense lawyer. In the last few months, she has designed a system that gives hearings within seven days to people detained for technical parole violations or minor offenses like marijuana possession. That's still too long, but it's better than the two to three weeks that used to be the norm, with some people lingering in jail for months. A technical parole violation isn't a crime. It's violating a condition of supervision, like missing curfew or a home visit. People were sitting in jail for weeks because of these minor infractions. Now more of them are getting out, much faster, and that's helping to cut the city's jail population, which previously ballooned to more than twice its current size. . . . More than 600 people have been released through the new hearings and 96 percent of them have come back to court as promised.

That's not to say that Krasner's program for change is all unfolding smoothly. . . . Krasner and the reformers in Philadelphia have clashed with the police, some local judges, and the probation and parole department. Now that a prosecutor is trying to use his power to reduce mass incarceration, other forces in the American punishment machine are trying to stop him. But if Philadelphia can succeed in this experiment, the potential gains are vast. The city can show state legislators that it's safe—both physically safe and politically safe—to dismantle the punishment machine. We built it to pump at a high velocity when crime was high. Now crime is much lower, but it's still pumping, with all the attendant fiscal and human costs. . . . There is so much more work to be done.

"Whatever you do next, please don't forget about the criminal courts," was the heartfelt plea of New York Times Magazine writer Emily Bazelon.



*Bazelon is the author of the New York Times national bestseller, **Charged**, in which she exposes the role of prosecutors' unchecked power as a driving force in America's mass incarceration crisis—and charts a way out.*

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DAY OF SERVICE

AUGUST 24, 2019
Members of the
entering class
participated in the
annual community
service project, the
Glenwood
Neighborhood
Cleanup.

