

ZAMIR BEN-DAN

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Beasley School of Law at Temple University, Philadelphia, PA 2022-Present
Associate Professor of Law (2025-Present)
Courses: Race and the Law, Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure

Assistant Professor of Law (2022-2025)
Courses: Race and the Law, Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure

National Conference of Bar Examiners (NCBE) 2024-2031
Subject Matter Expert
Subjects: Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure

CUNY School of Law, Long Island City, NY 2020-2022
Interim Director, Fulltime Lawyering Seminar Program (2021-2022)
Course: Lawyering Seminar

Adjunct Professor (2020-2021)
Courses: Lawyering Seminar; Supreme Court and the New Jim Crow (new course)

Baruch College, New York, NY 2019-2021
Adjunct Lecturer
Courses: Evolution and Expression of Racism; Civil Rights Legislation and Litigation

Rockland Community College, Suffern, NY 2012
Interim Director of Forensics

EDUCATION

CUNY School of Law, Long Island City, NY
J.D., *magna cum laude*, May 2015

Honors:

Dave Fields Prize for Student Achievement and Leadership, Class of 2015
Charles H. Revson Public Interest Fellow, Summer 2013

Activities:

President, Moot Court – 2014-2015
Social Action Chair, Black Law Student Association – 2013-2014
Co-Facilitator, Luis DeGraffe Racial and Social Justice Orientation – Summer 2013

Baruch College, New York, NY
B.B.A., Entrepreneurship, *magna cum laude*, May 2012

SUNY Rockland Community College, Suffern, NY
A.S., Entrepreneurship, *magna cum laude*, December 2009

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

National Association for Public Defense (NAPD) <i>Course Creator, “Warrior Motion Practice”</i>	2021-2022
Robert P. Patterson Mentorship Program, The Bronx Defenders <i>Mentor</i>	2017-2019
Legal Aid Society, New York, NY <i>Staff Attorney, Community Justice Unit, 2019-2022</i> <i>Staff Attorney, Bronx Criminal Trial Office, 2015-2019</i>	2015-2022
Main Street Legal Services, CUNY School of Law, Long Island City, NY <i>Student Advocate, Defenders Clinic</i>	2014
New York County Defender Services, New York, NY <i>Legal Intern</i>	2014
Legal Aid Society, New York, NY <i>Legal Intern, Manhattan Criminal Trial Office, June-December 2014</i> <i>Legal Intern, Special Litigation Unit, August 2013-May 2014</i>	2013-2014
CUNY School of Law, Long Island City, NY <i>Teaching Assistant, Professor Stephen Loffredo, Fall 2014 (Constitutional Structures)</i> <i>Teaching Assistant, Professor Paula Berg, Spring 2014 (Torts)</i> <i>Research Assistant, Professor Babe Howell, 2013-2014</i> <i>Teaching Assistant, Dean Michelle Anderson, 2013 (Criminal Law)</i>	2013-2014
Department of Correction, Programs, Law Libraries, East Elmhurst <i>Legal Intern</i>	2013

PUBLICATIONS AND WORKS IN PROGRESS

Books:

WARRIORS IN LAW: BLACK ATTORNEY PROFILES OF NEW YORK CITY PUBLIC DEFENSE (2025)
(available at www.warriorsinlaw.com)

Articles:

Against Restorationism, forthcoming in the UC Law Journal of Race & Economic Justice, Spring 2027

Cruikshank at 150: The Worst Supreme Court Decision Ever, forthcoming in the Washington University Law Review Online

Originalism, the Slave Master’s Approach to Constitutional Interpretation, forthcoming in the Iowa Law Review, Spring 2027

Malcolm X As Legal Bogeyman, forthcoming in the *Southwest Journal of Law and Inequality*, Spring 2027

Malcolm X As Legal Expert and Scholar, forthcoming in the *Washington and Lee Law Review*, Spring 2027; selected for the 2025 Michigan Junior Scholars Conference; selected for the 2025 Columbia, Georgetown, USC, UCLA, Penn & Stanford Law & Humanities Junior Scholars Workshop

The Declaration of (White) Independence, forthcoming in the *Pennsylvania Journal of Constitutional Law*, Fall 2026

Criminal Procedure Redemption, 61 *Harv. C.R.-C.L. L. Rev.* 1 (2026); selected for the 2025 Harvard/Yale/Stanford Junior Faculty Forum

The Cost of Ignorance, 126 *Colum. L. Rev. Forum* 1 (2026)

June 30, 2023: Resurrections and Bad Omens of a Nadir Court, 53 *UC Law SF Const. Q.* 3 (2025)

White Comfort and the Constitution, 72 *UCLA L. Rev.* 330 (2025)

The State Agency Requirement, the Fourth Amendment, and American Racism: A Response to David Gray, 110 *Iowa L. Rev. Online* 167 (2025)

Slavery's Constitutional Endurance: The Antebellum States' Rights Principle, 105 *B.U. L. Rev.* 163 (2025)

The Pro-Defense Constitution, 2025 *Utah L. Rev.* 385 (2025)

American Nightmare: A Story of Lynch Law Terrorism in the Twenty-First Century, 16 *Ne. U. L. Rev.* 433 (2024)

"Today, the Constitution Prevails": *A History and Legacy of Constitutional Racism*, 45 *Cardozo L. Rev.* 1653 (2024)

Deeply Rooted in American History and Tradition: The U.S. Supreme Court's Abysmal Track Record on Racial Justice and Equity, 15 *Ala. C.R. & C.L. L. Rev.* 45 (2024)

Harnessing Hypocrisy: A Crack in the Supreme Court's Colorblindness Mask, 2024 *Cardozo L. Rev. de novo* 47 (2024)

Supreme Mirage: Clarence Thomas' Invented History of Colorblindness Originalism, 87 *Alb. L. Rev.* 1 (2024)

"Hold Your (Un)scholarly Tongue": *Dismantling Sir Racism's 'Academic Freedom' Shield*, 33 *S. Cal. Rev. L. & Soc. Just.* 159 (2024)

NYSRPA v. Bruen and New York: A Lost Opportunity for Racial Equity in the Polarizing Gun Conversation, 26 *CUNY L. Rev.* 1 (2022)

Reimagining Justice: People v. Charles and the Myth of Criminal Justice Without Police Accountability in New York City, 45 N.Y.U. Rev. L. & Soc. Change 509 (2022)

Breaking the Backbone of Unlimited Power: The Case for Abolishing Absolute Immunity for Prosecutors in Civil Rights Lawsuits, 73 Rutgers U. L. Rev. 1373 (2021); reprinted in *Civil Rights Litigation and Attorney Fees Annual Handbook, Volume 38*, by National Police Accountability Project (2023)

Taylor v. Riojas: *Anatomy of a Supreme Court Intervention That Should Not Have Been Necessary*, 5 Nev. L.J. Forum 23 (2021)

When True Colors Come Out: Pretrial Reforms, Judicial Bias, and the Danger of Increased Discretion, 64 How. L.J. 83 (2020)

Law and Order Without Justice: A Case Study of Gravity Knife Legislation in New York City, 21 CUNY L. Rev. 177 (2018)

Miscellaneous Writings:

Juneteenth and the Struggle for Racial Equality, CUNY School of Law (Jun. 18, 2021)

Opinion: Fear Prevailed in the Crusade to Undo New York's Bail Reform, City Limits (Apr. 7, 2020)

Opinion: Cuomo is exploiting a pandemic to roll back bail reform, Brooklyn Eagle (Mar. 30, 2020)

Works in Progress:

Discriminatory Intent in Status Crimes Clothing

- Presented at CrimFest 2025 – University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School (Jul. 15, 2025)
- Presented at the Rocky Mountain Junior Faculty Forum (Oct. 17, 2025)
- Presented at the 2025 ABA Criminal Justice Academic Committee/AALS Section on Criminal Law Academic Workshop on Zoom (Dec. 5, 2025)
- Presented at the Inaugural Association of Law and Political Economy Conference in Richmond, Virginia (Feb. 6-7, 2026)
- Presented at the Annual Poverty Law Conference at USC Gould School of Law, Los Angeles (Feb. 20-21, 2026)
- Presented at the Criminal Law Markelloquium at George Washington University Law School. (Mar. 27, 2026)

Originalism As an Incident of Slavery

White Comfort and the First Amendment

- Presented at Hofstra University Maurice Deane School of Law (Mar. 3, 2026)

Useless Alternatives

Racial Gaslighting and the Marketplace of Ideas (Book Chapter)

PRESENTATIONS, PANELS, TRAININGS AND WORKSHOPS

Presenter, “Against Restorationism” – Law and Society Association Annual Meeting 2026 – Hilton Union Square San Francisco (May 28, 2026)

Panelist, “Black Radical Legal Epistemes” – Law and Society Association Annual Meeting 2026 – Hilton Union Square San Francisco (May 28, 2026)

Presenter, “Champions of Law and Integrity, Part 3: Originalism and Chattel Slavery” – George Mason University Law School (Apr. 15, 2026)

Panelist, “Critiquing the Constitution” – Abolition in Teaching and Practice Symposium – University of California College of the Law, San Francisco (Apr. 10, 2026)

Presenter, “Discriminatory Intent in Status Crimes Clothing” – Criminal Law Markelloquium – George Washington University Law School (Mar. 27, 2026)

Presenter, “Black PDs Matter: Considering the Black Public Defender Voice” – NAPD 2026 Rise, Resist Represent Conference – National Association for Public Defense (NAPD) (Mar. 20, 2026)

Presenter, “Champions of Law and Integrity, Part 2: The Antebellum States’ Rights Principle” – George Mason University Law School (Mar. 18, 2026)

Presenter, *White Comfort and the First Amendment* – Maurice A. Deane School of Law at Hofstra University (Mar. 3, 2026)

Panelist, “The Declaration at 250” – University of Pennsylvania Journal of Constitutional Law Vol. 28 Symposium – University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School (Feb. 27, 2026)

Presenter, “Champions of Law and Integrity, Part 1: Constitutional Formation” – George Mason University Law School (Feb. 25, 2026)

Guest, *Tuesday Teach-In* on “Evening WURDs” – WURD Radio (Feb. 24, 2026)

Presenter, “Discriminatory Intent in Status Crimes Clothing” – Annual Poverty Law Conference – University of Southern California Gould School of Law (Feb. 20, 2026)

Presenter, “Why Black History Matters” – Black History Month Presentation at the Office of Appellate Defenders – New York City (Feb. 10, 2026)

Presenter, “Discriminatory Intent in Status Crimes Clothing” – Association of Law and Political Economy (ALPE) Inaugural Conference – Richmond Marriott Downtown (Feb. 6, 2026)

Presenter, “Discriminatory Intent in Status Crimes Clothing” – 2025 ABA Criminal Justice Academic Committee/AALS Section on Criminal Law Academic Workshop on Zoom (Dec. 5, 2025)

Moderator, “Progressive Prosecutors and Alternatives to Incarceration, Placement and Detention” – New York State Judicial Institute: “Voices for Justice” – Pace Law School (Nov. 19, 2025)

Presenter, “Universities of Glass: Donald Trump, White Supremacy, and American Academia’s Moral Inability to Throw Stones” – Boston University Law Review Symposium: “The University and Democracy” – Boston University School of Law (Nov. 14, 2025)

Presenter, “Discriminatory Intent in Status Crimes Clothing” – Rocky Mountain Junior Scholars Forum – Brigham Young University School of Law (Oct. 17, 2025)

Panelist, “Protecting and Defending is Insufficient: Envisioning a More Equitable Rule of Law” – ALAA & Mellon Foundation (Oct. 1, 2025)

Presenter, “Warrior Motion Practice” – District of Nevada – Federal Public Defender Office in Las Vegas, Nevada (Aug. 20, 2025)

Presenter, “Discriminatory Intent in Status Crimes Clothing” – CrimFest 2025 – University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School (Jul. 15, 2025)

Presenter, “June 30, 2023: Resurrections and Bad Omens of a Nadir Court” – 2025 John Mercer Langston Annual Writing Workshop – University of Washington Law School (Jul. 10, 2025)

Presenter, “Teaching America’s Racial History in the Law School Classroom” – Conference of Asian Pacific American Law Faculty (CAPALF) & Western Law Teachers of Color (WLTC) Joint Conference: “Transformative Justice in a World of Fire” – University of Hawai’i William S. Richardson School of Law (Jun. 29, 2025)

Presenter, “Against Restorationism” – Conference of Asian Pacific American Law Faculty (CAPALF) & Western Law Teachers of Color (WLTC) Joint Conference: “Transformative Justice in a World of Fire” – University of Hawai’i William S. Richardson School of Law (Jun. 27, 2025)

Presenter, “Malcolm X As Legal Expert and Scholar” – Columbia, Georgetown, USC, UCLA, Penn & Stanford Law & Humanities Junior Scholars Workshop – Stanford Law School (Jun. 10, 2025)

Presenter, “Criminal Procedure Redemption” – Harvard/Stanford/Yale Junior Faculty Forum – Harvard Law School (Jun. 3, 2025)

Presenter, “Slavery’s Constitutional Endurance: The Antebellum States’ Rights Principle” – Law and Society Association Annual Meeting 2025 – Hyatt Regency Chicago (May 25, 2025)

Panelist, “Crises, Values, and Lawyering: Social Vision as Professional Identity” – Association of American Law Schools’ Annual Conference on Clinical Legal Education – Baltimore Marriott Waterfront (Apr. 27, 2025)

Presenter, “Malcolm X As Legal Expert and Scholar” – Michigan Junior Scholars Conference – University of Michigan Law School (Apr. 25, 2025)

Presenter, “June 30, 2023: Resurrections and Bad Omens of a Nadir Court,” CAC 2025 Spring Workshop – Constitutional Accountability Center (Mar. 21, 2025)

Keynote Speaker, “BLSA Black Excellence Gala,” Black Law Student Association at Temple University (Feb. 22, 2025)

Panelist, “Foundations of American and Islamic Law Webinar” – University of California San Francisco College of the Law (Feb. 20, 2025)

Presenter, “‘Today, the Constitution Prevails’: A History and Legacy of Constitutional Racism” – Constitutional Law Colloquium – Florida State University College of Law (Nov. 15, 2024)

Panelist, “Post-Presidential Election Forum: Implications for the African American Community” – Department of Africology – Temple University College of Liberal Arts (Nov. 6, 2024)

Presenter, “Slavery’s Constitutional Endurance: The Antebellum States’ Rights Principle” – Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law (Oct. 31, 2024)

Presenter, “Teaching America’s Racial History in the Law School Classroom” – Society of American Law Teachers (SALT) – Boston University School of Law (Sep. 20, 2024)

Presenter, “Addressing Racial Justice Issues in the Court” – Public Defender Association of Pennsylvania (PDAP) (Sep. 5, 2024)

Presenter, “Pro-Defense Constitutionalism: The Unconstitutionality of American Public Defense” – CrimFest 2024 – Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law (Jul. 15, 2024)

Presenter, “The Pro-Defense Constitution” – 2024 Langston Workshop – Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law (Jun. 27, 2024)

Presenter, “Attacks on Teaching Racism in America” – Temple Law Alumni Association (TLAA) – The Racquet Club (Jun. 17, 2024)

Panelist, “Critical Race Theory & The Need to Have a Race Perspective in Public Service Law” – Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law (Mar. 27, 2024)

Panelist, “Rebellious Lawyering: Theoretical Frameworks for Advancing Racial Justice” – Racial Justice Lawyering Symposium – University of California College of the Law, San Francisco (Mar. 22, 2024)

Presenter, “The Pro-Defense Constitution” – University of Missouri School of Law (Feb. 21, 2024)

Panelist, “Community Surveillance and Incarceration” – Student Public Interest Network (SPIN) – Beasley School of Law at Temple University (Feb. 15, 2024)

Presenter, “Know Your Rights” – Elegant and Distinguished Epsilon Delta Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated – Temple University Tuttleman Learning Center (Feb. 8, 2024)

Presenter, “White Comfort and the Constitution” – University of Baltimore School of Law (Feb. 8, 2024)

Presenter, “Unlocking the Truth: Defendant Confessions in Capital Cases” – 2023 Capital Case Seminar – Pennsylvania Association of Criminal Defense Lawyer (Dec. 15, 2023)

Panelist, “Careers in Public Defense” – National Lawyers Guild – Beasley School of Law at Temple University (Oct. 19, 2023)

Panelist, “The Practitioner’s Panel: The Future of MBE/WBE Programs after the Harvard Admissions ruling by the United States Supreme Court” – 39th Annual Minority Enterprise Development Week (MED Week) (Oct. 2, 2023)

Panelist, “Re-vision: Conversations about our Constitution” – PA Humanities (Aug. 17, 2023)

Presenter, “Warrior Motion Practice” – State Appellate Defender Office in Lansing, Michigan (Aug. 15, 2023)

Presenter, “Hold Your (Unscholarly) Tongue: Dismantling Sir Racism’s ‘Academic Freedom’ Shield” – 2023 Langston Workshop – CUNY School of Law (Jun. 29, 2023)

Co-Presenter, “Juneteenth: The End of Slavery...?” – Lewis Brisbois (Jun. 19, 2023)

Presenter, “Hold Your (Unscholarly) Tongue: Dismantling Sir Racism’s ‘Academic Freedom’ Shield” – Detroit Mercy School of Law (Apr. 20, 2023)

Panelist, “How to Be a Law Professor” – Association of American Law Schools (Apr. 4, 2023)

Panelist, “Community Conversation – Affirmative Action: The End or a New Beginning?” – Beasley School of Law at Temple University (Mar. 16, 2023)

Panelist, “Advocacy Luncheon: Social Justice Pulse on the Region” – Regional Conference, Mid-Atlantic Region of the National Black Law School Association (MABLSA) (Feb. 16, 2023)

Presenter, “Deeply Rooted in American History and Tradition” – Georgia State University College of Law (Feb. 8, 2023)

Panelist, “Where the Second Amendment Stands Now” – CUNY Law Review, CUNY School of Law (Jan. 23, 2023)

Panelist, “Navigating Predominantly White Public Interest Spaces as an Attorney of Color” – Diversity in Public Interest Pipeline Project, Beasley School of Law at Temple University (Jan. 23, 2023)

Instructor, Intensive Trial Advocacy Program – Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law (Jan. 11-12, 2023)

Presenter, “Breaking the Backbone of Unlimited Power II: Clarifications and Suggestions” – Deason Criminal Justice Reform Center, SMU Dedman School of Law (Sep. 8, 2022)

Founder and Trainer, “Warrior Motion Practice” – National Association for Public Defense

- May 2022
- March 2022
- October 2021
- September 2021

Co-Creator and Co-Presenter, “BALA Anti-Racism Training” – Legal Aid Society (Apr. 5, 12-13, 25-26, 2022)

Panelist, “Racial Bias in the Court Teach-In” – CUNY Moot Court, CUNY School of Law (Apr. 14, 2022)

Co-Presenter, “Litigating Color Part 2” – Black Public Defender Association (Mar. 30, 2022)

Panelist, “Prosecutorial Ethics Session” – Roger Williams University School of Law (Mar. 29, 2022)

Panelist, “Criminalizing Protest” – Formerly Incarcerated Law Students and Advocates Association (FILSAA) (Mar. 3, 2022)

Co-Creator and Co-Presenter, “BALA Anti-Racism Training” – Legal Aid Society (Mar. 1, 15-16, 22-23, 2022)

Instructor, Intensive Trial Advocacy Program – Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law (Jan. 3-6, 2022)

Panelist, “Continuing the Fight Against Racial Injustice in Defender Offices and Beyond!” – Ambassadors for Racial Justice (ARJ) (Dec. 16, 2021)

Co-Presenter, “Litigating Color Part 1” – Black Public Defender Association (Dec. 9, 2021)

Co-Creator and Co-Presenter, “BALA Anti-Racism Training” – Legal Aid Society (Nov. 9, 16-17, 2021; Dec. 1-2, 2021)

Presenter, “Table Talk Episode 2: Importance of Studying as a Means of Racial Healing” – CUNY Law (Nov. 9, 2021)

Panelist, “Anti-Racism and the Law” – CUNY Law (Aug. 12, 2021)

Panelist, “Coping with the Language of the Law” – CUNY Law (Aug. 11, 2021)

Panelist, “BLM/Palestine Panel Discussion” – CUNY Law, Luis DeGraffe Racial and Social Justice Orientation (Jul. 28, 2021)

Presenter, “Warrior Motion Practice” – Black Public Defender Association Summer Conference: “Reckon & Rise” (Jun. 17, 2021)

Co-Presenter, “Prosecutors, Power and Racial Injustice: Building an Anti-Racist Prosecutorial System” – Rutgers Law School (Apr. 9, 2021)

Presenter, “Warrior Motion Practice” – National Public Defense Virtual Conference (Mar. 19, 2021)

Presenter, “Racism in Plea Bargaining” – ABA Criminal Justice Section Plea Bargaining Task Force (Sep. 25, 2020)

Panelist, “Embedded in the Law Panel Discussion: Deconstructing Race in A Legal Career” – Vermont Law School (Aug. 6, 2020)

Co-Presenter, “Black Lives Matter” – Community Oriented Defender (COD) Conference – National Legal Aid & Defender Association (Jul. 15, 2020)

MEDIA REFERENCES/QUOTES

Sunny Morgan, *Woman featured in Trump ad without consent calls for removal, says it takes her ‘credibility away’*, KYW News Radio (Oct. 11, 2024)

Wyatte Grantham-Philips & Geoff Mulvihill, *GOP attorneys general cite affirmative action ruling in warning to companies over ‘discrimination’*, Associated Press (Jul. 14, 2023)

Samantha Ketterer, *In landmark decision, U.S. Supreme Court strikes down affirmative action in admissions*, Houston Chronicle (Jun. 30, 2023)

Racquel Williams & Matt Leon, *‘Affirmative action, as we know it, is done’ – Philadelphia area law professors suss out higher ed ruling*, KYW News Radio (Jun. 29, 2023)

Nicole Acevedo, Sandra Lilley, Emi Tuvetnhi Tran & Cora Cervantes, *Four things students need to know after the Supreme Court ruled against affirmative action*, NBC News (Jun. 29, 2023)

Brandon Tensley, *What an Affirmative Action Ban Could Mean for College Diversity*, Capital B News (Jun. 14, 2023)

Brandon Tensley, *The U.S. Supreme Court Seems Ready to Gut Affirmative Action*, Capital B News (May 18, 2023)

Hassan Kanu, *Livestreaming police is protected, says 4th Circuit, but with limits shielding cops*, Reuters (Feb. 24, 2023)

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

George P. Williams III Memorial Award for Outstanding Professor of the Year (May 21, 2026)

Black Law Student Association (BLSA) Exceptional Faculty Member Award (Apr. 1, 2022)

BAR ADMISSIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS

Bar Admissions:

Admitted in New York (2016)

Admitted to the United States Supreme Court (2025)

Bar Memberships:

- New York State Defender Association (board member since July 2021)
- Black Public Defender Association
- National Legal Aid and Defender Association
- New York City Bar Association
- Metropolitan Black Bar Association
- New York State Academy of Trial Lawyers