

Marsha L. Levick, Esq.

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Professional Summary

Nationally and internationally recognized legal advocate and scholar in youth justice and child welfare reform with extensive experience in civil rights litigation, constitutional law, appellate advocacy, and policy development. Co-founder and Chief Legal Officer of Juvenile Law Center with decades of leadership in landmark U.S. Supreme Court cases shaping youth rights. Accomplished educator and lecturer at leading law schools.

Bar Membership & Admissions

- Supreme Court of Pennsylvania
- United States Supreme Court
- United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit
- United States District Court, Eastern District of Pennsylvania
- United States District Court, Middle District of Pennsylvania
- United States District Court, Western District of Wisconsin

Employment History

Temple University Beasley School of Law, Philadelphia PA- Spring Semester 2026

Phyllis W. Beck Chair in Law. The Beck Chair was established through the support of the Independence Foundation for the purpose of bringing to the faculty notable leaders or outstanding scholars in law or a field related to law. Beck Professors typically teach, engage with the law school community, and deliver the Beck Lecture during their tenure. Courses taught: First year Constitutional Law

Juvenile Law Center, Philadelphia, Pa. (1975-1982; 1995-2025)

Co-Founder, Chief Legal Officer

Manage and supervise Juvenile Law Center's federal and state litigation and appellate docket on behalf of children in the justice and child welfare systems, including preparation of amicus briefs before the United States Supreme Court and other federal and state appellate courts; oral arguments before state and federal appellate courts throughout the country. Key victories before the USSC include *Roper v Simmons* (2005; amicus counsel), *Graham v Florida* (2010, amicus counsel), *JDB v North Carolina* (2011, amicus counsel), *Miller v Alabama* (2012, amicus counsel), and *Montgomery v Louisiana* (2016, co-counsel). Other responsibilities: substantial media and communications work; scholarly and other legal writing; training and public education; policy advocacy.

University of Pennsylvania Carey School of Law, Philadelphia, Pa. (2000 – 2014; 2016-present)

Lecturer, Appellate Advocacy I; Lecturer, Juvenile Justice Seminar

Temple University Beasley School of Law, Philadelphia Pa.

Instructor (Adjunct Faculty), Legal Research and Writing (1998-2000); Juvenile Justice Seminar (2000- present)

Coach, Temple Moot Court teams (2016-2024)

Columbia Law School, New York, New York (current)

Lecturer in Law, Juvenile Justice Seminar (Spring 2025, Fall 2026)

Rutgers University School of Law, Camden, N.J.

Adjunct Faculty, Juvenile Justice Seminar (2002)

Rubin & Associates, Paoli, Pa. (1989-1995)

Associate with litigation firm specializing in the enforcement of employment contracts, restrictive covenants, and trade secrets, primarily in the securities industry, as well as some employment discrimination and wrongful termination cases. Extensive motion practice before state and federal courts; securities industry arbitrations; and state and federal appellate practice.

NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund, Inc. New York, New York. (1982-1988)

Executive Director (6/86-12/88): Overall management and supervision of administration and finance; fundraising; program development and strategic planning; training, public education and media relations

Legal Director (9/82-6/86): Development and implementation of litigation strategies and programs, including development of sex discrimination in insurance project, expansion of Title VII litigation docket, coordinating amici in all affirmative action cases before the U.S. Supreme Court 1982-1987, and expansion of family law docket with particular emphasis on economic consequences of divorce; administration of Legal Department budget; supervision of staff; liaison to principal funders of legal department; media relations

Education

Temple University Beasley School of Law, Philadelphia, Pa.

J.D. Cum Laude 1976;

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

B.A. History 1971

Other law-related activities

American Bar Association, Chair, Juvenile Justice Standards Committee of the Criminal Justice Section (current)

Board Memberships

Dean's Council, Indiana University Paul O'Neil School of Public and Environmental Affairs

Louisiana Center for Children's Rights

Board of Visitors, Temple University Beasley School of Law

American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, External Advisory Group, "Bringing the Village to the Children." (2024-2026)

Honors & Awards

- Temple University's Women's Law Caucus Professional Achievement Award (2006)
- Pennsylvania Bar Association Child Advocate of the Year Award (2008)
- Foundation for the Improvement of Justice Award (2009)
- Philadelphia Bar Association's Andrew Hamilton Award (2009)
- Philadelphia Inquirer Citizen of the Year (2009) (co-recipient)
- The Forward 50 (2009)
- American Association for Justice Leonard Weinglass Award (2010)
- American Bar Association Livingston Hall Award (2010)
- Rutgers-Camden Black Law Student Association Champion of Justice Award (2010)
- The Legal Intelligencer, Women of Distinction (2010)

- Clifford Scott Green Bill of Rights Award, Federal Bar Association, Philadelphia Criminal Justice Section (2010) (co-recipient)
- Good Shepherd Mediation Program Shepherd of Peace Award (2010)
- Philadelphia Bar Association, Criminal Justice Section Thurgood Marshall Award (2011) (Co-recipient)
- Friends Select School, Distinguished Alumnae Award (2011)
- Juvenile Justice Project of Louisiana "Justice for Youth Award" (2012)
- Arlen Specter Award, The Legal Intelligencer (2013) (Inaugural winner)
- The Philadelphia Award (2015)
- Child and Family Advocacy Award, Regional Council of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry of Eastern Pennsylvania and Southern New Jersey (2016)
- Finalist, The Legal Intelligencer 2016 Attorney of the Year.
- American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry "Catcher in the Rye Humanitarian Award" (2017)
- Philadelphia Citizen A. Leon Higginbotham Jr. Social Justice Champion of the Year (2025)
- Juvenile Law Center Leadership Prize (2025)

Selected Publications

- Marsha Levick, "The Restatement of Children and the Law: A roadmap for ongoing law reform," Family Court Review (June 2025)
<https://doi.org/10.1111/fcre.70006>
- Naomi E. S. Goldstein, Ph.D., Emily Haney-Caron, M.S., J.D., Marsha Levick, J.D., & Danielle Whiteman, J.D., "Waving Good-Bye To Waiver: A Developmental Argument Against Youths' Waiver Of Miranda Rights," 21 NYUJLPP 1 (2018)
- Elizabeth Scott, Thomas Grisso, Marsha Levick, and Laurence Steinberg, "Juvenile Sentencing Reform In A Constitutional Framework," 88 Temple Law Review 675 (Summer 2016)
- Naomi E.S. Goldstein, Amanda NeMoyer, Elizabeth Gale-Bentz, Marsha Levick, Jessica Feerman, "You're on the Right Track!" Using Graduated Response Systems to Address Immaturity of Judgment and Enhance Youths' Capacities to Successfully Complete Probation," 88 Temple Law Review 803 (Summer 2016)
- Marsha Levick and Joanna Visser Adjoian, "Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Kent v. United States: Reflecting on the Prosecution of Children in the Adult Criminal Justice System," For the Defense, Vol. 1, Issue 4 (December 2016).

- Marsha Levick and Riya Saha Shah, "The Momentum Builds: Challenging Lifetime Registration of Juveniles Convicted of Sexual Offenses in the Post-Roper Era," NYU Review of Law and Social Change, March 2016.
- Marsha Levick, "The Pendulum Swings: Looking Back at More Than a Century of Juvenile Justice Reform in the United States," New Jersey Lawyer, October 2015
- Marsha Levick and Robert Schwartz, "Practical Implications of Miller and Jackson: Obtaining Relief in Court and Before the Parole Board," University of Minnesota Journal of Law and Inequality, Vol. XXXI, No. 2, Summer 2013.
- Marsha Levick, "From a Trilogy to a Quadrilogy: Miller v. Alabama Makes It Four in a Row for U.S. Supreme Court Cases That Support Differential Treatment of Youth," Criminal Law Reporter, 91 CrL 748, 09/12/2012.
- Marsha Levick, Jessica Feierman, Sharon Messenheimer Kelley, Naomi Sevin Goldstein, "The Eighth Amendment Evolves: Defining Cruel And Unusual Punishment Through The Lens Of Childhood And Adolescence," University of Pennsylvania Journal of Law and Social Policy, Vol. 15, No. 2 (Spring 2012)
- Marsha L. Levick and Elizabeth-Ann Tierney, "The United States Supreme Court Adopts A Reasonable Juvenile Standard In J.D.B. v. North Carolina For Purposes Of The Miranda: Custody Analysis: Can A More Reasoned Justice System For Juveniles Be Far Behind?" Harvard Civil Rights –Civil Liberties Law Review, Vol. 47, No.2 (Spring-Summer 2012)
- Marsha Levick, "J.D.B. v. North Carolina: The U.S. Supreme Court Heralds the Emergence of the 'Reasonable Juvenile' in American Criminal Law," The Criminal Law Reporter, 89 CrL 753, 08/24/11.
- Robert Schwartz and Marsha Levick, "When A 'Right' Is Not Enough: Implementation Of The Right To Counsel In An Age Of Ambivalence," Criminology & Public Policy, Vol. 9, Issue 2, 2010.
- Marsha Levick, "Kids Really Are Different: Looking Past Graham v. Florida," Criminal Law Reporter, Vol. 87, No. 14, 2010.
- Marsha Levick and Kristina Moon, "Prosecuting Sexting as Child Pornography: A Critique," Valparaiso University Law Review, Vol. 44, No. 4, Summer 2010.
- Jessica Feierman, Marsha Levick, and Ami Mody, "The School to Prison Pipeline ... and Back: Obstacles and Remedies for the Re-Enrollment of Adjudicated Youth," New York Law School Law Review, Vol. 54, No. 4, 2009/10

- Marsha Levick and Robert G. Schwartz, "Changing the Narrative: Convincing Courts to Distinguish Between Misbehavior and Criminal Conduct in School Referral Cases," *University of the District of Columbia Law Review*, Vol. 9, No. 1, Winter 2007.
 - Marsha Levick and Neha Desai, "Still Waiting: The Elusive Quest to Ensure Juveniles a Constitutional Right to Counsel at All Stages of the Juvenile Court Process," *Rutgers Law Review*, Vol. 60, No. 1, Fall 2007.
 - Nina W. Chernoff and Marsha Levick, "Beyond the Death Penalty: Implications of Adolescent Development Research for the Prosecution, Defense, and Sanctioning of Youthful Offenders," *Clearinghouse Review: Journal of Poverty Law and Policy*, July 2005.
 - Marsha Levick and Francine T. Sherman, "When Individual Differences Demand Equal Treatment: An Equal Rights Approach to the Special Needs of Girls in the Juvenile Justice System," *Wisconsin Women's Law Journal*, Vol. 18, No. 1, Spring 2003.
 - OTHER: Huffington Post Blogger 2013-2017
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