

ZAMIR BEN-DAN

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Beasley School of Law at Temple University, Philadelphia, PA 2022-Present

Associate Professor of Law (2024-Present)

Courses: Race and the Law, Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure

Assistant Professor of Law (2022-2024)

Courses: Race and the Law, Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure

National Conference of Bar Examiners (NCBE) 2024-2026

Subject Matter Expert

Subjects: Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure

University of California College of the Law, San Francisco, San Francisco, CA 2023-2025

Visiting Professor of Law

Courses: Criminal Procedure, Constitutional Law II

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) 2021-2022
Course Creator, "Warrior Motion Practice"

Robert P. Patterson Mentorship Program, The Bronx Defenders 2017-2019
Mentor

Legal Aid Society, New York, NY 2015-2022
Staff Attorney, Community Justice Unit, 2019-2022
Staff Attorney, Bronx Criminal Trial Office, 2015-2019

Main Street Legal Services, CUNY School of Law, Long Island City, NY 2014
Student Advocate, Defenders Clinic

New York County Defender Services, New York, NY 2014
Legal Intern

Legal Aid Society, New York, NY 2013-2014
Legal Intern, Manhattan Criminal Trial Office, June-December 2014
Legal Intern, Special Litigation Unit, August 2013-May 2014

CUNY School of Law, Long Island City, NY 2013-2014
Teaching Assistant, Professor Stephen Loffredo, Fall 2014 (Constitutional Structures)
Teaching Assistant, Professor Paula Berg, Spring 2014 (Torts)
Research Assistant, Professor Babe Howell, 2013-2014
Teaching Assistant, Dean Michelle Anderson, 2013 (Criminal Law)

Department of Correction, Programs, Law Libraries, East Elmhurst 2013
Legal Intern

PUBLICATIONS AND WORKS IN PROGRESS

Articles:

The Cost of Ignorance, forthcoming in the Columbia Law Review Forum, Spring 2026

Criminal Procedure Redemption, forthcoming in the Harvard Civil Rights-Civil Liberties Law Review, Fall 2025; selected for the 2025 Harvard/Yale/Stamley Junior Faculty Forum

White Comfort and the Constitution, forthcoming in the UCLA Law Review, Spring 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)

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

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

PRESENTATIONS, PANELS, TRAININGS AND WORKSHOPS

Presenter, "Professor Malcolm: The Legal Scholar America Feared (and Still Fears)" – Columbia, Georgetown, USC, UCLA, Penn & Stanford Law & Humanities Junior Scholars Workshop – Stanford Law School (June 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, “Professor Malcolm: The Legal Scholar America Feared (and Still Fears)” – Michigan Junior Scholars Conference – University of Michigan Law School (Apr. 25, 2025)

Presenter, “Criminal Procedure Redemption” – Howard University School of Law (Apr. 9, 2025)

Panelist, “Making Sense of the Headlines – DEI,” Beasley School of Law at Temple University (Apr. 7, 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

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

BAR ADMISSIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS

Bar Admissions:

Admitted in New York (2016)

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