

# ZAMIR BEN-DAN

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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Beasley School of Law at Temple University**, Philadelphia, PA 2022-Present  
**Assistant Professor of Law**  
Courses: Race and the Law, 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)** 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:**

*"Today, the Constitution Prevails": A History and Legacy of Constitutional Racism*, forthcoming in the Cardozo Law Review, Spring 2025

*White Comfort and the Constitution*, forthcoming in the UCLA Law Review, Spring 2025

*The Pro-Defense Constitution*, forthcoming in the Utah Law Review, Spring 2025

*Harnessing Hypocrisy: A Crack in the Supreme Court's Colorblindness Mask*, forthcoming in the Cardozo Law Review de novo, Spring 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**

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**

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