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Learn law. Take action.
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What are you looking for in a law school?
A message from Dean
Richard A. Matasar
OK, you’ve opened this viewbook. I get it: You’re serious about becoming a lawyer and curious about New York Law School. So, let’s get one thing straight: This is not some generic, off the rack, assembly-line law school. We’re not for everyone. New York Law School is for those with high energy, a passion for taking action, a strong work ethic, the willingness to be bold, and a taste for the greatest urban playground in the world.

That’s the pitch.

But, you get bombarded by information every day—too much information. The trick is to make sense of it, quickly, and to get the gut feeling about whether to dig in for more news or to move on. Here is my promise: Read on and you won’t be disappointed. This viewbook gives you the flavor of New York Law School and shows our approach to answering the three key questions every applicant should want answered: (1) What’s it like to be a student at this school? (2) What happens to graduates of the school? and (3) What does the school stand for?

That’s what we lay out. We show you four groups of students who are collaborating with top-notch professors on real-world projects, embodying the School’s motto: “Learn law. Take action.” Their theme is ours: This school is for passionate people whose energy drives them to make a difference. Next, we share the stories of six of our graduates—what drew them to our school, and what they have done with their education. Better than we can, they tell you the difference a New York Law School education can make. We also give you a glimpse into our state-of-the-art campus, and our prime location in the heart of Lower Manhattan, where students find endless opportunities to put their skills to use. Finally, we end with a discussion of our core values: a commitment to innovation, integrity, professionalism, and justice. No doubt, the stories of our graduates and students embody those values. The question for you is whether you, too, are prepared to commit.

A long time ago, law school stopped being an inexpensive way to delay growing up. Today’s students—all of you—have grown up knowing of law’s power to make a difference in the lives of citizens; of making our government more just; in forging international relations; and in making industry more successful. I know you are searching for the right investment. You want to conclude that the choice you make will generate a great return on that investment. There is a deal to make, implicit in your decision to study law and go to law school. You bring the passion, ambition, and drive. Your school must provide the engine to get you to the next level.

Read on. We are that school . . . for some.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Matasar
Dean and President
What will your life be like as a law student?

Students and faculty discuss real-world projects
A lawsuit against Google has the future of the publishing industry hanging in the balance. And students at New York Law School’s Institute for Information Law & Policy are at the center of the debate.
A lawsuit against Google has the future of the publishing industry hanging in the balance. And students at New York Law School’s Institute for Information Law & Policy are at the center of the debate.

Led by Professor James Grimmelmann, an expert in intellectual property (IP) law, a team of students involved with the Institute’s Public Interest Book Search Initiative is working to foster public discussion about the law and policy of digitizing books. Their project comes in direct response to the controversial settlement proposed in a class action lawsuit brought by authors and publishers against Google, which has been scanning millions of books and making them searchable online. A federal court in New York will decide whether the settlement is approved in October 2009. In the meantime, the students are making sure the public is informed about the issues related to this important, high-stakes case.

“The public has no voice in this case as of yet,” says Dominic Mauro 3L. “We’re aiming to generate discussion and provide a place for it. That’s what people want.”

The place he’s referring to is the project’s Web site, called The Public Index, which will feature an annotated version of the settlement with links to related legal documents and media articles, a glossary of relevant terms, and a tool that allows users to insert their own analyses and comments. The group is also organizing a conference to be held the day after the court hearing at the Law School, where scholars, attorneys, and other guests will discuss the case and its impact on copyright law.

As students build the site and plan the conference, they’re learning from each other, developing valuable knowledge and skills. “Not only are the students diving in and figuring out how to do the work, they’re also figuring out how to work together as a team,” says Professor Grimmelmann. “They’re all working better and smarter as a group than they would on their own.”

Motivated by each other as well as their professor, the students have taken initiative at every stage of the process. “Everyone has taken the ball and run—actually, sprinted,” says Stephanie Figueroa 3L. “It’s such an exciting project, and Professor Grimmelmann’s excitement is contagious.”

In Professor Grimmelmann, Dominic has found both a mentor and a role model. “A month into Professor Grimmelmann’s Internet Law course, I went to his office and said, ‘I want your job,’” Dominic says. Collaborating with Professor Grimmelmann on the Book Search Initiative has given him the direction he was seeking when he came to law school. “I always knew I liked teaching, but I’ve learned that you can interact with the real world as an academic,” Dominic says. “It’s illuminating to see that this is the scope of legal practice and to see what a legal education lets you do.”

For Stephanie, a self-proclaimed “IP nerd,” the experience has boosted her confidence on a personal and professional level. “I’m not concerned about becoming a cookie cutter attorney,” she says. “I know from working on this project that if you have the drive and the passion, you can shape the law.”
“I've learned that the law isn’t just black and white. We can change the law and help protect the law. We’re working toward the public good, and I believe our work is going to mean something.”

Stephanie Figueroa 3L
From Classroom to Courtroom: Promoting Social Justice

Students involved with the Justice Action Center’s Racial Justice Project filed a brief in a landmark racial discrimination case heard by the Supreme Court and got to see the argument live in the courtroom.
Many lawyers dream of presenting their ideas to the highest court in the land. For a group of students at New York Law School, that dream became a reality, thanks to the help and guidance of Professors Deborah N. Archer and Elise C. Boddie. Six students involved with the Racial Justice Project at the School’s Justice Action Center filed an *amicus curiae* brief in a racial discrimination case heard by the Supreme Court in April 2009. They argued on behalf of the City of New Haven, Connecticut, defending its controversial decision to throw out the results of a promotion exam for firefighters on the basis that the exam violated Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1965.

Led by Professors Archer and Boddie, both experts in civil rights and employment law, the students outlined the argument, researched supporting cases, and wrote several drafts of the brief. “They developed incredible skills,” says Professor Archer, Director of the Racial Justice Project. “They were real partners in the process, from idea to finished product.”

That collaboration is part of what made the project such a powerful learning experience. “Working with the professors was like working with partners at a top law firm,” says Tanya Facey 3L. “They helped us with all the details of the brief—everything down to the specific color the cover had to be: hunter green.”

The professors also made sure the students knew their audience. “We called the brief our ‘love letter to Justice Kennedy,’” says Zach Kerner ’09, referring to Justice Anthony M. Kennedy, the probable swing vote in the case. “Professors Archer and Boddie helped us choose language he would find compelling so we could speak directly to him.”

This hands-on experience showed students the real-world implications of their efforts and brought their classroom knowledge to life. “In class, we look at prior cases and interpret them. Here, we’re on the frontier of a new case,” says Zach. “It took the classroom information to the umpteenth level,” adds Charlene Barker 3L. “Law school trains you to think in a certain way, and we put that thinking into action.”

The most exciting part for the students was seeing the oral argument live at the Supreme Court in Washington, D.C. “We were listening to all the arguments and realized we were more prepared and knew more about the case than the others in the room,” says Charlene. “We knew the arguments inside and out.”

Professor Archer recognizes that this opportunity is extremely rare. “Most lawyers never get to work on a brief that makes it to the Supreme Court,” she says. “These students all had a hand in the brief and got to meet and work as partners with some of the best civil rights lawyers from the nation’s top civil rights organizations.”

Based on the students’ future plans, it’s clear that the experience fueled their passion for social justice. This summer, Tanya will be researching and writing an article on wealth discrimination at the Summer Institute for Research on Race & Wealth at Howard University. And Charlene and Zach, both of whom aspire to be civil rights attorneys, will continue to fight for social justice from their positions at law firms—Charlene at Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP this summer, and Zach at Cahill Gordon & Reindel LLP full time. Charlene will also continue as student fellow to the Racial Justice Project next year.
“Future civil rights laws depend on the outcome of this case. If the Court rules against the plaintiffs, there will be harmful effects for minorities. That’s what we set out to demonstrate.”

Tanya Facey 3L
Setting the Direction of International Finance Law

Students at the Center for International Law lead the way in analyzing problems and creating solutions that affect today’s global markets.

Professor Tai-Heng Cheng
Stuart Barden ’09
As a recent graduate of New York Law School, it is not difficult for Stuart Barden ’09 to reflect on the past three years of his life to gauge the most beneficial lessons he learned in law school. One such lesson is the importance of establishing relationships with a mentor—a lesson that certainly translates into the working world and will aid Stuart in his current position as an investment banker with Milbank Roy & Co. LLC in New York City.

During an International Law class taught by Professor Tai-Heng Cheng, Stuart’s interest was sparked in sovereign wealth funds (SWFs), which are government funds used to invest in foreign companies for profit. He approached Professor Cheng with this interest and began a working relationship that both agree will continue beyond campus.

“Law school has been more than what’s learned in the classroom; it has also been about the relationships developed,” says Stuart. “Students need to know that if there is something that interests them, it is highly likely that a New York Law School professor shares that interest or can help them develop that interest.”

With Professor Cheng’s guidance, Stuart worked on a series of papers exploring the role and control of sovereign wealth funds in international law. His first paper defined SWFs, and his second discussed the meaning of the Santiago Principles, generally accepted principles and practices of SWFs as established by the International Monetary Fund’s International Working Group of Sovereign Wealth Funds. Stuart’s final collaboration with Professor Cheng is a paper titled, “Economic Grants in Slumber: Do Sovereign Wealth Funds Have an Expropriation Claim Against the U.S.?” which he hopes to publish in a law journal.

For Stuart, one of the most exciting challenges was being on the front lines of a new area of research. “This is a completely novel area of the law, and relatively little is known,” he says. “For decades, sovereign wealth funds have not been transparent at all, and there was not much research or cases to go back and examine.”

Stuart was also encouraged by the fact that his topic was so timely, with SWFs making the rounds in recent headlines due to investments in companies such as Citigroup, Merrill Lynch, and Morgan Stanley. “Every week there was a new development in the news, such as when the banks were submitted to government stress tests,” he says. “As news items developed, I would think about the issues myself, how they fit in with the structure of my paper, and discuss them with Professor Cheng.”

Also during this time, Stuart was appointed a fellow with the Center for International Law, of which Professor Cheng is the Associate Director. In this role, Stuart served as chief researcher on a forthcoming article by Professor Cheng, “Shaping an Obama Doctrine of Preemptive Force.”

Of their relationship, Professor Cheng says, “One of the most valuable aspects of our collaboration is that we helped each other think broadly about the law. I expect that Stuart’s scholarship will be published and it will contribute to the understanding of policy-makers, lawyers, and scholars to contemporary international problems and possible solutions.”
“All of the professors are wonderful and intelligent. Students should realize they can contribute to the formation of law while still a student and there are plenty of opportunities at the Law School for them to pursue.”

Stuart Barden ‘09
Developing Skills to Change Clients’ Lives

At the School’s Securities Arbitration Clinic, students take on investment firms to get justice for clients who’ve lost money due to bad financial advice.
When students join the Securities Arbitration Clinic at New York Law School, they take on the role of lawyers at a top New York City corporate law firm. And like all first-year associates, they are expected to hit the ground running.

“From day one, I treat every student as an attorney, with all of the privileges and responsibilities that go with that,” says Professor Howard S. Meyers, a former enforcement attorney for the SEC, who runs the Clinic.

Those responsibilities include providing free legal representation to small investors who have suffered damages due to the misconduct of their stockbrokers and brokerage firms. Students advise clients at all stages of the arbitration process and represent them in securities arbitrations before the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA). Along the way, they develop hands-on lawyering skills while helping members of their community who would not otherwise be able to afford or obtain legal representation.

“The Clinic gives students a chance to go out and get their hands dirty,” says Aaron Wax ’09. “There’s only so much you can read about it, but you don’t own the knowledge until you put it to use.”

Students decide as a group whether to take on a case and what approach to use. “It’s really like playing detective,” says Professor Meyers. “It’s similar to what medical students do in their training, when they learn how to evaluate a patient. Here, students are assessing a case and figuring out what steps to take.”

In addition to receiving targeted feedback from Professor Meyers, students collaborate with expert witnesses and other practitioners in the field. In the process, they experience first-hand some of the demands of the legal profession. “You can’t get saved by the bell doing this work,” says Alex Tolston ’09. “You can get a call at 9 p.m. and need to get signatures right then. There is no set schedule; you are always on call and have to be prepared.”

Professor Meyers helps prepare students by creating an environment where they feel comfortable taking risks. “He allowed us to fall down, scrape our knees, and get hurt, but in the end we learned from it all,” says Alex. “He gave us the confidence to succeed.”

And their hard work has paid off. Since it was established in 2004, the Clinic has represented more than 40 aggrieved investors and obtained over $200,000 in damages on their behalf. Clients have been absolutely thrilled with the results. And even the media has taken notice, with coverage appearing on ABC News and in the *New York Daily News*.

For the students involved, making a difference in the lives of their clients is the most valuable part. “There is nothing more rewarding than putting what you learned to use for a good cause—helping people,” says Aaron.

After graduation, Aaron and Alex will bring the skills they learned at the Clinic to the law firm of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP in Manhattan, where they will be associates in the firm’s corporate department.
“One of the most exciting things for me was preparing the demand letter on behalf of a client who had experienced a loss of $22,000 to the broker who had wronged her. It was a great feeling.”

Aaron Wax ’09
Where will you be after graduation?
Six alumni speak for the Law School
Oliver Agha ‘94

Founding and Managing Partner, Agha & Shamsi, L.L.C.
Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

“Working overseas is not just about the work but also about the cultural and social benefits you can acquire to make you a more rounded individual, and this affects the way you work, think, and apply your knowledge and experience.”
What do you do?
I am the Founding and Managing Partner of Agha & Shamsi, L.L.C. in Abu Dhabi, the first boutique law firm compliant with Shari'ah, the law of Islam. I advise clients on devising innovative Islamic finance structures and major project finance deals, covering a range of industries from petrochemicals to banks.

How/why did you get your job?
Previously, I was a partner with DLA Piper’s Dubai office, where I was Global Head of Islamic Finance and Head of the Saudi Arabian practice. In 2009, I decided to establish Agha & Shamsi pursuant to a vision to develop a law firm that practices according to an ethical mandate and certain restraints in terms of practice areas and client representations.1

What do you enjoy most about your work?
I’m enjoying developing an innovative firm that has no modern precedent and addressing novel challenges.

What’s the best part about living and working in the United Arab Emirates?
The United Arab Emirates is the commercial hub of the Middle East, the gateway for Islamic finance, and an enjoyable place to live. It combines the traditionalism of the East with the comfort of the West.

Why did you choose New York Law School?
The School’s location was a big draw, as well as the quality of the professors.

What NYLS course have you found to be most valuable in your career?
That is an easy one. Professor Robert Blecker's Constitutional History: Supremacy & Nullification. It helped me develop an understanding of the interplay of law between governmental departments, agencies, and constitutionalism. It was the high point of my legal education and has been very helpful in my practice.

Was there anyone at the Law School who had a significant impact on you?
Professor Blecker was a mentor and is now a friend. His commitment to excellence in academia, intellectual rigor, and passion for his subjects was (and still is) exceptional. I still think, however, my paper deserved an A not an A-!

What would you tell students who are considering working abroad?
Understanding other cultures and having a sense of scope of a different world will open additional opportunities for law students who are considering work overseas. If working abroad does not tempt you, living abroad might.

Tell us a fun/unique fact about yourself.
My earliest memory of childhood is earlier than that of anyone else I’ve ever met: less than 3 months old.

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1 Islamic finance, among other tenets, does not allow usury (charging interest) or investment in businesses that are contrary to Islamic beliefs.
Arnold G. Blair III ’02

Senior Staff Attorney, Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP
New York, New York

“I’ve never taken the traditional route for anything, and New York Law School was a perfect fit for me. I wanted to be in an environment that had a diverse faculty and staff. New York Law School had both.”
What do you do?
I am a Senior Staff Attorney at WilmerHale whose primary job is handling all aspects regarding electronic discovery in regulatory investigations. I work with other attorneys, litigation technology project managers, and paralegals on teams that manage electronic documents in large cases and investigations.

What does your typical day look like?
There is no typical day in my work. Regulatory work, especially e-discovery, is a fast-paced and hectic environment. I like it that way. One day I could be preparing documents to produce to regulators, and the next, trying to figure out a client's IT system. The only constants in my days are the never-ending requests for help in solving all sorts of issues that arise with electronic documents.

What did you do before law school?
When I graduated from college I went to a professional cooking school, convinced I wanted to be a chef. But after working in the industry for a while, I realized it was not for me and chose to take the legal career path instead.

What was your most memorable law school experience?
One memory that stands out was 9/11. Just like all the other students and faculty at the Law School for the 2001–02 year, I had to finish out the year in a building so close to Ground Zero. I am still so amazed and proud of how the School came together and made it through, despite everything that was going on around us.

Was there anyone at the Law School who had a significant impact on you?
Professors Ann F. Thomas and Michael B.W. Sinclair. Both always found the time to talk to me, never stopped encouraging me to do the best I could, and continuously challenged me to think like a lawyer instead of a student who thinks he knows the law. There is a big difference between just knowing the law, and applying knowledge to solve the types of problems lawyers are faced with every day.

What advice do you have for current students interested in your field of law?
Learn everything you can about computers and databases, and how the legal practice is changing due to the technological revolution that is still occurring. Computers are here to stay and there is a big demand for lawyers who understand how law and technology interact.

What do you enjoy doing most when you are not at work?
My biggest passions are reading, music, working out, and food. Oh yeah, and the Yankees. When I am not at work you can find me pursuing one of the above.

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1 Electronic discovery (or “e-discovery”) refers to the process of identifying, preserving, collecting, processing, reviewing, and producing electronically stored data in order to use it as evidence in a civil or criminal legal case.
Jo Ann J. Brighton ’89
Of Counsel, K&L Gates LLP
Charlotte, North Carolina

“I take the mentoring model very seriously. In this community, we need to help each other. Not just women helping other women, but older teaching younger, opening doors, sharing experiences, and imparting wisdom.”
What do you do?
I am Of Counsel to K&L Gates LLP in the financial restructuring group. I represent institutions and lenders in all areas of commercial and bankruptcy law.

What do you enjoy most about your work?
Financial restructuring is like a puzzle—you are presented with an existing set of circumstances and finite resources to solve the problem. It is challenging and gives you an opportunity to be very creative. It can be very satisfying when you craft solutions that make the best of a bad situation.

Why did you choose New York Law School?
I grew up in New Jersey and needed to go someplace where I could commute from home. I was paying for law school myself. I also thought if I wanted to start practicing law in New York City, then it would be best to go to law school there.

Was there anyone at the Law School who had a significant impact on you?
Professor Karen Gross, now President of Southern Vermont College (and Distinguished Visiting Professor of Law at New York Law School), took an interest in my career. She has been an invaluable mentor and a dear friend. She also gave me opportunities to speak that led to further opportunities. She has really poured her wisdom and knowledge into me, and I am very grateful.

What is your favorite law school memory?
I was asking someone what page we were on the first day of school in Contracts, and Professor Gross went all Paper Chase on me and called me down for talking!

You were recently inducted into the American College of Bankruptcy. How did that feel?
It was an incredibly humbling experience. Not only am I the first person in Charlotte to be inducted into the College, but I’m also the first Fellow who works part time. I pride myself on that accomplishment because it shows me and other professionals that you can have a life and a career.

What advice do you have for current students interested in your field of law?
The economy is in such a strange place right now; bankruptcy is a hot field. It might not always be the flavor of the month, but I suspect restructuring work will be around for a long time to come.

What do you enjoy doing most when you are not at work?
Spending time with my amazing husband and four wonderful children.

Tell us a fun/unique fact about yourself.
My whole family spent one month last year on a missions trip running camps for kids in Yap, Micronesia.
Susan E. Cohig ’02
Senior Vice President, Club Consulting & Services, NHL Enterprises, L.P.
New York, New York

“I work with an energetic group of people, both at the League office and with our teams, in a very fun business. We should all be so lucky to be able to work in a business we love. I am very lucky!”
What do you do?
I work with all 30 National Hockey League (NHL) teams to identify and exploit sales—ticketing and corporate sponsorship—and marketing opportunities. I liaise between the teams and the League office on various programs and initiatives. And I manage team compliance issues related to, among other things, the licensing of League and team intellectual property and the use of player images.

How/why did you get your job?
I was part of the management team that operated the NBA Denver Nuggets. Our ownership purchased the NHL Quebec Nordiques and moved them to Colorado where we launched the Colorado Avalanche, which won the Stanley Cup in its first season. I worked closely with the NHL to launch the franchise. When an opportunity opened up at the League office, they asked me if I would be interested in relocating to New York.

Why did you choose New York Law School?
It had an evening program and was conveniently accessible to my work. I also was impressed by the experience and high caliber of the teaching staff.

What NYLS courses have you found to be most valuable in your career?
The writing classes have been the most beneficial to me as a basic tool that I use in every area. I encourage anyone in law school to take as many writing classes as possible.

What is your favorite law school memory?
Overall, I remember how committed the professors were to making sure we were learning the material. A few specifics include Professor Aleta G. Estreicher’s exam study sessions, going to night court as part of Professor James F. Simon’s legal writing class, and successfully surviving an almost 30 minute Socratic method grilling by Professor David Chang—a number of my classmates came up to me after class and congratulated me.

What advice do you have for current students interested in your field of law?
Learn the business of the business that you’re in. Legal theories may be helpful, but being able to understand and contribute to the growth of the business is critical. Also, understand that the best business deals are those where everyone benefits, as opposed to negotiating to exploit and disadvantage the prospective partner. The best partnerships are those where both parties win.

What do you enjoy doing most when you are not at work?
I love spending time with my daughter Kaitlin. Hands down, she is my greatest achievement.

Tell us a fun/unique fact about yourself.
I love music. Over the course of my life, I’ve probably been to more than 300 concerts, including multiple Bruce Springsteen, Grateful Dead, Prince, and Go Go’s shows.
Lino Solis  ’96
Vice President and General Counsel, Thor Equities, LLC
New York, New York

“In 2005, our company purchased a mall in northwest Philadelphia that we redeveloped along with the surrounding community. . . . I am proud to say that our efforts will help create nearly 250 full- and part-time jobs.”
What do you do?
I am Vice President and General Counsel of Thor Equities, LLC, a dynamic and entrepreneurially-based retail real estate development company. Over the past six years, I have helped establish and manage the in-house legal department at Thor Equities, which includes responsibility over public-private partnerships, government relations, leasing transactions, fund-related issues, refinancing, development/acquisitions, litigation, corporate governance, and legal compliance.

What does your typical day look like?
A typical day consists of closing deals as efficiently as possible, while leaving my clients in the best possible legal and business position. At the same time, we take the time to partner with local community leaders and elected officials across the country to determine how best to partner and serve their communities.

What do you enjoy most about your work?
I love the fact that we have an opportunity to change the face of urban America across the country. For example, back in 2003, we partnered with a local community in New Orleans and took an old blighted strip center in the 9th Ward of Gentilly Woods and created a thriving center with new tenants, new jobs, and amazing activity. I truly enjoy giving back and the community connection that my work allows me. I also enjoy talking to our investors about our development projects and the wonderful people who live in these great communities.

Was there anyone at the Law School who had a significant impact on you?
My mentor was Ventura Simmons ’94. We connected the first week of school, and he quickly went to work advising me in the legal method and how to live the law school life. Ventura, like me, was married, and he gave me valuable insight into law school from a married perspective. Also, my study partner, Iris Springer ’96, helped keep me grounded during the tough periods. Her knowledge, friendship, and patience were essential to my development and overall legal experience.

What advice do you have for current students interested in your field of law?
Sign up for as many externships/internships as possible within the real estate world. Also, join the Center for Real Estate Studies, and take as many classes as possible focused on real estate transactions. Participate in various student bar committees and join a real estate group within those committees.

What do you enjoy doing most when you are not at work?
I love spending time with my family. Some favorite family pastimes are walking over the Brooklyn Bridge and spending summer months on Martha’s Vineyard. We also enjoy independent movies at the Angelika theater and Film Forum and walking around New York in the spring and early fall.

Tell us a fun/unique fact about yourself.
At the end of my first semester, I called a little known entertainment company by the name of Bad Boy Entertainment and secured an interview with none other than Sean “P. Diddy” Combs. When they offered me an unpaid summer position, I told them I was a New York Law School 1L with a B+ in Civil Procedure and demanded “really big cash” for my legal services. They essentially told me to take it or leave it, and I went on to work at a slip and fall firm on Broadway. Needless to say, life may have delivered an interesting twist if I had considered working as an unpaid intern with Bad Boy Entertainment back in 1994. This is why we hire at least six to eight legal interns at Thor Equities each year and encourage students to intern and work for free when possible.
Hon. Faviola A. Soto ’78
Judge, New York State Court of Claims
New York, New York

“I am the first judge of Dominican descent to sit on any court of the State of New York and am very proud to have been elected by my community where I was raised, where I raised my family, and where I still reside.”
What do you do?
I am a Judge of the Court of Claims, appointed by Governor George Pataki in June 2006. As a “Paragraph A” Judge, I decide civil cases against the State of New York.

What do you enjoy most about your work?
I achieve great satisfaction from deciding cases fairly and based on the merits. While ensuring that everyone has their day in court, I also strive to move cases in an expeditious and efficient manner. Deciding the facts and the law is a heavy responsibility, one that I take most seriously. On a lighter note, I like being the boss and running the show.

What does your typical day look like?
My day is spent both on the bench and in chambers. In the courtroom, I conduct conferences, hear oral argument on motions, supervise and decide discovery disputes, and settle cases. I also preside over trials, deciding the law as well as the facts. In chambers, I prepare for the matters before me, do research, and write, write, write.

Why did you choose New York Law School?
I selected New York Law School because it offered an excellent education and a full scholarship. Without the scholarship I could not have attended law school or been able to follow my public service dream and take my first job as a legal services attorney earning $14,000 a year.

Was there anyone at the Law School who had a significant impact on you?
I remember arguing a point before my entire class on an issue I had briefed. I thought I would fall flat on my face, but once I opened my mouth, the words just flowed and everyone in the room seemed to disappear except for my professor, (the late) Sylvia D. Garland ’60. Professor Garland taught me invaluable lessons, and I developed a high standard of practice, which I expect from all attorneys who appear before me.

What was your favorite law school experience?
My favorite experience at law school was graduation. I was the first in my family to graduate from college, and graduating from law school was a big accomplishment for me and my family. At the ceremony, my family took up an entire section and I felt as if I had my own cheering squad.

What advice do you have for current students interested in your field of law?
Work hard and have high professional and ethical standards. Remain or become passionate about and dedicated to not only the law, but also the community and your family and friends.

What do you enjoy doing most when you are not at work?
I enjoy cooking and still cook a fresh meal every day. One day I plan to write a recipe book.
Where will you learn law and take action?

Our campus and neighborhood
Our Campus and Neighborhood
New York Law School is located in the heart of Manhattan’s TriBeCa district—home of the city’s legal, government, and corporate headquarters, as well as a thriving cultural scene. Within a few blocks of the School, students have access to almost every kind of private law practice, in-house corporate legal staff, legal aid and public interest law practice, governmental counsel office, and court that exists in the United States. And through our clinical and skills-based curriculum, we provide students with many ways to take advantage of the resources that surround us. For example, students have opportunities to represent real clients in federal court, work in the chambers and courtrooms of federal and state judges, mediate disputes between parties in the Small Claims Court, and work with mentor attorneys in private law firms and government agencies. The easy accessibility of the School also allows us to have many of the best lawyers in the city serving as adjunct professors.

In addition to our stellar location, New York Law School now has a first-rate campus, which has evolved to meet the changing needs of our students. In spring 2009, we opened a brand-new, state-of-the-art academic building that has nearly doubled the size of our campus. The glass-enclosed, 235,000-square-foot building extends five stories above ground and four below. With this sleek new facility, combined with the School’s existing three structures, our campus reflects the Law School’s past and future, symbolizing the growth and renewal of TriBeCa and all of Lower Manhattan.

The new building is almost exclusively student-centered—with classrooms, lounges, study rooms, dining facilities, and the library all housed within the building’s central core. As a student, you’ll attend classes in rooms designed to maximize teaching and learning opportunities, with cutting-edge technology, top-notch lighting and acoustics, and tiered seating that promotes the open exchange of ideas. You’ll also collaborate with other students, professors, and practitioners in customized spaces modeled after the courtroom and other real-world practice settings.
At the library, students have access to spacious group study rooms, open seating areas, and private study carrels—as well as plenty of workspace for using laptops and other technology.

In the new building, classrooms feature cutting-edge technology, top-notch lighting and acoustics, and tiered seating that promotes the open exchange of ideas.
Students enter the library on the first floor of the new building, which also houses the School's new main entrance, an expansive social area, and a student café.

One of the new building’s most prominent design features is an open lounge and circulation space that runs along a 200-foot-long glass wall facing Leonard Street and West Broadway.
## New York Law School by the Numbers

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>94.1%</th>
<th>235,000</th>
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<tr>
<td>New York Law School scored its <strong>highest bar pass rate ever</strong> in 2008, with 94.1 percent of the Class of 2008 passing the New York state bar exam, exceeding the state average of 91 percent.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Law School’s brand-new state-of-the-art building is <strong>235,000 square feet</strong> in size.</td>
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<th>Top 10</th>
<th>35</th>
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<tr>
<td>New York Law School was ranked as one of the 10 “<strong>Most Innovative Law Schools</strong>” in the country by <em>preLaw</em> magazine in 2009.</td>
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<td>New York Law School students run <strong>35 student organizations</strong>.</td>
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<th>370,000</th>
<th>1891</th>
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<tr>
<td>With its new academic building, New York Law School has nearly doubled the size of its campus, with a combined environment of <strong>370,000 square feet</strong>.</td>
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<td>New York Law School was <strong>founded in 1891</strong> in Lower Manhattan.</td>
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<tr>
<th>234</th>
<th>91%</th>
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<tr>
<td>Students from the 2008 entering class came from <strong>234 colleges/universities</strong>, 33 states and territories, and 21 foreign countries.</td>
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<tr>
<td>91 percent of the graduating Class of 2008 was <strong>employed within nine months of graduation.</strong></td>
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</table>
New York Law School’s 2008 bar pass rate (94.1 percent of the Class of 2008) placed it among the top five of all law schools in New York state for the second year in a row.

New York Law School ranked fifteenth in a list of the 75 “Best Law Schools for Public Interest” by The National Jurist in 2008.

The National Jurist rates New York Law School as one of the top eight law schools to study labor and employment law, human rights law, and international law.

32% of the 2008 entering class self identifies as racial/ethnic minorities.

23 percent of the 2008 entering class is made up of part-time evening students.

New York Law School now offers Master of Laws (LL.M.) degrees in 3 areas: financial services, real estate, and tax.

The Law School has eight academic centers for specialized study that enable invaluable exchange between students and expert practitioners.
What else do you need to know?
The basics about New York Law School
The history of New York Law School can be summed up in a single sentence: A year ago, a seemingly daring venture; today the largest law school, with one exception, in these United States.

The year was 1891. Leading scholars and practitioners of the day saw the need for a school to teach law in a distinctive style—and in a setting close to New York City’s legal, financial, government, and corporate headquarters. To meet that need, Columbia Law School faculty, alumni, and students, led by their former dean, Theodore Dwight, broke away and established New York Law School, a totally independent institution. It was a bold experiment.

The School was an immediate success, quickly gaining recognition for the excellence of its students and faculty. For more than a century, New York Law School has been an independent law school committed to keeping the doors of the legal profession open to a diverse population of students. From the beginning, the Law School welcomed students of all races and, in 1904, created the Evening Division to give those who need it the opportunity to work and attend classes.

From its auspicious start to the present day, New York Law School has graduated some of this country’s most innovative leaders, who continue to change the world through careers in public service, business, the arts, and other fields.
Some of our most distinguished graduates include:

- Wallace Stevens, Class of 1903
- Charles E. Phillips Jr. ’93
- Zygmunt Wilf ’74
- Hon. John Marshall Harlan ’24
- Hon. Judith Sheindlin ’65
- Arthur N. Abbey ’59
Judges & Justice
→ Hon. John Marshall Harlan ’24, United States Supreme Court Justice
→ Hon. Nicholas Tsoucas ’51, Senior Judge, United States Court of International Trade
→ Hon. Roger J. Miner ’56, United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit
→ Hon. Judith Sheindlin ’65 (“Judge Judy”), New York family court judge, author, and television personality

Founders of Prominent Law Firms
→ Henry Hurlbut Abbott, Class of 1895, of Whitman Breed Abbott & Morgan LLC
→ Albert Milbank, Class of 1898, of Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy LLP
→ William Parke, Class of 1902, of Chadbourne & Parke LLP
→ Alfred Mudge, Class of 1905, of Mudge, Rose, Guthrie & Alexander
→ Alfred Rose, Class of 1910, of Proskauer Rose LLP
→ Jacob Scholer, Class of 1910, of Kaye Scholer LLP
→ Edwin Sunderland ’13 of Davis, Polk, Wardwell, Sunderland & Kiendl
→ Arthur N. Abbey ’59 of Abbey Spanier Rodd & Abrams, LLP
→ Steven E. Pegalis ’65 of Pegalis & Erickson, LLC

Corporate Leaders
→ Zygmunt Wilf ’74, principal owner of the Minnesota Vikings of the NFL
→ Kenneth D. Werner ’78, President of Warner Bros. Domestic Television Distribution
→ Charles E. Phillips Jr. ’93, President of Oracle, the world’s largest enterprise software company

Government Leaders
→ Bainbridge Colby, Class of 1892, Secretary of State under President Wilson
→ Mayors of New York City: John F. Hylan, Class of 1897; John Purroy Mitchel, Class of 1901; James J. Walker, Class of 1905
→ Robert F. Wagner, Class of 1900, U.S. Senator from New York, 1927–49; author of the National Labor Relations Act
→ Kathleen Grimm ’80, Deputy Chancellor for Finance and Administration, New York City Department of Education

Pioneers
→ Conrad A. Johnson ’13, an immigrant from Barbados who became the first black Republican alderman in New York City
→ Hon. James S. Watson ’13, a judge and the first African American admitted to membership in the American Bar Association
→ Hon. Emilio Nuñez ’27, the first Latino judge in New York City
→ Barbara M. Watson ’62, daughter of James S. Watson (above), U.S. Ambassador to Malaysia, the first female assistant secretary of state of the United States

Pulitzer Prize Winners
→ Wallace Stevens, Class of 1903, Poet
→ Elmer Rice ’12, Playwright

Inventors
→ Chester Carlson ’39, inventor of the xerography photocopy process
→ Richard E. LaMotta ’75, inventor of the Chipwich ice-cream sandwich; Founder, myStudentBiz Inc.
Our Core Values

New York Law School’s core values focus our approach to legal education and are reflected in our curriculum, our teaching, the services we provide to our students, and our conduct as an institution of higher learning.

Embrace innovation. A recognition that our times demand the ability to adapt to change and to new situations as they arise and that doing so successfully requires a commitment to lifelong learning. At New York Law School, change is driven by the need to respond to the emerging needs of our society and a commitment to help our students develop real-world skills that will be demanded of lawyers in the years to come.

Foster integrity and professionalism. A commitment to pursue the ongoing improvement of the legal profession by embracing ethics and professionalism as a way of life. Law is probably more explicitly challenged to define questions of professionalism and integrity than any other field, and at New York Law School, we deeply explore how lawyers meet this challenge.

Advance justice for a diverse society. An explicit reminder that law ultimately is about justice, fairness, and morality. At New York Law School, we advance justice by bringing real-life experience to bear on scholarship, teaching students theory, equipping them to change the world for the better, and urging them out into that world to test their skills.

In keeping with our values, New York Law School trains students to become active lawyer-citizens who use their skills and knowledge to enhance the lives of others.

Under the leadership of renowned scholar Dean Richard A. Matasar, the School has sharpened the focus of its curriculum in the last several years to develop a program called “Learn law. Take action.” This program combines traditional legal theory with a strong dose of applied learning through skills courses and innovative programs, giving students multiple opportunities to work on projects that have a real-world impact.

To further these goals, the Law School has developed a second thematic approach: “The Right Program for Each Student,” which acknowledges and accommodates our students’ differing expectations, ambitions, and levels of ability. The School has developed several individualized programs to meet the needs of each segment of the student body, including:

**The John Marshall Harlan Scholars Program**
This rigorous academic honors program is designed for students who have performed at the top of their law school class. It gives students the opportunity to focus their law school studies, gaining depth and substantive expertise beyond a broad understanding of the law. Eligible students are offered scholarship funding, a position on the *New York Law School Law Review*, and an affiliation with one of the Law School’s eight academic centers (read more about these on pages 60–61!).

**The Comprehensive Curriculum Program**
The Comprehensive Curriculum Program is a unique program that provides intensive support for students who perform in the bottom quarter of their class after the first year, helping them turn a weak start into a powerful finish. Professors work closely with participating students to help them get the skills and knowledge they need to succeed on the bar exam, in law school, and in the workforce.

**A Focus on Collaborative Learning**
Our next step is perfecting an approach to support the middle segment of the student population. Starting with the first-year curriculum, the School’s overall program is being revised to more accurately reflect the knowledge and skills students need to succeed in today’s marketplace. Our approach is based on collaborative learning and provides students with opportunities to work directly with professors on real-world projects.
# New York Law School: At a Glance

## Areas of Concentration
- Civil Liberties
- Constitutional Law
- Corporate and Securities Law
- Criminal Law
- Financial Services Law
- Information and Media Law
- International Law
- Labor and Employment Law
- Professional Values and Practice
- Real Estate Law
- Taxation

## Degrees
- Juris Doctor
- LL.M. in Financial Services Law
- LL.M. in Real Estate
- LL.M. in Taxation
- M.A. in Mental Disability Law Studies
- Joint J.D./M.B.A. with Baruch College, City University of New York
- Joint Bachelor's/J.D. with Adelphi University
- Joint Bachelor's/J.D. with New England College
- Joint Bachelor's/J.D. with Southern Vermont College
- Joint Bachelor's/J.D. with Stevens Institute of Technology

## Total Enrollment
- 1,596 students
  - 32% self-identified minority*
  - 51% women*
  - 23% part-time evening*
  - 234 undergraduate schools represented from 33 states and territories and 21 foreign countries*

## Faculty
- 82 full-time faculty and instructional staff
  - 4 hold an S.J.D., the highest degree in law
  - 12 hold a Ph.D.
  - 12 hold an LL.M.
  - 21 hold a master’s degree in various fields of study
- 182 adjunct faculty

## Total Enrollment
- 1,596 students
  - 32% self-identified minority*
  - 51% women*
  - 23% part-time evening*
  - 234 undergraduate schools represented from 33 states and territories and 21 foreign countries*

*Entering class, 2008
Academic Program
Designed for Student Success

New York Law School gives each student a solid foundation in the law—the substantive knowledge and professional skills necessary to represent clients responsibly, effectively, and creatively. We offer students a wealth of intellectual opportunities to actively engage in the profession through experiences in and out of the classroom. Our curriculum emphasizes broad-based advocacy and skills training and allows students to build course concentrations in numerous areas.

Beginning with the first-year required course called Lawyering, every student is given the opportunity to apply his or her legal reasoning and analysis skills in the context of a simulated interview of a client, then in an interview of a witness and, finally, in a session in which they counsel a client. This course is a groundbreaking and innovative way of introducing students to the tasks that lawyers are asked to perform.

Building on the Lawyering course, the Lawyering Skills Center offers multiple opportunities for students to gain hands-on experience in a real-world setting:

- An extensive externship program places students in the offices of practicing attorneys or in judicial chambers.
- A rich array of clinics allows students to represent or work with actual clients under the direct supervision of full-time faculty or attorneys. Clinics are offered in Criminal Law, Elder Law, Mediation, Securities Arbitration, and Urban Law.
- Advanced simulation courses enable students to interact with actors or others in a variety of lawyering situations. These courses include: Advocacy of Criminal Cases; Alternative Dispute Resolution; Negotiating, Counseling, and Interviewing (NCI); Trial Advocacy; and The Role of the Government Attorney.

This foundational training is augmented by a wide array of specialized coursework available to students after their first year. More than half of a student’s credit hours are devoted to elective courses.
Professional Development

Law students begin their professional lives on the day they enter law school. And at New York Law School, they get the support, guidance, and resources they need to shape their own paths to success.

The Office of Professional Development—which encompasses the Office of Career Services, the Office of Student Life, and the Office of Public Interest and Community Service—helps students develop professional portfolios that link their passions and interests to the job market. Among the programs available are a liaison program linking students to senior administrators and upper-division students; a faculty advising system encouraging faculty-to-student mentoring; and an alumni mentor program that engages hundreds of graduates in career counseling of current students.

Career Services
Staffed by attorneys and counseling professionals who have held positions in large, midsize, and boutique law firms, government offices, academic institutions, and public interest organizations, the Office of Career Services offers career counseling, job listings, job-hunting skills workshops, networking opportunities, and an extensive library of career resources. Career Services also hosts both a fall and a spring On-Campus Interview Program for employers who wish to recruit students on-site.

Public Interest and Community Service
The Office of Public Interest and Community Service sponsors a variety of programs and opportunities for students to engage in pro bono activities. The office works closely with several of the Law School’s centers: the Justice Action Center, with its focus on issues of civil rights and liberties and international human rights; the Center for Professional Values and Practice, with its emphasis on professionalism and ethics as well as appropriate methods for effecting dispute resolution; and the Center for New York City Law, with its focus on addressing legal issues in an urban setting. Students who perform at least 40 hours of voluntary service while at the Law School receive a Public Service Certificate, which is noted on their transcripts.

Student Life
The Office of Student Life strives to make each student’s time at the Law School meaningful and productive by providing support for extracurricular opportunities that enhance a student’s professional development. These include the Student Bar Association (SBA), the Moot Court Association, and more than 30 New York Law School student organizations.

Work-Study Opportunities
Students also build professional experience through participation in the Federal Work-Study Program, which provides more than 350 paid jobs to participating New York Law School students every year. These include positions at law firms, district attorneys’ and U.S. attorneys’ offices, public defender firms, public interest law organizations, on-campus offices, and with the School’s eight academic centers.
Employment Statistics for the Class of 2008

- 91% employed within nine months of graduation
- 6% in public interest positions
- 46% in private practice
- 4% in academic positions
- 24% in business and industry
- 4% in judicial clerkships
- 14% in government agencies
- .5% in military positions

Representative Employers for the Class of 2008

National and International Law Firms
- Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP
- Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy LLP
- Proskauer Rose LLP
- Sullivan & Cromwell LLP
- Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP

Metro Area Firms
- Adam Leitman Bailey, P.C.
- Finkelstein Newman Ferrara LLP
- Martin Clearwater & Bell LLP
- Wachtel & Masyr, LLP

Business and Industry
- Barclays Capital Markets
- Bloomberg L.P.
- Merrill Lynch
- Viacom International

Government
- Federal Communications Commission
- U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission
- New York City Law Department
- New York State Attorney General’s Office
- Offices of district attorneys in numerous New York–metro counties

Public Interest
- Legal Aid Society
- MFY Legal Services
- National Organization for Women

Clerkships
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of New York
- U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Eastern District of Wisconsin
- New York State Supreme Court
- Superior Court in most New Jersey counties

Student Organizations at New York Law School

- American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU/NYLS)
- American Constitution Society (ACS)
- American (Student) Animal Defense League
- Asian American Law Student Association (AALSA)
- Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
- Domestic Violence Project
- De Novo [student newspaper]
- Environmental Law Society
- Evening Students Association
- Federalist Society
- Food and Wine Society
- Gaelic Law Students Association
- Immigration Law Students Association
- Intellectual Property Law Society
- Intramural Sports Club
- Italian Law Students Association (ILSA)
- Jewish Law Students Association (JLSA)
- Latino Law Students Association (LaLSA)
- Lawyers Without Borders NYLS Student Division
- Legal Association for Women (LAW)
- Media Law & Policy Journal
- Media, Entertainment, & Sports Law Association (MESLA)
- Moet Court Association
- Muslim Law Students Association
- National Lawyer Guild
- New York Law School Law Review
- NYLS Democrats
- NYLS Republicans
- Phi Alpha Delta (PAD)
- Public Interest Coalition (PIC)
- Real Estate Law Association
- South Asian Law Students Association (SALSA)
- Stonewall Law Students Association
- Student Bar Association (SBA)
- Tax and Estate Planning Society
The Center on Business Law & Policy is designed to provide students with an enriched educational experience in the business, securities, and commercial law areas and train them to excel as planners and counselors in general advising, litigation, and especially, deal-making situations where businesses and other commercial entities are clients. Center graduates have a firm grounding in the fundamentals needed to enter business-oriented law firms, law departments in corporations, investment banks, financial services and brokerage firms, institutional investors, as well as regulators and other commercially oriented governmental offices, and are exposed to the areas of law that are relevant to these types of practices.

The Center on Financial Services Law began offering programs in fall 2008. The Center expands the number of specialized financial services law courses offered to J.D. students and develops hiring and recruitment opportunities for students and alumni who have an interest in financial services law. It also provides a forum for discussing regulatory reforms and current issues facing this global industry and creates new educational programs for industry legal and business professionals. For example, the center now offers an LL.M. in Financial Services Law.

The Center for International Law provides students and faculty with in-depth support for instruction in many areas of international law. Founded in 1996 with major funding from The Starr Foundation, the Center maintains close ties with New York City’s business, financial, and legal communities. The Center’s activities include sponsoring the prestigious C.V. Starr Lectures and the Otto L. Walter Lecture Series, which regularly bring world-renowned speakers to the Law School; and producing The International Review, the Center’s award-winning newsletter.
Established in 1993, the Center for New York City Law is the only program of its kind in the country. Its objectives are to gather and disseminate information about New York City’s laws, rules, and procedures; to sponsor publications, symposia, and conferences on topics related to governing the city; and to suggest reforms to make city government more effective and efficient. The Center produces several publications, including CityLaw, which tracks New York City’s rules and regulations, how they are enforced, and court challenges to them; and CityLand, which reports decisions from the New York City land use agencies.

The Law School’s Center for Professional Values and Practice provides a vehicle through which to examine the role of the legal profession and approaches to law practice. The Center’s work supports the development of lawyering skills and reflective professionalism, including consideration of how these have evolved over the decades, even as business and ethical pressures have intensified and become more complex, and the roles of lawyers in society have multiplied.

The Center for Real Estate Studies provides students with a unique educational opportunity to study both the private practice and public regulation of real estate. Launched in 2007, the Center offers an extensive selection of classroom courses, advanced seminars, and independent study projects, as well as externships in governmental offices and real estate firms. It also sponsors conferences, symposia, and continuing legal education programs on a broad spectrum of issues. The Center aims to help bridge the existing gap between the private practice and academic study of real estate, and will become one of the premier research centers in the country for the study of real estate. In January 2009, the Center began offering the LL.M. in Real Estate.

The Institute for Information Law & Policy is New York Law School’s home for the study of law, technology, and civil liberties. The goal of the Institute is to develop and apply theories of information and communication to analyze law and policy. It also seeks to design new technologies and systems that will best serve democratic values in the digital age. The Institute administers the innovative program that leads to the Certificate of Mastery in Law Practice Technology for students who attain substantial expertise in how technology changes law practice and legal institutions. The Institute also offers a Patent Law Program that helps students develop expertise in patent law and prepare for the patent bar exam.

The Justice Action Center brings together New York Law School faculty and students in an ongoing critical evaluation of public interest lawyering. Through scholarship and fieldwork, the Center seeks to evaluate the efficacy of law as an agent of change and social betterment, particularly in the fields of anti-discrimination law and economic justice, civil liberties, criminal law and death penalty, environmental law, family law, immigration law, labor and employment law, and mental disability law. In addition to availing themselves of a focused curriculum, symposia, and research opportunities, participating students can gain direct exposure to the field of cause lawyering through externships, clinics, and workshops.
Faculty
Accomplished, Activist, and Approachable

You should expect outstanding intellectual leadership and scholarship from a law school faculty. At New York Law School, you’ll enjoy something more: a dynamic group of nationally renowned scholars with extensive professional and public policy accomplishments.

Most faculty members have had significant prior experience in legal practice: as public defenders, corporate lawyers, jurists, government officials, and advocates for the public interest. They have collectively authored more than 100 books and hundreds of articles in prominent scholarly law reviews and journals. Through their scholarship, research, and advocacy, they are engaged in some of society’s most pressing concerns—developing programs on economic literacy, advocating for civil liberties, testifying before congressional committees, and advancing constitutional democracy around the world.

Above all, our faculty members are committed to students’ success. They collaborate with students on real-world projects, engage them in intellectual discussions, provide guidance on professional development goals, and serve as advisors to student-run publications and organizations. They are dedicated to creating ever-expanding opportunities for New York Law School students to make a difference in the world long before graduation.
Andrew R. Berman
Former partner at Sidley Austin Brown & Wood’s New York Real Estate Group

Robert Blecker
Nationally known retributivist advocate of the death penalty

Tai-Heng Cheng
Expert on international law, Honorary Fellow, Foreign Policy Association

Aleta G. Estreicher
Authority on corporate and securities law

Ronald H. Filler
Former Managing Director in the Capital Markets Prime Services Division at Lehman Brothers

Annette Gordon-Reed
Renowned historian and presidential scholar, winner of the Pulitzer Prize (history) and National Book Award (nonfiction)

Arthur S. Leonard
Pioneering scholar and activist on sexual orientation law

Beth Simone Noveck
Expert on intellectual property, technology, and law; appointed Deputy Chief Technology Officer for Open Government in the White House

Michael L. Perlin
Award-winning author on mental disability law

Edward A. Purcell Jr.
Leading authority on U.S. history

Sadiq Reza
Authority on criminal law and procedure (American, comparative, and Islamic), 2008 Carnegie Scholar

David Schoenbrod
Pioneer in the field of environmental law

Richard K. Sherwin
Expert on use of visual persuasion in litigation

Nadine Strossen
First female president of the American Civil Liberties Union (1991–2008)

Ruti G. Teitel
Authority on international law, human rights, and constitutional law; member of Council on Foreign Relations
## Faculty and Instructional Staff

### Susan J. Abraham
Associate Professor of Applied Legal Analysis
**Courses:** Applied Analysis; Principles of Legal Analysis

### Deborah N. Archer
Professor of Law; Director, Racial Justice Project of the Justice Action Center
**Courses:** Discrimination Law

### Richard C.E. Beck
Professor of Law; Co-director, Graduate Tax Program
**Courses:** Federal Income Tax; Corporate, Federal Income Tax: Individual; Federal Income Tax: Tax Policy; International Taxation

### Tamara C. Belinfanti
Associate Professor of Law
**Courses:** Closing the Deal; Contracts; Corporations

### Deborah N. Archer
Professor of Law; Director, Racial Justice Project of the Justice Action Center
**Courses:** Discrimination Law

### Lenni B. Benson
Professor of Law
**Courses:** Administrative Law; Civil Procedure; Immigration Law; Immigration Practice Seminar & Workshop; Justice Action Center Colloquium; Refugee and Asylum Law

### Andrew R. Berman
Professor of Law; Director, Center for Real Estate Studies
**Courses:** Advanced Topics in Real Estate; Property; Real Estate Transactions and Finance; Sustainable Development

### R. B. Bernstein
Distinguished Adjunct Professor of Law
**Courses:** American Legal History; Law and Literature

### Lloyd Bonfield
Professor of Law
**Courses:** Law of the European Union; Property; Wills, Trusts, and Future Interests

### Robert Blecker
Professor of Law
**Courses:** Constitutional History: Supremacy & Nullification 1776–1868; Criminal Law; Criminal Law & Procedure: Criminals & Our Urge to Punish Them; Criminal Law & Procedure: Death Penalty; Criminal Law & Procedure: Sentencing

### Michael Botein
Professor of Law; Director, Media Center
**Courses:** Administrative Law; Antitrust; Civil Procedure; Federal Regulation of the Electronic Media; Legislation and Regulation; Mass Communications & Telecommunications Law: Advanced Topics; Media Law Seminar & Workshop

### Elise C. Boddie
Associate Professor of Law
**Courses:** Constitutional Law I and II; Land Use Regulation; Special Topics in State and Local Government

### Lloyd Bonfield
Professor of Law
**Courses:** Law of the European Union; Property; Wills, Trusts, and Future Interests

### Frank A. Bress
Professor of Law
New York University, B.A. 1969; St. John’s University, J.D. 1972.
**Courses:** Advocacy of Criminal Cases; Criminal Law; Criminal Law Clinic; Externship Seminar; Lawyering: Negotiating, Counseling, and Interviewing; Trial Advocacy
James Brook
Professor of Law
Courses: Sales and Negotiable Instruments; Secured Transactions; Torts

Camille Broussard
Director, Law Library; Associate Dean for Information Services; Professor of Law
Course: Legal Research, Advanced

Carol A. Buckler
Professor of Law; Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
Courses: Lawyering; Professional Responsibility

Eugene Cerruti
Professor of Law
Courses: Criminal Law; Criminal Procedure: Adjudication; Criminal Procedure: Investigation; Evidence; Trial Advocacy

Elizabeth Chambliss
Professor of Law; Co-director, Center for Professional Values and Practice
Courses: Law Firms; Lawyers and Public Life; Professional Responsibility; Property

David Chang
Professor of Law
Courses: Conflict of Laws; Constitutional Law I & II; Criminal Law; Torts

Lung-chu Chen
Professor of Law; Founder and President, New Century Institute
Courses: Foreign Affairs, the Constitution, & International Law Perspectives; Human Rights in International & Constitutional Perspectives; International Law in Contemporary Perspectives; International Law: Selected Topics; The United Nations & World Order

Tai-Heng Cheng
Associate Professor of Law; Associate Director, Center for International Law
Courses: Contracts I & II; International Arbitration; International Law

Richard H. Chused
Professor of Law
Courses: Civil Procedure; Copyright, Gender in U.S. Legal History

Sydney M. Cone III
C.V. Starr Professor of Law; Director, Center for International Law
Courses: International Business Transactions; International Economic Law; International Finance

Stephen J. Ellmann
Professor of Law; Associate Dean for Faculty Development and Collaborative Learning; Chair, Clinical Theory Workshops and Faculty Scholarship Luncheons; Co-chair, South Africa Reading Group; Co-editor, Clinical Research Institute; Editor, New York Law School Legal Studies Research Paper Series
Courses: Constitutional and Socio-Economic Rights; Constitutional Development in South Africa & the United States; Constitutional Law I & II; Lawyering; Legislation and Regulation

Ronald H. Filler
Professor of Law; Director, Center on Financial Services Law; Director, LL.M. in Financial Services Law
Courses: Derivative Market Regulation; Special Topics in Corporate Law; Financial Services Seminar and Workshop; Special Topics in Corporate Law: Regulation of Brokers/Dealers and Futures Commissions Merchants
Faculty and Instructional Staff
Scholarly, Activist

Kris Franklin
Professor of Law; Director, Academic Skills Program
Courses: Advanced Legal Writing; Applied Analysis; Negotiating, Counseling, and Interviewing; Principles of Legal Analysis

Doni Gewirtzman
Associate Professor of Law
Courses: Constitutional Law I and II

Hon. Douglas H. Ginsburg
Distinguished Visiting Scholar; Chief Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit

Cathy Glaser
Professor of Legal Writing; Director, Writing Program
Course: Advanced Writing Skills for Lawyers

Anne Goldstein
Professor of Law; Director, First-Year Legal Skills Program
Radcliffe College, Harvard University, A.B. 1978 magna cum laude; New York University School of Law, J.D. 1984 cum laude (Review of Law and Social Change, Senior Articles Editor).
Course: Lawyering

Brandt Goldstein
Visiting Associate Professor of Law
Courses: Civil Procedure; Legislation and Regulation

Annette Gordon-Reed
Wallace Stevens Professor of Law
Courses: American Legal History; American Slavery & the Law; Criminal Procedure: Investigation; Legal Profession; Property

James Grimmelmann
Associate Professor of Law
Harvard, B.A. 1999 summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa; Yale, J.D. 2005 (LawMeme, Editor in Chief; Yale Law Journal, Member); Law Clerk, Hon. Maryanne Trump Barry, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.
Courses: Copyright; Intellectual Property; Internet Law

Lawrence M. Grosberg
Professor of Law; Director, Lawyering Skills Center; Co-director, Elder Law Clinic
University of Southern California, B.A. 1965 cum laude, Order of the Palm; Columbia, J.D. 1969 (Journal of Transnational Law; Editor).
Courses: Alternative Dispute Resolution; Elder Law Clinic; Externship Course; Lawyering; Mediation Clinic; Negotiating, Counseling, and Interviewing; Trial Advocacy

Karen Gross
(On leave)
Distinguished Visiting Professor of Law; President, Southern Vermont College; Former President, Coalition for Debtor Education
Smith, B.A. 1974 cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa; Temple, J.D. 1977 cum laude.
Courses: Bankruptcy/Debtor-Creditor Law; Bankruptcy Policy Seminar & Workshop; Commercial Transactions; Consumer Finance & Collection; Contracts I & II; Contracts: Theory & Practice; Corporate Reorganization; Feminist Jurisprudence: Theory & Application; Financial Advocacy

Jeffrey J. Haas
Professor of Law
Florida State, B.S. 1984 summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa; University of Pennsylvania, J.D. 1989 cum laude (Law Review; Comment Editor).
Courses: Contracts I & II; Corporate Finance Corporations; Federal Regulation of Mutual Funds; Mergers and Acquisitions; Securities Regulation

Seth D. Harris
(On leave)
Professor of Law; Director, Labor & Employment Law Program; Deputy Secretary, U.S. Department of Labor
Cornell University School of Industrial and Labor Relations, B.S. 1983; New York University, J.D. 1990 cum laude (Review of Law and Social Change; Professor in Chief); Law Clerk, Hon. William Canby, U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit; Law Clerk, Hon. Gene Carter, Chief Judge U.S. District Court, District of Maine.
Courses: Employment Discrimination Law; Labor Relations Law, Torts

Mariana Hogan
Professor of Law; Associate Dean for Professional Development; Director, Externship Program
Courses: Advocacy of Criminal Cases; Criminal Defense Clinic; Externship Course; Judicial Externship Course; Legal Profession; Trial Advocacy

Dan Hunter
Professor of Law; Director, Institute for Information Law & Policy
Courses: Information Law; Introduction to Intellectual Property; Property; Trademarks and Unfair Competition

Sandra K. Janin '75
Professor of Legal Writing; Associate Director, Writing Program
Courses: Drafting; Litigation Documents; Drafting: General Principles; Legal Reasoning, Writing & Research; Memo and Brief Writing; Persuasion; Principles of Legal Analysis
Randolph N. Jonakait
Professor of Law
Courses: Criminal Law; Criminal Law & Procedure; Criminal Appellate Clinic; Criminal Law & Procedure: Jury System; Criminal Law & Procedure: Post-Conviction Review & Remedies; Criminal Procedure: Adjudication; Evidence

Gerald Kornfeld
Professor of Law
University of Pennsylvania, B.A. 1974 summa cum laude; Phi Beta Kappa; J.D. 1977 cum laude (University of Pennsylvania Law Review; Editor).
Courses: Center for Real Estate Studies Harlan Capstone; Land Use Regulation; Property

Peter C. Kostant
Visiting Professor of Law
Courses: Contracts; Corporations; Torts

Molly Beutz Land
Associate Professor of Law
Courses: Civil Procedure; Conflict of Laws

William P. LaPiana
Rita and Joseph Solomon Professor of Wills, Trusts, and Estates; Director, Estate Planning, Graduate Tax Program
Courses: American Legal History; Estate Planning; Federal Taxation of Gifts & Estates; Property; Wills, Trusts, & Future Interests

Lawrence Lederman
Distinguished Adjunct Professor of Law; Chairman, Board of Advisors, Center on Business Law & Policy
Courses: Corporate Governance; Mergers & Acquisitions

Arthur S. Leonard
Professor of Law; Editor, Lesbian/Gay Law Notes
Cornell University School of Industrial & Labor Relations, B.S. 1974 (Industrial & Labor Relations Forum; Editor); Harvard, J.D. 1977 cum laude.
Courses: Contracts I & II; Employment Discrimination Law; Employment Law; Legal Profession; Sexual Orientation & the Law; Torts; Torts II; Additional Topics & Advanced Inquiries

Jethro K. Lieberman
Professor of Law; Vice President for Academic Publishing
Courses: Writing Skills for Lawyers, Advanced; Constitutional Law I & II; Law & Society

Joseph L. Marino
Professor of Applied Legal Studies; Director, Applied Skills Program
C.W. Post College of Long Island University, B.A. 1972; St. John’s University School of Law, J.D. 1975.
Courses: Consolidated Legal Analysis; New York Law in National Perspective; New York Practice

Richard D. Marsico
Professor of Law; Director, Justice Action Center; Director, Economic Justice Project of the Justice Action Center; Chair, First Thursday Lunches; Co-editor, Clinical Research Institute
Courses: Education Law and Policy; Justice Action Center Colloquium; Lawyering; Professional Responsibility

Richard A. Matasar
Dean and President; Professor of Law

Michael T. McCarthy
Professor of Legal Research; Senior Reference Librarian
Course: Legal Research: Practical Skills

Carlin Meyer
Professor of Law; Director, Diane Abbey Law Center for Children and Families
Courses: Employment Law; Family Law; Feminist Jurisprudence

Howard S. Meyers
Visiting Professor of Law; Associate Director, Center on Business Law & Policy
Courses: Accounting for Lawyers; Corporations; Securities Arbitration Clinic

William R. Mills
Professor of Legal Research; Associate Librarian for Information Services
Course: Legal Research, Advanced

Frank W. Munger
Professor of Law; Co-chair, New York Law and Society Colloquium
Courses: Administrative Law; Constitutional Law; Land Use; Legal Profession; Legislation and Regulation; Welfare Law
Faculty and Instructional Staff
Scholarly, Activist

Stephen A. Newman
Professor of Law

Courses: Children & the Law; Civil Procedure, Divorce, Lawyers, Clients, and Families; Family Law; Persuasion

Beth Simone Noveck (On leave)
Professor of Law; Director, Democracy Design Workshop; Founder, State of Play: Law and Virtual Worlds Annual Conference; Chief Technology Officer for Open Government, White House Office of Science and Technology Policy


Courses: Constitutional Law II; Copyright, Innovation, and the Internet; Intellectual Property; Law, Technology, and Democracy

Rudolph J.R. Peritz
Professor of Law

Courses: Antitrust; Antitrust, Advanced; Competition & International Trade Policy; Computers, Information, Technology, & Law; Contracts I & II; Intellectual Property; Jurisprudence: Introduction to Legal Theory & Practice

Michael L. Perlin
Professor of Law; Director, Mental Disability Law Program; Director, International Mental Disability Law Reform Project of the Justice Action Center


Courses: Civil Procedure; Criminal Law & Procedure: The Mentally Disabled Defendant; Criminal Procedure: Adjudication; Mental Disability Litigation Seminar & Workshop; Mental Health Law; Therapeutic Jurisprudence

Edward A. Purcell Jr.
Joseph Solomon Distinguished Professor of Law

Courses: Civil Procedure; Civil Rights Law; Complex Litigation: Problems & Tactics in Advanced Civil Procedure; Federal Courts & the Federal System; Federal Courts Seminar: Problems in the Judicial System

Sadiq Reza
Professor of Law; Editor, Islamic Law and Law of the Muslim World Research Paper Series


Courses: Criminal Law; Criminal Procedure: Adjudication; Criminal Procedure: Investigation; Comparative Criminal Procedure; Islamic Law

Michael Roffer ‘83
Professor of Legal Research; Government Resources Reference Librarian


Course: Legal Research: Practical Skills

Rebecca Roiphe
Associate Professor of Law


Courses: American Legal History; Criminal Procedure: Investigation; Professional Responsibility

Tanima Rostain
Professor of Law; Co-director, Center for Professional Values and Practice; Co-chair, New York Law and Society Colloquium


Courses: Evidence; Lawyers and Public Life; Professional Responsibility

Rosalie Sanderson
Instruction and Automation Librarian; Professor of Legal Research


Courses: Legal Research: Practical Skills; Tax Research and Writing Seminar

Ross Sandler
Professor of Law; Director, Center for New York City Law; Editor, CityLaw, CityLand, and CityRegs Newsletters


Courses: New York City Government, New York City Law Seminar & Workshop, Reforming Government by Court Order; State & Local Government; State and Urban Government: Current Problems and Issues; Torts
David Schoenbrod
Trustee Professor of Law; Visiting Scholar, American Enterprise
Courses: Constitutional Law I & II; Environmental Law & Policy; Reforming Government by Court Order; Remedies

Houman B. Shadab
Associate Professor of Law
University of California at Berkeley, B.A. 1998 with high honors; University of Southern California School of Law, J.D. 2002 (Law Review; Executive Editor).
Courses: Contracts; Financial and Regulatory Crisis – Special Topics in Business Law

Richard K. Sherwin
Professor of Law; Director, Visual Persuasion Project
Courses: Criminal Procedure; Adjudication; Information Law; Law & Popular Culture; Lawyering; Legal Profession; Torts; Visual Persuasion in the Law

James F. Simon
Martin Professor of Law; Dean Emeritus
Courses: Constitutional Law I & II; Legal Journalism; Modern Supreme Court

Michael B.W. Sinclair
Professor of Law
Courses: Administrative Law; Legislation and Regulation; Statutory Interpretation; Torts

Faith Stevelman
Professor of Law; Director, Center on Business Law & Policy
Courses: Corporate & Securities Law; Issues in Corporate Theory; Corporate & Securities Law Seminar & Workshop; Corporate Fraud & Corporate Disclosure; Litigation & Regulation; Corporate Law: Perspectives of the Practicing Attorney; Corporations

Cameron Stracher
Professor of Legal Writing; Publisher, New York Law School Law Review; Co-director, Program in Law & Journalism
Courses: Legal Scholarship; News Gathering and the Law

Peter J. Strauss
Distinguished Adjunct Professor of Law; Co-director, Elder Law Clinic
Course: Elder Law

Nadine Strossen
Professor of Law; Former President, American Civil Liberties Union (1991–2008)
Courses: Advanced Constitutional Law; Constitutional Law I & II; Human Rights Law; Individual Rights

Lynn Boepple Su
Professor of Legal Writing; Associate Director, Writing Program
New York University, B.A. 1982 magna cum laude; Phi Beta Kappa; Washington & Lee, J.D. 1985 cum laude.
Courses: Drafting: Contracts; Legal Reasoning, Writing & Research; Memorandum & Brief Writing; Persuasion; Written & Oral Advocacy

Ruti G. Teitel
Ernst C. Stiefel Professor of Comparative Law; Chair, Comparative Law and Politics Discussion Group
Georgetown, B.S. 1977 cum laude; Cornell, J.D. 1980, Senior Fellow, Yale Law School, Orville H. Schell, Jr. Center for International Human Rights; Fellow, Woodhull Institute for Ethical Leadership.
Courses: Comparative Constitutional Law: Revolution & Constitutional Law; Constitutional Interests in Conflict; Religion & the Constitution; Constitutional Law I & II; International Human Rights Seminar & Workshop; Transnational Law

Ann F. Thomas
Professor of Law; Managing Director, Graduate Tax Program
Courses: Business Law Issues in Structuring the Closely Held Enterprise; Comparative Tax Law; Corporate Tax; Federal Income Tax; Individual

Marshall Tracht
Professor of Law; Director, Graduate Real Estate Program
Courses: Advanced Real Estate Financing; Bankruptcy; Real Estate Transactions and Finance

Donald H. Zeigler
Professor of Law; Co-director, Center for Professional Values and Practice
Courses: Civil Procedure; Evidence; Federal Courts & the Federal System; Modern Civil Litigation
Directions to New York Law School

**BY SUBWAY**
- **7th Avenue Line**
  1 (local) to Franklin Street. Exit at Varick Street and West Broadway. Walk one block south on West Broadway. The School is located on West Broadway between Worth and Leonard Streets.
  2, 3 (express) to Chambers Street. Exit at West Broadway and walk four blocks north on West Broadway.
- **Lexington Avenue Line**
  4, 5 (express) and 6 (local) to Brooklyn Bridge/City Hall. Exit at Foley Square. Walk north two blocks to Worth Street and west four blocks to West Broadway.
- **8th Avenue Line**
  A (express) and C (local) to Chambers Street. Exit at Church Street. Walk four blocks north on Church Street to Worth Street. Walk one block west to West Broadway.
  E (local) to Canal Street; change for the A or C to Chambers Street.
- **Avenue of Americas**
  (Sixth Avenue Line)
  B, D, Q (express) and F (local) to West 4th Street/Washington Square. Change at West 4th Street for the A or C to Chambers Street.
- **Broadway Line**
  W, R (local) to City Hall. Exit on Broadway and walk north on Broadway to Worth Street. Walk west on Worth Street two blocks to West Broadway.

**Nassau Street Line**
J, Z (express) and M (local) to Chambers Street. Exit at Foley Square. Walk north two blocks to Worth Street and west four blocks to West Broadway.

**BY BUS**
- M1, M6 south to Broadway and Worth Street. Walk two blocks west on Worth Street to West Broadway.
- M20 south to Broadway and Worth Street.

**BY CAR**
- **From the Harlem River Drive/ FDR Drive**
  Take Exit 2 (Brooklyn Bridge/Civic Center). Bear right toward Civic Center and proceed down ramp. Make a right at the light onto St. James Place. Go straight; at the third light (street ends), make a left onto Worth Street. Continue for approximately six blocks.
- **From the Henry Hudson Parkway**
  West Side Highway
  Take the Chambers Street exit. Follow Chambers Street three blocks and make a left onto Church Street. Follow Church Street five blocks to Leonard Street. Make a left onto Leonard Street. Go one block west to the corner of Leonard and West Broadway.

**From the Brooklyn Battery Tunnel**
At the exit of the tunnel, bear right onto Trinity Place. (Trinity Place becomes Church Street after the World Trade Center site.) Move to the far left lane. Continue on Church Street to Leonard Street. (Leonard Street is five blocks past Chambers Street.) Make a left onto Leonard Street and go one block west to the corner of Leonard and West Broadway.

**From the Holland Tunnel**
Stay in the middle lane and take the “Downtown” exit. Make a right onto Varick Street. (Varick Street becomes West Broadway.) Continue on West Broadway two blocks to Leonard Street.

**From the Lincoln Tunnel**
Take the West Side Highway south. (Refer to directions from West Side Highway above.)

**Note for N.J. Visitors**
The PATH Station at the World Trade Center site is open. Exit at Church Street and walk north approximately 10 blocks to New York Law School to Worth Street. Make a left on Worth and walk one block west to West Broadway.

**Parking**
There are a number of parking garages in the neighborhood for fee-paid parking. On-street parking is extremely limited.

**Accessibility**
New York Law School is wheelchair accessible.

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**Change of Program**
This viewbook was published in August 2009. Every effort has been made to ensure its accuracy. New York Law School reserves the right to change course content, programs of study, degree requirements, tuition and fees, and the academic calendar, and to make any other changes deemed necessary or desirable, at any time, without notice and at the discretion of the Law School administration and faculty. Starting with the class entering in August 2003, the Law School has guaranteed that tuition will remain flat for those students during their period of enrollment. The Law School reserves the right, however, to change tuition and fees for entering students in subsequent years.

**Campus Security Report**
In accordance with federal and state law, New York Law School maintains information regarding security policies and procedures and prepares an annual Campus Security Report with all campus crime statistics as reported to the United States Department of Education. You may access this information from the Department of Education Web site at ope.ed.gov/security. The report is distributed annually to all members of the New York Law School community, is posted on the school’s Web site at www.nyls.edu, and is also available upon request from the School’s Director of Security and Safety.

**Human Rights Policy**
It is the policy of New York Law School not to discriminate in its educational programs, admission policies, financial aid programs, employment practices, and other school-sponsored activities because of race, color, ethnicity, ancestry, citizenship, religion, sex, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, age, disability, AIDS, predisposing genetic characteristics, marital or parental status, military status, domestic violence victim status, or any other classification protected by local, state, or federal law (“Protected Classification”). The placement facilities of the school are available only to employers whose practices are consistent with this policy. (In the wake of the 2008 U.S. Supreme Court decision affirming the Solomon Amendment, the faculty of New York Law School voted on March 27, 2008 to suspend its ban on military recruitment on campus.)

Inquiries regarding compliance with Title IX of the 1972 Educational Amendments, relative to nondiscrimination on the basis of sex, or any other aspect of the school’s equal opportunity policy, may be directed to the Associate Dean for Finance and Administration and Title IX Coordinator, or to the Director of the Office for Civil Rights, Department of Education, Washington, D.C.
Application 10–11

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