

LAURA GINSBERG ABELSON
SMU Dedman School of Law
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

SMU Dedman School of Law 2025-present

Assistant Professor of Law

Courses: Evidence

Criminal Law

Institutional Service: Faculty Secretary (2025-26)

Endowed Lectures and Faculty Forum Committee (2025-26)

University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School 2023-2025

Quattrone Center for the Fair Administration of Justice

Research Fellow

University of Baltimore School of Law Spring 2022, Spring 2023

Adjunct Professor of Law

Courses: Constitutional Criminal Procedure I (investigations)

Introduction to Advocacy (1L)

University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law Spring 2015, Fall 2023

Adjunct Professor of Law

Courses: Criminal Procedure I (investigations)

Written and Oral Advocacy (1L)

ARTICLES AND ESSAYS

The Multidimensions of AI Chatbots as Evidence, 60 U.C. Davis L. Rev. ____ (forthcoming 2027)

Family Ties and Prosecutorial Overcharging, 79 Fla. L. Rev. ____ (forthcoming 2027)

Let's Modify Safety Valve to Value Family Ties, Federal Sentencing Reporter (invited contribution)
(forthcoming 2026)

[*The Fourth Amendment's Hidden Intrusion Doctrine*](#), 111 VA. L. REV. 1255 (2025)

- "Recommended" by Professor Lawrence Solum's Legal Theory Blog

[*Reevaluating Felon-in-Possession Laws After Bruen and the War on Drugs*](#), 15 U.C. IRVINE L. REV.
871 (2025)

[*Federal Time*](#), Inquest: A decarceral brainstorm (Aug. 11, 2022) (with K. Givens and M. Carter)

SELECTED WORKSHOPS, GUEST LECTURES, AND AMICUS BRIEFS

The Multidimensions of AI Chatbots as Evidence (and other titles)

CrimFest, July 2025
Markelloquium South (DC), February 27, 2026
Junior Criminal Law Scholars Writing Group, March 6, 2026

Examining Holistic Defense: The Challenges and Benefits of Expanding Defenders' Role

Moderator, Quattrone Center Symposium, May 13, 2025

Amicus Brief on Behalf of the Quattrone Center for the Fair Administration of Justice
Farella v. Anglin, No. 24-2914 (8th Cir.) (2025)

Evolving Evidence: Technology's Transformation of Criminal Procedure

Moderator, University of Pennsylvania Journal of Constitutional Law Symposium,
January 31, 2025

Family Ties and Prosecutorial Overcharging (and other titles)

Texas Junior Scholars Conference, December 2025
Decarceration Law Professors workshop, June 2025
Junior Criminal Law Scholars Writing Group, April 2025
Plea Bargaining Institute Spring Workshop, April 2025
Northeastern University School of Law Junior Scholars Conference, February 2025
CrimFest, July 2024

The Fourth Amendment's Hidden Intrusion Doctrine

Junior Criminal Law Scholars Writing Group, April 2024
Decarceration Law Professors workshop, June 2024

Reevaluating Felon-in-Possession Laws After Bruen and the War on Drugs

UVA Gun Violence and Second Amendment Colloquium, September 2024
Faculty Workshop, Drexel University Thomas R. Kline School of Law, February 2024
AALS/ABA Criminal Section Academics Committee Workshop, November 2023
NYU Academic Careers Program Workshop, April 2023
Quattrone Center Affiliated Faculty Presentation, February 2023

Criminal Justice Reform: A Systems Approach (indigent defense and community supervision)

University of Pennsylvania (undergraduate), February 2024

Professional Responsibility (wellness in the legal profession)

Penn Carey Law School, Fall 2023, Fall 2024

Practical Constraints on Access to Medical Care in Jail and Prison

Cleveland Clinic Learner College of Medicine, 2022, 2023

Criminal Law (conspiracy)

University of Baltimore School of Law, Fall 2021, Fall 2022

Introduction to Federal Criminal Defense

Baltimore Public Interest Summer Intern Brown Bag Series, Summer 2020, 2021, 2022

The Intersection Between Federal and State Criminal Cases

Anne Arundel County Office of the Public Defender, 2019

Baltimore County Office of the Public Defender, 2018

EDUCATION

J.D. New York University School of Law, *cum laude* 2009

Juvenile Defender Clinic

Children's Rights Clinic

Moot Court Board, Executive Board (2008), Co-Editor, Immigration Law Competition,
Competitions Team (2007)

Teaching Assistant, The Administrative and Regulatory State

A.B. Princeton University, *summa cum laude* 2005

Major: School of Public and International Affairs

R.W. van de Velde Award (for outstanding junior independent research paper)

Janet M. McCartney Scholar (for best senior thesis on education policy)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Office of the Federal Public Defender, Baltimore, MD 2015-2023

Assistant Federal Public Defender, 2015-2023

Ethics Advisor, 2022-2023

Internship Coordinator, 2019-2023

Brown, Goldstein, & Levy, LLP, Baltimore, MD 2010-2015

Associate

The Honorable Frank Maas, United States District Court for the S.D.N.Y. 2009-2010

Law Clerk

Legal Aid Society Juvenile Rights Practice, New York, NY 2008-2009

Juvenile Defender Clinic Student Advocate

Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowships for New Americans, New York, NY 2005-2006

Program Assistant, Princeton Project 55 Fellow

OTHER

Board Member, Homeless Persons Representation Project (2014-2024, Secretary 2016-2024)

Super Lawyers Rising Star 2014, 2015

Bar admissions: Maryland (2009), United States District Court for the District of Maryland (2009), United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit (2010)

Member, Rule Day Law Club

Member, Riveters Law Club