

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)

Judicial Clerkship Committee (2026-present)

Faculty Advisor, Inns of Court (2026-present)

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)

- Recipient, Joel R. Reidenberg Award for Outstanding Scholarship by a junior scholar, 2026 Privacy Law Scholars Conference

[*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)

The Force and Effect of State-law Search and Seizure Protections (work-in-progress)

Chatbots After Chatrue (work-in-progress)

PRESENTATIONS, LECTURES, MEDIA APPEARANCES AND AMICUS BRIEFS

The Force and Effect of State-law Search and Seizure Protections
CrimFest 2026

[*Legal Tech Briefs*](#) (podcast produced by the Legal Tech Fund), May 9, 2026

Emerging Issues Related to AI in Criminal Cases
Panelist, Federal Bar Association of Maryland Bench/Bar Conference, April 2026

Presentation to Maryland State's Attorney Association regarding bill to limit the use of artistic expression as evidence, March 2026

The Multidimensions of AI Chatbots as Evidence (and other titles)
Privacy Law Scholars Conference, May 2026
Antonin Scalia School of Law, George Mason University, faculty workshop (March 2026)
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*

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*

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 <i>Assistant Federal Public Defender, 2015-2023</i> <i>Ethics Advisor, 2022-2023</i> <i>Internship Coordinator, 2019-2023</i>	2015-2023
Brown, Goldstein, & Levy, LLP, Baltimore, MD <i>Associate</i>	2010-2015
The Honorable Frank Maas, United States District Court for the S.D.N.Y. <i>Law Clerk</i>	2009-2010
Legal Aid Society Juvenile Rights Practice, New York, NY <i>Juvenile Defender Clinic Student Advocate</i>	2008-2009
Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowships for New Americans, New York, NY <i>Program Assistant, Princeton Project 55 Fellow</i>	2005-2006

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