

Public Rights Project

Jonathan Miller

Jonathan Miller is the Legal Director at Public Rights Project. With over a decade of experience as a government attorney, he has committed his career to public interest endeavors. At Public Rights Project, Mr. Miller has defended the local autonomy of numerous cities, including most recently Portland and Oakland in federal litigation challenging the Trump Administration's policy and practice of deploying federal law enforcement to cities during the racial justice protests of 2020. Prior to joining Public Rights Project, Mr. Miller served as the Chief of the Public Protection & Advocacy Bureau in the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office where he led a 150-person team engaged in investigations, litigation (both in federal and state court), and other advocacy in the areas of civil rights, consumer protection, and workers rights. Mr. Miller frequently has advocated before the U.S. Supreme Court on civil rights matters including affirmative action, reproductive rights, and marriage equality.

In addition to his legal practice, Mr. Miller has served as a Lecturer in Law at Harvard Law School and an instructor at several other law schools. He graduated from Dartmouth College and Columbia Law School.

LiJia Gong

LiJia Gong is Counsel at Public Rights Project where she combines significant litigation experience with political strategy to represent cities in public-facing litigation defending workers' rights and local autonomy. Prior to joining PRP, Ms. Gong worked as a senior legal analyst to Senator Elizabeth Warren in her 2018 re-election campaign. Ms. Gong also litigated at two national law firms, Frankfurt Kurnit, Klein & Selz and Davis Polk & Wardwell, where she represented clients in nearly all phases of litigation in cases before state and federal courts.

Ms. Gong earned her J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center and her B.S.F.S. from Georgetown University.

Marissa Roy

Marissa Roy is a Staff Attorney for Public Rights Project and Legal Team Lead for the Local Solutions Support Center. Ms. Roy has spent her career working with local governments to engage in high-impact litigation. As a Deputy City Attorney for the City of Los Angeles and outside counsel for County of Los Angeles, Ms. Roy represented the municipal perspective in several challenges to the Trump Administration's immigration policies, from the federal district court all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court. In these cases, Ms. Roy protected local autonomy from federal infringement.

Ms. Roy earned her J.D. from Yale Law School as well as her Master's in Public Diplomacy and B.A. in Philosophy, Politics, and Law from the University of Southern California.

Community Justice Project

Berbeth Foster

Berbeth Foster is the Senior Staff Attorney at Community Justice Project. Ms. Foster has a decade of experience litigating and defending low-income populations in consumer rights matters including mortgage foreclosure, debt collection, fraud, and Chapter 13 bankruptcy. In her position at legal aid, she litigated and negotiated over half a million dollars in debt relief for her clients. Ms. Foster left her position as Lead Consumer Litigation Counsel at Legal Aid to work on impact litigation at Community Justice Project. Currently, she focuses her time representing a vast array of grassroots organizations fighting for racial and economic justice. She works with various statewide and national coalitions advocating for housing as a human right, reimagining public safety, and climate justice.

Berbeth graduated from the University of Miami School of Law and from Florida International University where she earned her B.A. and M.A.

Miriam Haskell

Miriam Haskell is a Senior Attorney and Director of Litigation at Community Justice Project. Ms. Haskell has dedicated her legal career to centering individuals and communities in their fights for justice. Prior to her role at Community Justice Project, she worked at the Southern Poverty Law Center, where she focused on class-action litigation against juvenile and adult prisons. In addition, Ms. Haskell worked for Legal Services of Greater Miami, where she represented people trying to access public benefits and school services for students with disabilities.

Ms. Haskell attended Barnard College and the University of North Carolina School of Law.

Southern Poverty Law Center

Bacardi Jackson

Bacardi L. Jackson is the Managing Attorney for the Miami office and Senior Supervising Attorney for Children's Rights at the Southern Poverty Law Center. Prior to joining SPLC, Ms. Jackson practiced at Tucker Law Group from 2005-2018, and established the firm's Florida office. Her practice in Florida included representing a wide range of clients, such as Fortune 100 companies, colleges and universities, governmental entities, and individuals.

Before joining TLG, Ms. Jackson was an associate with King & Spalding in Atlanta, Georgia and Morgan, Lewis & Bockius in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She also clerked for the Honorable Janet C. Hall in the United States District Court for the District of Connecticut. Ms. Jackson received an A.B. from Stanford University and a J.D. from Yale Law School.

Paul Chavez

Paul R. Chavez is a Senior Supervising Attorney with the Southern Poverty Law Center's Immigrant Justice Project, where he leads SPLC's immigrant justice work in the state of Florida. Most recently, Mr. Chavez served as the Executive Director of Centro Legal de la Raza. Headquartered in Oakland CA, Centro Legal is a comprehensive legal services agency that protects and advances the rights of immigrant, low-income, and Latino communities. Under his leadership, Centro Legal grew into one of the preeminent legal service organizations on the West coast, including becoming the largest removal/deportation defense provider in California.

Previously, Mr. Chavez was a Senior Attorney with the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area where he maintained an active racial and immigrant justice impact litigation docket. Mr. Chavez has received several awards for his work, including a 2015 California Lawyer Attorney of the Year (CLAY) Award, recognizing extraordinary achievement in Immigrant Rights Impact Litigation, and a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition in 2018.

Mr. Chavez was a firefighter in the United States Navy prior to receiving his B.A. in Political Science from the University of Colorado. He earned his J.D. from Berkeley Law at the University of California.

Jenner & Block

Lindsay Harrison

Lindsay Harrison is a litigator and partner in Jenner & Block's Appellate and Supreme Court and Complex Commercial Litigation Practices. Ms. Harrison's practice spans a diverse range of matters and clients. Many of her matters involve high-stakes legal challenges under the Administrative Procedure Act, including recent victories challenging the rescission of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program and challenging an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) directive that limits the participation of scientists from academia and nonpartisan nonprofit organizations on federal science advisory committees. Ms. Harrison also leads the firm's Hospitality and Gaming Practice, representing hotel management companies in disputes with owners, partners and consumer class actions. Ms. Harrison has a substantial pro bono practice, which has included her successful argument before the U.S. Supreme Court on behalf of an asylum-seeker and the ongoing representation of a death row inmate in Georgia.

Ms. Harrison received a B.A. from the University of Southern California and a J.D. from Harvard Law School. After graduating from law school, Ms. Harrison clerked for Judge Gold in the Southern District of Florida and for Judge Barkett on the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals.

John Flynn

John Flynn is co-chair of Jenner & Block's Communications, Internet, and Technology Practice and a partner in its Washington, D.C. office. He represents telecom, media, and technology companies in a wide variety of matters, including merger proceedings and other government investigations, technology-related litigation, internet and wireless regulatory issues, and telecommunications transactions. In achieving results for clients, Mr. Flynn draws on more than 25 years of communications and technology experience spanning government, private practice, and the private sector.

Mr. Flynn received his J.D., magna cum laude, from the Georgetown University Law Center in 1995, where he served as the Senior Notes and Comments Editor of *The Georgetown Law Journal*. He received his MA in International Policy Studies and A.B. in Political Science, with distinction, from Stanford University. Mr. Flynn clerked for the Hon. Edward R. Becker of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit in 1995 and Justices Byron R. White and John Paul Stevens on the U.S. Supreme Court in 1996-97.

Academic Experts

Professor Sarah Swan

Professor Sarah L. Swan is an assistant professor at Florida State University. Professor Swan teaches in the areas of local government law, torts, criminal law, and family law. She is an expert in state preemption and local government law, and her academic articles have appeared in the *Harvard Law Review* (forthcoming), *Duke Law Journal*, *UCLA Law Review*, *Vanderbilt Law Review* and *Emory Law Review*, among others. She has also presented at numerous conferences and colloquiums on municipal affairs. Prior to joining the FSU College of Law faculty, Professor Swan was an associate-in-law and fellow at Columbia Law School. She previously practiced as a litigation associate for several years, specializing in the areas of insurance and commercial litigation.

Professor Swan earned her J.S.D and LL.M from Columbia University, and her J.D. and B.A. from University of British Columbia.

Professor Nestor Davidson

Professor Nestor Davidson joined the faculty of Fordham University School of Law in 2011 and was named the Albert A. Walsh Professor of Real Estate, Land Use and Property Law in 2017. Professor Davidson is an expert in property, urban law, and affordable housing law and policy, and is the co-author of the casebook *Property Law: Rules, Policies and Practices* (7th ed. 2017). Professor Davidson founded and serves as the faculty director of the law school's Urban Law Center and previously served as Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. Professor Davidson also serves as a member of the legal team at Local Solutions Support Center.

Professor Davidson practiced with the firm of Latham and Watkins, focusing on commercial real estate and affordable housing, and served as Special Counsel and Principal Deputy General Counsel at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Professor Davidson earned his A.B. from Harvard College and his J.D. from Columbia Law School. After law school, he clerked for Judge David S. Tatel of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit and Justice David H. Souter of the U.S. Supreme Court.

Professor Rick Su

Rick Su is a Professor of Law at the University of North Carolina School of Law, where he teaches and writes in the areas of local government law, immigration, and federalism. His research focuses on the intersection between cities and immigration. His work has appeared in the *Columbia Law Review*, the *William & Mary Law Review*, the *University of Pennsylvania Journal of Constitutional Law*, and the *North Carolina Law Review*. Professor Su also serves on the Law Professor Panel for the Local Solutions Support Center.

Su received his B.A. from Dartmouth College and his J.D. from Harvard Law School. After graduating from law school, he clerked for The Honorable Stephen Reinhardt on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and worked in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Prior to joining the Carolina Law faculty in 2019, Su taught at the University at Buffalo School of Law, where he won the faculty teaching award in 2009 and 2015.