

2019 Inaugural Civil Rights Summit

IN PURSUIT OF A MORE PERFECT UNION



**FRIDAY
FEBRUARY 15
2019**

University of Denver
Sturm College of Law



AGENDA-AT-A-GLANCE

FEBRUARY 15, 2019 / STURM COLLEGE OF LAW

10:00 am - 11:00 am
1st Floor Lobby

CHECK-IN, LIGHT REFRESHMENTS,
& COFFEE BY WHITTIER CAFÉ
WELCOME
Steering Committee

11:00 am - 11:10 am
LAW 165

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Current State of Civil Rights In Colorado and Where
We Can Go From Here
AG Phil Weiser

11:10 am - 11:50 am
LAW 165

Gentrification is a Civil Rights Issue
Dr. Lisa Calderón

11:50 am - 12:10 pm

PICK UP BOXED LUNCH

Provided by The Goods:
Neighborhood Kitchen & Bar, an Open-to-All Business

12:10 pm - 1:00 pm

FIRST SESSION - TRACKS A, B, C

Maintaining Your Client's Humanity in the Criminal Justice System
TRACK A - LAW 290

What is Speech and Who May Speak?: Perspectives on the First
Amendment & Campaign Finance
TRACK B - LAW 280

Corporations & Human Rights
TRACK C - LAW 270

1:10 pm - 2:00 pm

SECOND SESSION - TRACKS A, B, C

The Modern American Death Penalty – Data & Conclusions About
Colorado & the Country
TRACK A - LAW 290

When Activism & the Law Collide: How Can We Do Both?
TRACK B - LAW 280

Children's Rights in the International Context
TRACK C - LAW 270

<p>2:10 pm - 3:00 pm</p>	<p>THIRD SESSION - TRACKS A, B, C</p>
	<p>Abolition of the Current Criminal Justice System TRACK A - LAW 290</p> <p>Police Misconduct: Race, The Law, & Litigation TRACK B - LAW 280</p> <p>Indigenous Rights: Native Americans of North Dakota & Access to the Vote TRACK C - LAW 270</p>
<p>3:10 pm - 4:00 pm</p>	<p>FOURTH SESSION - TRACKS A, B, C</p>
	<p>Prisoners' Rights & Holding Prisons Accountable TRACK A - LAW 290</p> <p>Equal Pay: How Individuals Can Take Action in the Workplace TRACK B - LAW 280</p> <p>When Being in America is a Crime TRACK C - LAW 270</p>
<p>4:10 pm - 4:30 pm LAW 165</p>	<p>CLOSING REMARKS Colorado Supreme Court Justice Melissa Hart</p>
<p>4:30 pm - 5:00 pm LAW 165</p>	<p>TOO SWEET FOR SCOTUS: MASTERPIECE CAKESHOP & WHERE WE GO FROM HERE Steven Brown, President, ACLU Sturm College of Law Chapter Charlie Craig & David Mullins, Plaintiffs</p>
<p>5:00 pm - 6:30 pm LOBBY 299</p>	<p>RECEPTION A brief introduction on the American Constitutional Society (ACS) Love our Constitution Initiative with food & beverages provided by Zinelle October</p>



TRACK A: DEHUMANIZATION IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

Maintaining Your Clients Humanity

Incarcerated individuals are stripped of their dignity and personhood once they become a part of the criminal justice system. This presentation will focus on the importance of maintaining an incarcerated client's humanity throughout the appellate process and methods for success in such pursuit. This moderated panel will be followed by a Q&A. We encourage anyone defending or prosecuting individuals in the criminal justice system to attend.

The Modern American Death Penalty – Data & Conclusions about Colorado & the Country

With 2,738 people on death row and 30 states permitting death penalty convictions, it is important to consider the data of those impacted. Colorado is one of the 30 states that still allows death penalty convictions, with 3 people currently on death row. As the state continues to be in the business of taking lives, our legal system must grapple with all that comes with this business, including free speech protections. This discussion will focus on the intersectionality of the First Amendment and the death penalty and consider what protections the Amendment may afford those sentenced to die.

Abolition of the Current Criminal Justice System

The United States has the world's largest prison system, with more than 2.2 million Americans incarcerated throughout the country. Mass incarceration is ineffective, expensive and exacerbates race-based criminalization. But with a massive prison industry in the US, how can we combat the harmful effects of mass incarceration? This panel will explore criminal justice reform options, frameworks for prison abolition and local efforts to disentangle the system.

Prisoners' Rights & Holding Prisons Accountable

As prison practices confront a new wave of criminal justice reform initiatives, it is essential for lawyers to understand foundational principles that will help them advance with a rapidly evolving system. Panelists will provide an overview of the important foundational aspects of litigating prisoners' rights cases, including the nuts and bolts of prisoner litigation, the Prison Litigation Reform Act (PLRA) and prison accountability.

TRACK B: WHEN EQUALITY CONFRONTS BIG GOVERNMENT

What is Speech & Who May Speak? Perspectives on the First Amendment & Campaign Finance

The First Amendment has provided some of the most significant protections and restraints in the history of the United States. As we witnessed again in the 2018 midterms, money rules politics, regardless of whether it is a million small donations or a few large ones. But is that speech? Is a dollar truly a form of expression? What are the merits, and what is the legality of the dollar becoming a microphone?

When Activism & the Law Collide

Legal organizations have become increasingly involved in activism and politics as the American political system has become increasingly polarized. Within these organizations, members struggle with how to be an effective lawyer while also being an advocate. Can an organization or a lawyer be both an advocate for a particular position and a pure defender of the law? Does a lawyer need to choose? In this discussion, speakers will consider the pros, cons and challenges lawyer and organizations face in striving to achieve both.

Police Misconduct: Race, the Law & Litigation

Serving as a law enforcement officer is a privilege. Unfortunately, some law enforcement officers abuse the power that comes with this privilege. Many police departments have longstanding customs, policies and practices have made it virtually impossible to effectively discipline violent and dishonest officers. Law enforcement officers sometimes engage in a code of silence, which promotes a system that allows other police officers to continue the cycle of violence that too often plagues our communities. The actions and inactions of many police departments have fostered and propagated a subculture of officers who openly engage in dishonesty, police brutality and excessive force. In this discussion, speakers will focus on this issue and what can be done to combat it.

Equal Pay: How Individuals Can Take Action in the Workplace

The pay gap between male and female employees continues to be a problem that permeates throughout each and every profession. In 2018, the University of Denver made headlines for its settlement with eight female Sturm College of Law professors regarding unfair employment practices. Several of these professors, along with the attorneys involved in the case, will discuss the progression of the lawsuit, the outcome, and the future of equal pay in Colorado and across the country.

TRACK C: INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Corporations & Human Rights

In a world of vast corporate globalization, human rights can be easily overlooked. This panel discussion will explore the intersection between business and human rights responsibilities with a focus on extractive and security sectors. The talk will focus on the shape these responsibilities generally take, as well as delve into key concerns in the global business environment. Additionally, the panel will discuss human rights due diligence in the corporate context and how businesses around the world are implementing human rights mechanisms into their business plans.

Children's Rights in the International Context

With millions of people displaced throughout the world, the next generation is often overlooked. As children struggle to access education and assert basic civil rights, this lecture, featuring Professor Ved Nanda, will create a dialogue that spotlights the challenges facing children today.



Indigenous Rights: Native Americans of North Dakota & Access to the Vote

The registration and participation rates of Native Americans in federal and state elections is dismally low. Over the past year, the Native American Rights Fund conducted a series of field hearings across Indian Country to uncover the structural and social barriers Native Americans face to voting. These barriers have led to disparities that are not only morally repugnant, but also run afoul of the Voting Rights Act, National Voting Rights Act (NVRA) and Help America Vote Act (HAVA). The Native American Rights Fund has been litigating these cases for years, including the most recent case in North Dakota, challenging the state's unconstitutional voter identification law. That litigation is ongoing.

When Being in America is a Crime

Over the past several years, the issue of immigration has become one of the most important and controversial in American politics. Beyond the political tweets, news hours and headlines, there are millions of people who experience the impacts of immigration policy on a far more material level. This panel will explore the criminalization of migration into the United States through the lens of asylum law and immigrant detention.

CLOSING & COMING TOGETHER

Colorado Supreme Court Justice Melissa Hart

Justice Hart was appointed by Governor John Hickenlooper to serve on the Colorado Supreme Court on December 14, 2017. Prior to joining the Court, Justice Hart was a professor at the University of Colorado Law School, where she directed the Byron R. White Center for the Study of American Constitutional Law. Throughout her years as a professor, Justice Hart maintained an active pro bono practice, writing amicus briefs in appellate courts and representing clients through Metro Volunteer Lawyers. Her teaching and scholarship focused on access to justice, constitutional law, judicial decision making, legal ethics, employment discrimination, and civil procedure.

Too Sweet For SCOTUS

This closing event will be a dialogue that focuses on how plaintiffs, advocates and lawyers move forward after unfavorable decisions. Further, this dialogue will emphasize the importance of historical litigation, like *Masterpiece Cakeshop Ltd. v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission* (2018), that highlights the need to continue fighting for and protecting our most fundamental civil rights. Charlie Craig and David Mullins, the plaintiffs of *Masterpiece*, will discuss their experience on the long road to the Supreme Court of the United States. Charlie and David will emphasize the importance of public interest work as they continue the pursuit of a more perfect union.

Reception

Please join us for a reception with lawyers, students, activists, and other members of the Colorado civil rights community. This is a great opportunity to reflect on the day's event and build new bonds. Zinelle October will kick off the reception with a few remarks on ACS's Love Our Constitution initiative. There will be delicious food and drinks, including beer from Lady Justice Brewing.

SPEAKERS & MODERATORS

Rachel Arnow-Richman

Chauncey Wilson Memorial Research Professor & Director, Workplace Law Program, Sturm College of Law

Deborah Avant

Director of the Sié Chéou-Kang Center for International Security and Diplomacy

Jonathan Boonin

Attorney at Warren Boonin LLP

Trevor Burrus

Research Fellow, Cato Institute

Dr. Lisa Calderón

Faculty, Regis University; Co-chair, Colorado Latino Forum

Alan Chen

Professor, Sturm College of Law

Charlie Craig

Plaintiff, Masterpiece Cakeshop Ltd v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission, 2017

Becca Curry

Criminal Justice Research & Policy Counsel, ACLU-CO

Jacqueline De León

Attorney at the Native American Rights Fund

K.K. DuVivier

Professor, Sturm College of Law

Nancy Ehrenreich

Professor, Sturm College of Law

Alexi Freeman

Associate Professor of the Practice & Director of Externships and Public Interest Initiatives, Sturm College of Law

Nicole Godfrey

Visiting Assistant Professor, Civil Rights Clinic, Sturm College of Law

Amanda Gonzalez

Executive Director, Colorado Common Cause

Justice Melissa Hart

Supreme Court of Colorado

César García Hernández

Associate Professor, Sturm College of Law

Taylor Ivy, Attorney

Noble Law Firm

Michael Imdieke

Trial Attorney, U.S. EEOC

Danielle Jefferis

Clinic Fellow, Civil Rights Clinic, Sturm College of Law

Rita Kittle

Supervisory Trial Attorney, U.S. EEOC

Christopher Lasch

Professor, Criminal Defense Clinic, Sturm College of Law

Whitney Leeds

Attorney, Novo-Legal

Ved Nanda

Distinguished University Professor, Sturm College of Law, Director, the Ved Nanda Center for Int'l & Comparative Law

Dr. Pardis Madhavi

Senior Associate Dean, Korbel School of International Studies

Justin Marceau

Professor and Animal Legal Defense Fund Professor of Law, Sturm College of Law

Lucy Marsh

Professor, Sturm College of Law

Qusair Mohamedbhai

Partner, Rathod Mohamedbhai LLC

David Mullins

Plaintiff, Masterpiece Cakeshop Ltd v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission, 2017

Zinelle October, Vice President of Network Advancement at ACS

Elisa Overall

Attorney, Noble Law

Laura Rovner

Professor Civil Rights Clinic, Sturm College of Law

Mark Silverstein

Legal Director, ACLU-CO

Catherine Smith

Professor, Sturm College of Law

Karen Steinhauer

Adjunct Professor, Sturm College of Law; Relief Judge, Aurora Municipal Court

Robin Sterling

Ronald V. Yegge Clinical Director and Associate Professor

Charlotte Sweeney

Attorney, Sweeney & Bechtold LLC

Celia Taylor

Professor, Sturm College of Law

Dianne Tramutola-Lawson

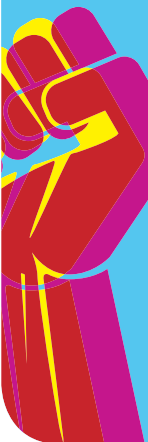
Colorado CURE

Attorney General Phil Weiser

Colorado

Mark Wielga

Director, Nomogaia



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CLE

The 2019 Civil Rights Summit is approval for five (5) general CLE credits. CLE credit may be secured by entering your affidavit online at cletrack.com. Do not mail into the Colorado CLE office.

#DUCivilRightsSummit



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