

Alexi Freeman

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

UNIVERSITY OF DENVER STURM COLLEGE OF LAW, Denver, CO

Associate Dean of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; Director of Social Justice Initiatives, September 2020-present

Professor of the Practice, August 2020-present

Director of Externships, June 2016-present

Associate Professor of the Practice, June 2016-August 2020

Director of Public Interest Initiatives, June 2016-September 2020

Assistant Professor of the Practice & Director of Public Interest, July 2015-May 2016

Lecturer & Director of Public Interest, Aug. 2013-June 2015

- **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion:**

- Launch initiatives focused on representation/recruitment and establishing communities of belonging
- Develop Denver Law Ascent, a pre orientation program for students new to the profession
- Lead pipeline initiatives with local partners, including hosting 60 plus events since appointment
- Initiate paid diversity assistant positions
- Launch Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Practitioner Teaching Fellows program to greater diversify faculty
- Chair DEI committee; meet regularly with affinity group leaders; meet individually with students
- Create virtual workshop series for prospective law faculty from underrepresented groups
- Create DEI Continuing Legal Education series for alumni
- Re-establish Lawyering in Spanish Program
- Host events to bring together and educate students on issues related to DEI
- Support creation of Yellow Ribbon program at Denver Law
- Create personalized outreach initiatives for admitted students
- Launch arts initiative designed to diversify imagery in the building
- Lead efforts around ABA standard 303(c)

- **Externships Administration**

- Oversee program that works with 700+ placements annually and monitor compliance with the ABA
- Advise students to ensure selection of appropriate externships, monitor to ensure educational goals of the externship are met, recruit/oversee supervisors, and provide vision for program and faculty/staff team
- Monitor country's first paid externship program, and develop subject-specific externship programs

- **Social Justice/Public Interest Initiatives Administration**

- Develop events, opportunities, scholarship, and programs to enhance and elevate public service and pro bono, including creating and leading annual events such as Alternative Spring Break, Day of Service, Pro Bono Week, and Public Good Practitioner Speed Mentoring
- Established and maintained for three cycles, *Colorado Civil Justice Corps*, a post graduate fellowship program only for Denver Law students funded by the CO Division of Criminal Justice to work for two years at nonprofits to provide civil legal services to crime victims
- Co-lead the pilot *1L Public Good Fellows Program*, which offers monthly professional identity/values-based workshops and service hours to 1Ls interested in public interest and the law to combat public interest drift
- Administer Denver Law's Public Service Requirement to ensure all students engage in 50 hours pro bono
- Developed and run the *Public Good Distinction*, an honor Denver Law bestows on graduates who devote their legal education to public interest work
- Led *The Pledge for the Public Good* effort, which asks faculty to incorporate the public good in all classes
- Serve as primary support for 2Ls applying to state and national post-graduate public service fellowships, including successfully securing multiple and increasing number of fellowships and applicants

- **Teaching**

- Externship Seminars: *Professional Identity in Practice, Semester in Practice, Lawyering in the Criminal Justice System; Nonprofit Externships; Lawyering in the Public Sector; Women and the Workforce; Managing Stress*
- Other Seminars Taught: *Critical Race Reading Seminar* (collaborative co-teaching model); *Movement Lawyering for Social Justice: Skills Workshop*; *Public Interest Capstone* (developed for graduating students who have a focus on public interest law to provide insight on public interest careers); *Social Change Lawyering* (public interest lawyering survey course); *Civil Rights Immersion* (travel course to Alabama); *Movement Lawyering Lab* (includes overseeing student support to community-based projects/campaigns across the country);

- **Awards**

- DU Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, Outstanding Mentorship Award, 2026
- Denver Public Schools, Xplore Career Partner of the Year, 2026
- Student Bar Association: Commitment to Student Success Award, 2026
- Colorado LGBT Bar Association, Community Spotlight Award, 2025
- Denver Law Faculty Career Champion, University of Denver Career Services: 2016-present
- Colorado Women's Bar Association, Raising the Bar Award, 2023
- Colorado LGBT Bar Association, Ally of the Year Award, 2023
- Student Bar Association Faculty/Staff Mentorship Award (voted by student body): 8-time award winner (award since discontinued)
- Student Bar Association Outstanding Administrator Award (voted by student body): 4-time award winner (award since discontinued)
- Student Bar Association Outstanding Faculty Award (voted by student body): 2-time award winner (award since discontinued)
- Robert B. Yegge Excellence in Teaching Award, 2019
- University Faculty Career Champion for All Graduate Students (based on student submissions for all faculty across university graduate departments) - University of Denver Career Services, 2019
- Inclusiveness @ Work, Individual Award – Center for Legal Inclusiveness, 2019
- X-ITE Innovation Fellow, 2018-2019
- IRISE Faculty Research Grant Awardee, 2016

- **Service**

- Current

- 2020-present Community Engagement/DEI Committee, Chair
- 2019-present Denver Law Chapter of the American Constitution Society, Co-Faculty Advisor
- 2019-present Student Affairs Student Awards Committee, Member
- 2014-present Public Interest Law Group, Faculty Advisor
- 2014-present Rocky Mountain Collective on Race, Place and Law, Member

- Past

- 2025, Search Committee for Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, Member
- 2023-2025, Faculty of Color Association Member and Demonstration Policy Representative
- 2023-2025, DU DEI Cohort, Member
- 2022-2024, DU Women's Leadership Council, Member
- 2018-2024 Denver Law Admissions Committee, ex-officio Member
- 2020-2024 Denver Law Appointments Committee, ex-officio Member
- 2014-2024 Chancellor's Scholars, Faculty Advisor
- 2020-2022 DU Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion University-wide Steering Committee (selected by DEI VC)
- 2021-2022 DU Black Community Advisory Board; Black Community Steering Committee
- 2020-2021 University Opportunity and Strategy Task Force (selected by Chancellor)
- 2019-2020 Faculty Executive Committee, Alternate Fall '19/Permanent Spring '20 (voted by faculty)
- 2019-2020 Denver Law Alumni Council, Faculty Representative (one of two selected by the Dean)

- 2019-2020 University Faculty Career Champion Award Selection Committee, Member
- 2019-2020 Evaluation and Compensation Committee, Member
- 2017-2018 Appointments Committee, Member (secured four new faculty hires)
- 2014-2022 Loan Repayment Assistance Program, Committee Chair
- 2014-2016; 2020-present, Modern Learning Committee Member

SCHOLARSHIP/SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

• **Academic**

- LEARNING FROM PRACTICE, the 4th edition, Editor, (forthcoming 2027).
- Alexi Freeman and Roshana Floyd, *Interrupting & Disrupting The Law School Industrial Complex*, 25 SEATTLE J. FOR SOC. JUST. 2 (2026).
- Alexi Freeman, *The Staying Power of RPL: Fostering Belonging Among Students*, 101 DEN. L.Rev. 465 (2024).
- Alexi Freeman and Caley Carlson, *Belonging Matters: One School's Strategy for Fostering Community and Confidence Among Students from Historically Excluded Groups*, 19 NW. J. L. & SOC. POL'Y. 76 (2023).
- Alexi Freeman and Erika Sisneros Kelley, *Laying the Framework for Transformative Change: What Law Schools Can Do Now to Promote Anti-Racism*, 23 Rutgers Race and the L. Rev. 39 (2022).
- Alexi Freeman and Lindsey Webb, *Yes, You Can Learn Movement Lawyering in Law School: Highlights from the Movement Lawyering Lab at Denver Law*, 5 How. Hum. & Civ. Rts. L. Rev. 55 (2021).
- Alexi Freeman, *Don't Hire Me as A Token: Best Practices for Recruiting and Supporting Diverse Externs*, 2 South Carolina L. Rev. 72 (2020).
- Navigating the New Normal: Best Practices for Supervising Law Students Remotely, NALP Bulletin (with Kristen Hulse), (December 2020).
- Alexi Freeman and Katherine Steefel, *Uniting the Heads, Hands, and Heart: How Specialty Externships Can Combat Public Interest Drift*, 25 (2) Clinical L. Rev. 325 (2019).
- Alexi Freeman and Lindsey Webb, *Positive Disruption: Addressing Race in a Time of Social Change Through a Team-taught, Reflection-based, Outward-looking Law School Seminar*, 21 U. Pa. J. L. Soc. Change 121 (2018).
- Alexi Freeman, *From Symposium to Action: Five Ways for Law Schools to Bridge the Gap between Students and Marginalized Communities*, 94 DEN. L. Rev. 511 (2017).
- Alexi Freeman and Jim Freeman, *It's About Power, Not Policy: Movement Lawyering for Large-Scale Social Change*, 23(1) Clinical L. Rev. 147 (2016).
- Alexi Freeman and Katherine Steefel, *The Pledge for the Public Good: A Student-Led Initiative to Incorporate Morality and Justice in Every Classroom*, 2 Wash. & Lee J. Civ. Rts. & Soc. Just. 49 (2016).
- Alexi Freeman, *Teaching for Change: How the Legal Academy Can Prepare the Next Generation of Social Justice Movement Lawyers*, 59(1) How. Law J., 99 (2015).

• **Advocacy/Other**

- *Pro Bono, Public Interest and More: A Look at a Student-Led Initiative to Elevate the Public Good at Denver Law* (with Katherine Steefel), The Docket, the magazine of the Denver Bar Association, 2016.
- *Public Service at Denver Law*, The Colorado Lawyer, 2014.
- *Getting Your Hands Dirty: New School Legal Education*, The Docket, the magazine of the Denver Bar Association, 2014.
- *The Rental Assistance Demonstration Project: A Health Impact Assessment* (co-author), March 2012.
- *Florida Students Caught in the School-to-Prison Pipeline* (co-producer of video), March 2012.
- *Taking Back our Classrooms: The United Struggle of Teachers, Students, and Parents Against High-Stakes Testing in North Carolina* (co-author), February 2012.
- *Telling It Like It Is: Youth Speak Out on the School-to-Prison Pipeline* (co-author), August 2011.
- *Dictators Over Communities of Color: Coming to A Town Near You* (co-producer of video), September 2011.
- *Still Haven't Shut off the School-to-Prison Pipeline: Evaluating the Impact of Florida's New Zero Tolerance Law* (co-author), March 2011.
- *We Call These Projects Home: Solving the Housing Crisis from the Ground Up* (co-author), May 2010.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS, 2021-Current

- AMDiP Professionals Conference, *Storytelling*, invited panelist, April 23, 2026.
- Faculty of Federal Advocates CLE, *Belonging for New Lawyers and Law Students*, invited lecturer, April 9, 2026.
- Colorado Pledge to Diversity, *Best Practices in Inclusivity for Pledge Employers*, January 29, 2026.
- SALT Rule of Law Panel, invited panelist, May 2, 2025.
- 2025 AALS Clinical Conference, *Opening Plenary*, invited panelist, Apr. 27, 2025.
- RMLUI, *Diversity, Equity & Inclusion*, invited panelist, Mar. 7, 2025.
- AALS Externship Think Tank, *Reflecting on Curriculum that Meets ABA Standard 303(c)*, invited presenter, Mar. 28, 2025.
- Externships 12 Conference, *Bridge Over Troubled Waters-Ensuring Belonging, Inclusivity, and Respect in the Toughest Externship Environments*, Oct. 19, 2024.
- Externships 12 Conference, *Learning from YOU: A Listening Session*, Oct. 18, 2024.
- Colorado Supreme Court Well-Being Recognition Program, *Defining Professional Culture: What Are We Tolerating, Accepting, and Rewarding as a Profession*, (invited panelist), Sept. 12, 2024.
- Colorado Pledge to Diversity, *Best Practices in Inclusivity for Pledge Employers*, January 30, 2025.
- Colorado Supreme Court, *Keynote Address to Newly Admitted Lawyers*, June 3, 2024.
- Faculty of Federal Advocates, *Supporting Students and Lawyers from Underrepresented Backgrounds*, invited presenter, Apr. 6, 2024.
- Colorado AILA, *Supporting Students and Lawyers from Underrepresented Backgrounds*, March 1, 2024.
- 2023 Latinx Symposium, *DEI: What's Next?*, invited moderator, Oct. 5, 2023.
- American Association of Real Estate Lawyers Meeting, *DEI Engagement*, invited panelist, Oct. 5, 2023.
- AALS Externship Committee, *Scholarship and Externships*, invited panelist, Sept. 15, 2023.
- IAALS, *Lawyers Council Meeting*, Apr. 4, 2023.
- Colorado Attorney Mentoring Program, *The Lawyer as a Whole Person*, invited panelist, Jan. 19, 2023.
- University College Enrichment Program, *Critical Race Theory*, invited lecturer, Nov. 30, 2022.
- National HBCU Pre-Law Summit, invited pre-law mentor, Sept. 2022.
- Fort Collins City Attorney's Office, *Critical Race Theory*, invited lecturer, June 14, 2022.
- Symposium on Race, *Critical Race Theory*, invited lecturer, Apr. 6, 2022.
- Civil Rights Summit 2022, *Race and Education*, invited lecturer, Mar. 12, 2022
- DLR Symposium, *Critical Race Perspectives on Gender, Identity, and Culture in the Law*, Mar. 12, 2022.
- Center for Legal Inclusiveness, "*Critical Race Theory 101*," invited keynote, Feb. 16, 2022.
- CLEA Teaching Justice, "*Teaching Justice and Equity Through Externships*," invited presenter, Apr. 1, 2022.
- 17th Annual Black Pre-Law Conference, *Black Lawyers for Black People: How Black Lawyers Can Utilize Their Legal Training to Do Significant, Meaningful Work and Contribute to the Uplift of the Black Community* invited panelist, Nov. 16, 2021.
- Denver Law DEI Office, *Returning to Work with a DEI Lens*, Nov. 15, 2021.
- Iliff School of Theology and The Institute for Religion Politics and Culture, "*Critical Race Theory*," invited panelist, Nov. 4, 2021.
- Faculty of Federal Advocates, "*The Value of Externships*," invited panelist, Sept. 23, 2021.
- 2021 Virtual VOCA Assistance and Compensation Conference "*Lessons from The Colorado Civil Justice Corps*" invited panelist, Sept. 23, 2021.
- Colorado Lawyers Committee Young Lawyers Division 2021 Racial Justice Summit, "*A Primer on Racial Justice*," invited keynote, Sept. 8, 2021.
- 2021 CLEA New Clinicians Conference, "*Racial Justice in the Classroom and in Practice*," invited plenary panelist, May 18, 2021.
- 2021 AALS Clinical Conference, "*Are We (Almost) There Yet? Clinical Programs and the Academy as Anti-Racist Institutions*," invited plenary panelist, Apr. 30, 2021.
- DU Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, "*Remarks on the Chauvin Trial*" invited panelist, Apr. 22, 2021.
- American Constitution Society, "*Pathways to Clinical Teaching*," invited co-panelist, Apr. 7, 2021.

- NALP Annual Conference, “*Supervising Law Students Virtually, Keys to Success*,” co-panelist, Mar. 25, 2021.
- 2021 Ms. JD Annual Conference, “*Discussion on Social Justice*,” Mar. 12, 2021.
- DU Civil Rights Summit, “*Closing Keynote*,” invited keynote, Mar. 5, 2021.
- Fireside Chat with Colorado Attorney General, invited keynote, Feb. 26, 2021.
- DU Continuing Legal Education Program, “*About Race*,” co-panelist, Feb. 25, 2021.
- CU/DU Public Interest Career Fair, “*Diversity and Judicial Keynote*,” invited moderator, Feb. 18, 2021.
- ABA Center for Pro Bono, *Supervising Remote Interns*, invited co-panelist, Jan. 11, 2021.
- AALS 2021 Conference, “*Calling Out and Leaning Into Racial and Class Inequities in Experiential Learning Opportunities*,” invited panelist, Jan. 6, 2021.

EDUCATION

HARVARD LAW SCHOOL, J.D., June 2007

Recognition: Dean’s Award for Community Leadership, Dwight D. Eisenhower Scholarship, Award for 1000+ Pro Bono Hours, Elected Class Day Speaker, Head Class Marshal, Black Law Students Ass’n Internal VP

Internships: Advancement Project, ACLU-DC, Center for Law and Education, Legal Services Center-HLS, Jane Doe Inc.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL, B.A., May 2004

Majors: School of Journalism & Mass Communication: News-Editorial; Cultural Studies

Internships: US Dept. of Education: Office for Civil Rights; National Conference for Community and Justice, Harvard University Civil Rights Summer

Study Abroad: Lorenzo de Medici Institute – Florence, Italy

OTHER LEGAL EXPERIENCE

ADVANCEMENT PROJECT, Staff Attorney, Washington, DC, 2007-2013

- Assisted grassroots organizations nationwide on a variety of social justice and racial justice advocacy campaigns around issues of education policy, including school discipline, high-stakes testing, access to high-quality curricula, academic tracking, and resource allocation; housing policy; and voting rights
- Provided multi-faceted support to community partners, including legal and policy research and writing, strategic guidance, quantitative and qualitative data analysis, and communications strategies
- Worked with variety of stakeholders: lawyers, advocates, community organizers, community members, youth, school officials, election/government officials nationwide to effect significant public policy change
- Wrote documents used for advocacy, such as opinion-editorials, community-friendly reports, and briefs
- Served as national resource ally for organizations and coalitions such as National People’s Action and the Right to the City Alliance, collaborating on projects that resulted in federal housing policy reform
- Designed/wrote school district policies resulting in improved outcomes, serving as models for reform
- Participated in litigation around the rights of displaced residents of New Orleans and the misallocation of polling place resources in Virginia
- Trained junior lawyers on multi-faceted advocacy and community lawyering
- Contributed to development of curriculum used in a community lawyering course at Georgetown Law
- Recruited, supervised, and mentored interns and oversaw legal fellowship process

ADMISSIONS/MEMBERSHIPS/COMMUNITY

Current

- Colorado Access to Justice Commission, Appointed Commissioner, January 2022-present
- AALS Communications Committee, 2024-Current
- National Conference of Black Lawyers, Member, 2025-Current
- Mental Health First Aid Certified Training & Structured Facilitative Dialogue Training, 2024
- Colorado Attorney Mentoring Program, Mentor, 2024-present
- Colorado State Bar Association, June 2017-present
- District of Columbia Bar and New York State Bar, Third Dept., 2008-present (inactive)

Past

- Center for Legal Inclusiveness, Board Member 2023-2024
- Bridge Builders, Mentor for Black Students Aspiring to Law School, 2021-2022
- AALS Clinical Legal Education Conference Planning Committee, Sole Externship Faculty Member, 2020-22
- ACLU of Colorado, Board Member, 2019-2022; Equity Subcommittee, Search Committee Subcommittee
- Society of American Law Teachers, Board Member, 2014-2020
- Colorado Center on Law and Policy, Board Member, 2017-2020
- Externships 9, Conference Committee Member, 2017-2018