

## Our Community



### Change-Making at the Capitol: Governor Signs Seven Bills Driven by Berkeley Law Clinics and Centers

Berkeley Law has made a splash in Sacramento before. This year, however, the school made some major waves. In the final weeks of September, California Gov. Gavin Newsom signed into law a whopping seven bills spearheaded by Berkeley Law clinics and centers that focus on protecting residents' civil, financial, and environmental rights. [Read the article here.](#)

## What's New

# Your Gift. Your Impact.

Giving Impact Report 2019-2020



## **Giving Impact Report 2019-2020**

With thanks to our generous community of donors and volunteers for your essential support, we are honored to share Berkeley Law's [Giving Impact Report for 2019-2020](#).

## **Faculty Weigh in on Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg's Legacy and the Supreme Court's Future**

Five Berkeley Law professors describe Ginsburg's enormous influence and the colossal implications of rushing to confirm her replacement before the presidential election. [Read the article here.](#)

## **Berkeley Law Students Offer a Lifeline to Workers Challenged by COVID-19 Chaos**

The Workers' Rights Clinic caseload has surged since the pandemic sent a shockwave through the labor force. [Read the article here.](#)

## **Student Journals Sustain Interest and Ambitions While Pivoting to New Remote Framework**

Editors-in-chief of two top-ranked Berkeley Law journals describe new challenges and opportunities to sustain excellence and build community. [Read the article here.](#)

## **Human Rights Center Investigations Lab Pursues Justice in Syria**

Our Human Rights Center's Investigations Lab contributed open source investigative work to the first legal case against Syria's regime for chemical weapons attacks that violated international law. The criminal complaint asks prosecutors to probe two deadly sarin attacks and argues there is ample evidence to implicate the Syrian government. [Read more and see a story map here.](#)

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## **Alumni News**



## Berkeley Law's Fall *Transcript* Magazine

The fall issue of Berkeley Law's *Transcript* magazine has been mailed to alumni and friends across the globe. It chronicles our urgent response to the COVID-19 pandemic and racial unrest, the school's transition to online classes, high-impact work by our clinics and centers, three inspiring students, alumni generosity, and samples of world-class faculty scholarship. [Read the issue here.](#)

## Reunion 2020 - A Virtual Success!

The law school held its first virtual alumni reunion event October 1-2. Alumni from all over the world were able to engage in MCLE programs and reconnect with classmates at virtual receptions. A great time was had by all! For alumni in reunion classes ending in 0's and 5's (1970-2015), there is still time to enter your profile in your [class book](#).

## DC Alumni Chapter to Launch in Early 2021

The Regional Engagement Alumni Chapter program (REACH) will virtually launch a Washington, DC alumni chapter in early 2021. REACH focuses on bringing Berkeley Law to alumni in their local markets. Our regional chapters provide opportunities for networking, intellectual engagement, career development, and social interactions. There are currently chapters in Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Silicon Valley. Questions? Please contact Doreen de Roque at [dderoque@law.berkeley.edu](mailto:dderoque@law.berkeley.edu)

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## Media Highlights



Professor Prasad Krishnamurthy



Lecturer Shanin Specter wrote a [blog](#)

published an op-ed in [The Hill](#) proposing that a national living wage be implemented through a payroll tax credit.

[post](#) examining President Trump's liability if any of the donors at his October 1 fundraiser is infected with the COVID-19 virus.

Visit the [Media Highlights](#) and [News](#) page to view recent headlines and news. And check out the new issue of Berkeley Law's [Transcript magazine](#).

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## Faculty Highlights

- [Professor Christopher Tomlins](#) digs deeply into the persona of the Virginia slave Nat Turner and examines the legacy of the 1831 rebellion Turner led in his book [In the Matter of Nat Turner: A Speculative History](#).
  - [Adjunct Professor Eric Stover](#) has just published an edited volume with Oxford University Press entitled [Silent Witness: Forensic DNA Analysis in Criminal Investigations and Humanitarian Disasters](#). His co-editors are Henry Erlich and Thomas J. White. Stover's Berkeley Law colleagues Andrea Roth and Andrea Lampros also wrote chapters for the book.
  - [Professor David Oppenheimer](#) urges the United States to follow the lead of other nations in undergoing a Truth and Reconciliation process in the [Berkeley Center on Comparative Equality & Anti-Discrimination Law blog](#),
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## Virtual Enrichment Programs

### [Best Practices in Court Administration: What We've Learned from COVID-19](#)

Courts, lawyers, and judges are accustomed to moving deliberately. The pandemic has challenged courts to do things in ways that are unfamiliar and the effects of which often are uncertain. [Judge Jeremy Fogel](#), executive director of our Berkeley Judicial Institute, moderated a discussion about those challenges with leading alumni judges of both state and federal courts. [Watch the recording here](#).

### [Race, Voting, and Elections](#)

With the pandemic and demands for racial justice surging across America, and in the context of political campaigns that emphasize racial fear, three Berkeley Law professors describe how the racial dynamics that will profoundly impact the upcoming election might play out. [Watch the recording here](#).

### [Supreme Court Review](#)

At this annual SCOTUS review, Berkeley Law constitutional scholars discussed trends from the 2019-20 term and looked ahead to the new term. [Watch the recording here](#).

### [Closing the Gap: Experts Weigh in on How to Advance Racial Equity in K-12 Education](#)

Berkeley Law professor and former dean Christopher Edley, Jr. joins three others in describing the historical and current factors impeding progress, and how to surmount them. [Watch the recording here](#).

### [Natural Resources at a Crossroads: Climate Change, Biodiversity, & Equity](#)

Join Berkeley Law's Center for Law, Energy & the Environment for a virtual conversation with Angela Barranco, Undersecretary of the California Natural Resources Agency, on the urgent crisis and dynamic opportunity we have today as we work together to conserve our lands, waters, and coast for the benefit of all Californians. [Register here](#).

### [Women in Business Law Initiative](#)

- [Women in Finance and Law: A Fireside Chat with SoftBank](#) October 27, 10:00 – 11:00 AM PDT. In this free one-hour webinar (with MCLE credit), Berkeley Law Professor Abbye Atkinson, Brian Wheeler, and Denise Ho will explore the challenges and opportunities facing women in finance and discuss the key

- developments affecting the industry. [Register today.](#)
- **Women in M&A** October 28, 12:45 - 1:45 PM PDT. Want to learn more about high-stakes deal-making and the women making it happen? Register for this panel! The panel will provide information on the day-to-day work and lifestyle of an M&A lawyer, and offer tips for building a successful career. [Register today.](#)

## Berkeley Law

Executive Education

### Sustainable Capitalism & ESG Online

Next cohort begins in January, 2021 | Registration is now open  
Sustainable Capitalism and ESG Online demonstrates how to incorporate environmental, social, and governance considerations into business and investment strategy through a combination of focused lectures and case studies, curated readings, and in-depth interviews with over 45 thought leaders. [Learn more and register.](#)

## Berkeley Law | Regional Engagement Alumni Chapter (REACH)

The **San Francisco, Silicon Valley, and Los Angeles Alumni Chapters** are cordially invited to a virtual lecture given by **Professor Jonathan Simon '87** titled **Beyond the Slogan "Defund the Police": Race, Public Safety, and the Future of American Criminal Justice** on Wednesday, October 21 at 12:00 PM PDT. [Register here.](#)

The **Silicon Valley Alumni Chapter** will host a trivia night on Thursday, November 12 at 5:30 PM PDT. [Register here.](#)

## Student Spotlight



### Making It Count: Census Expert Marlenee Blas Pedral '23 Pushes for Accuracy and Accountability

Whether people view completing their 2020 U.S. Census as a civic obligation, a tool for equity, or a self-serving endeavor, Marlenee Blas Pedral '23 offers some unifying advice: Just do it.

Conducted once a decade, the census guides how federal funding is allocated to the states and how political districts are drawn. With the COVID-19 pandemic and recent fires creating obstacles to a full count in California, Pedral sees participation before the October 31 deadline as paramount in protecting the state's foundation. [Continue reading the article.](#)

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