

Our Community



From left to right, Theresa Cheng '14, Isaac Flegel-Mishlove '21, Sarah Chen '18, Molly Lao '21, Candice Youngblood '19

Berkeley Law Nabs Five Coveted Skadden Public Interest Fellowships

Berkeley Law has enjoyed lofty success with the annual Skadden Fellowship, which funds exceptional young attorneys for two years of public interest work. But this year's results soared to an even higher plateau. Five current students and recent graduates have been awarded the coveted fellowship, second most among all law schools. Only three other law schools had multiple selections. [Read more>>](#)

Rapid Reaction: Hosted at Berkeley Law, New Global Course Amplifies COVID-19's Jarring Inequalities

Serving more than 125 students from 14 countries, the course probed the many ways in which the pandemic has undermined equality across the world. [Read more>>](#)

Closing the Digital Divide

For Berkeley Law student Kevin Frazier '22, "the internet is the new electricity — without it, you're in the dark." That mindset drove him to launch No One Left Offline (NOLO), a nonprofit providing financial assistance to individuals and families struggling to pay their broadband bills. The organization is also beginning to create "NOLO Zones" at businesses in San Francisco, creating spaces with free WiFi for all. [Read more>>](#)

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What's New



New Berkeley Law Center Emphasizes Workers' Rights

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to crush workers, especially the lowest earners, the Center for Law and Work (CLAW) puts them in the spotlight. [Read more>>](#)

Insuring Extreme Heat Risks

The Center for Law, Energy, & the Environment's new report, *Insuring Extreme Heat Risks*, studies the potential for insurance and other financial risk-transfer mechanisms to help local governments respond to and mitigate the extreme heat risk they will face with increasing regularity in coming decades. [Read more>>](#)

Berkeley Law Center Creates First Global Protocol on Using Social Media as Evidence for War Crimes

A three-year joint effort by Berkeley Law's Human Rights Center and the U.N. Human Rights Office, the Berkeley Protocol marks the first global guidelines for using publicly available information online — including photos, videos, and other content posted to social media sites — as evidence in international criminal and human rights investigations. [Read more>>](#)

Berkeley Law Clinics 2020 End-of-Year Reports

Learn about the important work that Berkeley Law's 14 clinics have been doing this past year.

- Death Penalty Clinic
- East Bay Community Law Center
- Environmental Law Clinic
- International Human Rights Law Clinic
- New Business Community Law Clinic
- Policy Advocacy Clinic
- Samuelson Law, Technology & Public Policy Clinic

Alumni News

Calling on Alumni Graduating in Years 0s and 5s

For alumni in reunion classes ending in 0s and 5s (1970-2015), there is still time to enter your profile in your [Class Book](#). Class Books provide an opportunity to exchange current contact information, share memories from law school, and upload photos from the past and present. Reconnect with your classmates today! Submissions for the [Class of 1970 Memory Book](#) are due by Friday, January 15th.

Alumni Who Are First Generation Professionals

We are looking to connect the student group First Generation Professionals at Berkeley Law with our alumni who are also FGP. If you're interested in connecting with these students, please send an email with your class year to: edineen@berkeley.edu.

Events

The Appointment Process: California's State Boards and Commissions

On Thursday, January 21 from 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm PDT, Cathryn Rivera-Hernandez '97, Appointments Secretary to Governor Gavin Newsom, will speak about the California appointments process. You will learn about applying, interviewing and receiving an appointed position within Governor Newsom's Administration. [Register here>>](#)

Berkeley Alumni Leading Indigent Defense During COVID-19

The Los Angeles Alumni Chapter is hosting a virtual discussion on the work of California Public Defender's Offices on Thursday, January 28 at 5:00 pm PDT via Zoom. The panel will include Ricardo García '95, Los Angeles Public Defender, and Manohar Raju '95, San Francisco Public Defender. The session will be moderated by Berkeley Law Professor Andrea Roth. Invitation forthcoming.

Save the Date! Virtual California Bar Swearing-In Ceremony

Berkeley Law graduates who recently passed the California Bar Exam are invited to our annual Bar Swearing-In Ceremony. The event will take place on Wednesday, February 10 at 4:00 pm PDT. Registration and Zoom/livestream links to follow. Please contact alumni@law.berkeley.edu with questions.

Save the Date! Virtual Shakespeare Trial with Dean Chemerinsky, March 9th

More information to follow.

Big Give, Thursday, March 11, 2021

Big Give 2021 is coming and we need your help to reach our fundraising goals. Stay tuned for more information on ways you can support Berkeley Law!

Faculty Highlights



Recent Faculty Scholarship

"Why should law professors write books and articles? Why is this regarded as an integral part of our jobs? There is no single answer to these questions and perhaps each professor would answer in a somewhat different way. We write to educate, to influence the development of the law, and to advance ideas and knowledge. All of these goals are reflected in the many publications by Berkeley Law faculty described in these pages."

—Dean Erwin Chemerinsky

The US Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit cited Professor Rebecca Wexler's article, *Life Liberty and Trade Secrets*, in its opinion in *US v. Clarke* (2d Cir. Oct. 29, 2020).

On November 25th, Lecturer Nancy Lemon gave a talk at an international seminar produced by Soroptimists International in Tromsø, Norway, in honor of International Day on Violence Against Women. Her topic was Domestic Violence in the US: Challenges and Progress. Watch the video [here](#)>>

Media Highlights

A Look at the Court Battles of the 2020 Presidential Election

Professor Bertrall Ross was a guest on NPR's On Point to discuss the latest litigation around the 2020 presidential election. Listen to the recording [here](#)>>

With Barrett on Supreme Court, California's church COVID limits in legal jeopardy

Dean Erwin Chemerinsky says the Supreme Court's differing decisions regarding large religious gatherings during the pandemic are a result of the addition of Justice Amy Coney Barrett. [Read more](#)>>

Biden could help San Francisco win billions from Big Oil over climate change

Ethan Elkind, director of the Climate Program at Berkeley Law's Center for Law, Energy & the Environment, says Biden's Justice Department won't be working against litigants in climate cases as the Trump administration did. [Read more](#)>>

The Cybersecurity 202: The Supreme Court may finally rein in an outdated anti-hacking law

Professor Orin Kerr discusses the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act and the need for more clarity about what the law means is needed. [Read more](#) >>

Some federal judges plan to retire when Trump exits. Will Biden be able to replace them?

Dean Erwin Chemerinsky says an exodus of federal judges considering retirement will depend on which party controls the Senate. [Read more](#)>>

Podcast: MDLs Go Mainstream: Mass Torts Today

Lecturer Shanin Specter appeared on ALI's Reasonably Speaking podcast to explore multidistrict litigation. [Read more](#)>>

Visit the Media Highlights and News page to view recent headlines and news. And check out the latest issue of Berkeley Law's *Transcript* magazine.

Virtual Enrichment Programs



Free CLE Program - Special Limited Time Offer

Berkeley Law Executive Education is offering CLE credit at no charge to those who watch recordings of a large selection of past Berkeley Boosts webinars. Offer good until February 1. Subscribe and start learning today>>

Corporate Finance Fundamentals: Mastering Financial Analysis and Corporate Valuation

Corporate Finance Fundamentals is an online certificate program for practicing attorneys and other non-financial professionals that focuses on how to apply financial information

analysis and corporate valuation in a variety of corporate settings and throughout the legal practice. The next cohort begins on March 1 and we offer an alumni discount. [Learn more and register today>>](#)

Sustainable Capitalism & ESG Online

Next class opens January 25 | 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 50 thought leaders. [Learn more and register today>>](#)

Leadership in the Legal Profession

Leadership in the Legal Profession is a 10-week, online business school-style course for legal professionals who want to challenge intuitive approaches to leadership and management, as well as learn new mental models and dynamic leadership skills that can be quickly applied to their practice. Topics include systems thinking, behavioral science, motivation, agile innovation, and decision leadership. The next cohorts begin in March and we offer an alumni discount. [Learn more and apply today>>](#)

Student Spotlight



Virginia Lyon '21

Education: American University (B.A.)

Affiliations: Co-editor-in-chief of *Berkeley Journal of Gender Law and Justice*; Mock Trial; Death Penalty Clinic; Supervising editor at *California Law Review*; BLASTlanta; Berkeley Immigration Group; Berkeley Anti-Trafficking Project

"I wanted to attend a school that focused on public interest but was still deciding between a few. By coincidence, while I was deciding, I had a law professor in an improv class I was teaching. He told me his friends who taught at Berkeley Law were "some of the happiest people in the legal profession." That sounded like a place I wanted to be." [Read more about Virginia here>>](#)

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