

SHAWN E. FIELDS

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[Faculty Profile](#) ♦ [SSRN Author Page](#)

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

California Western School of Law ♦ San Diego, CA ♦ Fall 2023-Present

Associate Dean for Research (2025-Present)

Professor of Law (2024-Present)

Associate Professor of Law (2023-Present)

Honors: Professor of the Year (2024-2025), 1L Professor of the Year (2024-2025)

University of San Diego School of Law ♦ San Diego, CA ♦ Fall 2024

Visiting Professor of Law (2024)

Campbell University School of Law ♦ Raleigh, NC ♦ Fall 2018-Spring 2023

Assistant Professor of Law (2018-2023)

Honors: Faculty Award for Scholarly Excellence (2021-2022, 2020-2021, 2019-2020, 2018-2019)

University of San Diego School of Law ♦ San Diego, CA ♦ Fall 2016-Spring 2018

Professor of Legal Writing (2016-2018)

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Criminal Law & Procedure, Police Practices and Reform, Civil Procedure, Immigration and Refugee Law, Constitutional Law, Firearms Law & Policy

EDUCATION

Boston University School of Law, J.D., *magna cum laude*

- Boston University Law Review, Staff Editor
- Edward Hennessey Distinguished Scholar (highest academic honors third year)
- Paul J. Liacos Distinguished Scholar (highest academic honors second year)
- G. Joseph Tauro Distinguished Scholar (highest academic honors first year)

Yale University, B.A. in Political Science, *magna cum laude*

- Yale Honor Society, Distinguished Scholar Award in Political Science
- *Phi Sigma Alpha*, National Political Science Honor Society
- Yale University Rugby Club, Team Captain

ADMISSIONS

California (SBN 255267)

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Works in Progress

Inter-Amendment Equilibrium

Fourth Amendment Anomie

Misdirected Provocation

Post-Chevron Deference in Asylum Proceedings

Books

THE NEW PUBLIC SAFETY: POLICE REFORM AND THE LURKING THREAT TO CIVIL LIBERTIES (University of California Press 2025).

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH: POLICING WHITE SPACES IN AMERICA (Cambridge University Press 2022).

Articles

Police Reform as System Justification, 117 JOURNAL OF CRIMINAL LAW AND CRIMINOLOGY ____ (2026).

Searches and Seizures of the Unhoused, 114 GEORGETOWN LAW JOURNAL ____ (2026).

(Non)police Brutality, 110 CORNELL LAW REVIEW ____ (2025).

The Procedural Justice Industrial Complex, 99 INDIANA LAW JOURNAL 563 (2024).

The Fourth Amendment Without Police, 90 UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO LAW REVIEW 1023 (2023).

Protest Policing and the Fourth Amendment, 55 U.C. DAVIS LAW REVIEW 347 (2021).

Second Amendment Sanctuaries, 115 NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY LAW REVIEW 437 (2020).

Sexual Violence and Future Harm: Lessons From Asylum Law, 20 UTAH LAW REVIEW 177 (2020).

Guns, Knives, and Swords: Policing a Heavily Armed Arizona, 51 ARIZONA STATE LAW JOURNAL 505 (2019).

Weaponized Racial Fear, 93 TULANE LAW REVIEW 931 (2019).

Stop and Frisk in a Concealed Carry World, 93 WASHINGTON LAW REVIEW 1675 (2018).

From Guantánamo to Syria: The Extraterritorial Constitution in the Age of “Extreme Vetting,” 39 CARDOZO LAW REVIEW 1129 (2018).

Is It Bad Law to Believe a Politician? Campaign Speech and Discriminatory Intent, 52 UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND LAW REVIEW 273 (2018).

Debunking the Stranger-in-the-Bushes Myth: The Case for Sexual Assault Protection Orders, 2017 WISCONSIN LAW REVIEW 429.

The Unreviewable Executive? National Security and the Limits of Plenary Power, 84 TENNESSEE LAW REVIEW 731 (2017).

Essays

The Elusiveness of Self-Defense for the Black Transgender Community, 21 NEVADA LAW JOURNAL 975 (2021) (invited symposium essay).

Institutionalizing Consent Myths in Grade School, 73 OKLAHOMA LAW REVIEW 173 (2020) (invited symposium essay).

Terry, Handguns, and the Hand Formula, 54 IDAHO LAW REVIEW 467 (2018) (invited symposium essay).

OPINIONS AND EDITORIALS

How Trump is Weaponizing the Federal Spending Power, THE HILL (March 7, 2025).

The Gaetz Nomination Was Never About Matt Gaetz, HUFFPOST (Dec. 6, 2024).

Biden Wanted to Be a Transformative Historical Figure. Instead, He Will Be a Footnote, NEWSWEEK (Nov. 21, 2024).

How Can Trump Voters Claim to Care About Women?, SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIBUNE (Nov. 21, 2024).

A Lawyer’s Ethical Duty in the Trump Era, THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER (Nov. 25, 2020).

LAW SCHOOL & PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

California Western School of Law

- Associate Dean for Research, 2025-Present
- Dean’s Search Committee, 2024-2025
- Tenure Subcommittee, 2024-2025
- Faculty Diversity Committee, 2023-Present

- Law, Justice, and Technology Initiative, 2023-Present
- Admissions Committee, 2023-2024
- Faculty Development Committee, 2023-2024
- Special Appointments Committee, 2023-2024

Campbell University School of Law

- Faculty Development Committee (Chair), 2021-2023
- Admissions Committee (Chair), 2022-2023
- Admissions Committee (Member), 2021-2022
- Academic Standards Committee, 2018-2021
- Faculty Development Committee (Member), 2018-2021
- Judicial Clerkship Taskforce, 2018-2020
- Faculty Colloquia Speaker Series Organizer, 2020-2022
- Phillip C. Jessup International Moot Court Team Coach, 2018-2019

University of San Diego School of Law

- Graduate Employment Task Force, 2016-2018

Professional

- American Association of Law Schools, Criminal Law Section Executive Committee Board Member, 2024-Present
- American Bar Association Legal Education Police Practices Consortium, Faculty Advisor, 2021-2024
- Appellate Defenders, Inc., Panel Attorney, 2016-2020
- Community Review Board on Police Practices (San Diego), Board Member, 2016-2018.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Indiana University Indianapolis School of Law, *Searches and Seizures of the Unhoused*, Indianapolis, IN (Feb. 16, 2025).

California Western School of Law Cocktail Napkin Series, *Searches and Seizures of the Unhoused*, San Diego, CA (Jan. 28, 2025).

AALS Criminal Law Scholars Works-in-Progress Series, *Junior Scholars Presentations* (Moderator), San Francisco, CA (Jan. 8, 2025).

California Western School of Law, *Jury Selection, Bias, and Participation* (Moderator), San Diego, CA (Feb. 21, 2024).

ABA Legal Education Police Practice Consortium, *Neighborhood Watch: Policing White Spaces in America*, San Diego, CA (Nov. 30, 2023).

California Western School of Law Cocktail Napkin Series, *Police Reform as Systems Justification*, San Diego, CA (Sep. 26, 2023).

Indiana University Program on Law and State Government, *Removing Police From (Most) Traffic Enforcement*, Indianapolis, IN (Sep. 22, 2023).

Scuppernong Books, *White Vigilantism and Over-Policing*, Greensboro, NC (Oct. 14, 2022).

Quail Ridge Books, *Neighborhood Watch: Policing White Spaces in America*, Raleigh, NC (Sep. 22, 2022).

SEALS Criminal Law Works-in-Progress Workshop, *The Procedural Justice Industrial Complex*, Sandestin, FL (Jul. 28, 2022).

Duke Center for Firearms Law, *Self-Offense: Protests, Public Carry, and Police Legitimacy*, Durham, NC (Jun. 25, 2022).

Raleigh Founders Warehouse, *Neighborhood Watch: Policing White Spaces in America*, Raleigh, NC (Jun. 14, 2022).

Campbell Faculty Colloquium, *The Fourth Amendment Without Police*, Raleigh, NC (Apr. 15, 2022).

Craven Inns of Court, *Neighborhood Watch: Policing White Spaces in America*, Raleigh, NC (Mar. 18, 2022).

Campbell Law School LAMBDA Legal, *Being a Legal Ally*, Raleigh, NC (Feb. 18, 2022).

North Carolina Central University School of Law, *Thoughts on International Human Rights and the Jessup Moot Court Competition*, Durham, NC (Feb. 14, 2022).

Campbell Faculty Colloquium, *Protest Policing and the Fourth Amendment*, Raleigh, NC (Dec. 3, 2021).

SEALS New Scholar Panel, *Weaponized Racial Fear*, Fernandina Beach, FL (Jul. 28, 2021).

SEALS New Scholar Panel, *Counterprotesting Cops*, Fernandina Beach, FL (Jul. 28, 2021).

Duke Center for Firearms Law, *Second Amendment Sanctuaries*, Durham, NC (May 15, 2020).

Duke Law School Colloquium: Localism, Popular Constitutionalism, Preemption, and Firearms, *Second Amendment Sanctuaries*, Durham, NC (Apr. 24, 2020).

Oklahoma Law Review Symposium: Institutions, Messaging, and Consent, *Institutionalizing Consent Myths in Grade School*, Norman, OK (Oct. 17, 2019).

Campbell University School of Law Hispanic Law Students Association: *Criminal Procedure Pitfalls for Non-English Speakers*, Raleigh, NC (Mar. 20, 2019).

Campbell University School of Law Black Law Students Association: *Black, Brown, and Blue: Fourth Amendment Jurisprudence and 21st Century Policing*, Raleigh, NC (Feb. 6, 2019).

Idaho Law Review Symposium: *Terry v. Ohio* at 50: Considering the Past, Present, and Future of Stop-and-Frisk, *Terry, Handguns, and the Hand Formula*, Boise, ID (Apr. 6, 2018).

University of San Diego School of Law Faculty Colloquium, *From Guantánamo to Syria: The Extraterritorial Constitution in the Age of 'Extreme Vetting'*, San Diego, CA (Sep. 8, 2017).

Touro Law Center One-Day Workshop: *Preparing Students for Digital Law Practice: The Flipped Law School Classroom*, Long Island, NY (Dec. 16, 2016).

California Western School of Law One-Day Workshop: *Teaching and Mentoring Our Diverse Law School Populations: Incorporating Cross-Cultural Issues Into the Law School Classroom*, San Diego, CA (Dec. 2, 2016).

University of San Diego School of Law Faculty Colloquium, *Debunking the Stranger-in-the-Bushes Myth: The Case for Sexual Assault Protection Orders*, San Diego, CA (Oct. 21, 2016).

SELECTED MEDIA INTERVIEWS

CBS17, RALEIGH, NC (*Emmett Till Warrant*) (Jul. 1, 2022).

CBS17, RALEIGH, NC (*North Carolina Open Meetings Laws*) (Jun. 22, 2022).

CNN, ATLANTA, GA (*Second Amendment Sanctuaries*) (Jun. 16, 2022).

USA TODAY, WASHINGTON, D.C. (*Abortion Trigger Laws*) (May 25, 2022).

CBS17, RALEIGH, NC (*North Carolina Policy Body Camera Footage Laws*) (May 22, 2022).

WCTI, NEW BERK, NC (*Impact of Dobbs Leaked Opinion*) (May 1, 2022).

WRAL, RALEIGH, NC (*Court Decision Striking Down Mask Mandate on Airplanes*) (Apr. 19, 2022).

HUFFPOST, RALEIGH, NC (*Mineral Rights in North Carolina*) (Mar. 24, 2022).

CBS17, RALEIGH, NC (*Supreme Court Case on Affirmative Action*) (Jan. 24, 2022).

CBS17, RALEIGH, NC (*North Carolina Stand Your Ground Laws*) (Jan. 12, 2022).

WITN, GREENEVILLE, NC (*Supreme Court Ruling on Federal Employment Vaccine Mandate*) (Jan. 7, 2022).

WUNC, CHAPEL HILL, NC (*Andrew Brown, Jr. Police Shooting*) (Dec. 3, 2021).

WRAL, RALEIGH, NC (*Pre-Structured Sentencing Parole Rules in North Carolina*) (Dec. 1, 2021).

WRAL, RALEIGH, NC (*Kyle Rittenhouse Verdict*) (Nov. 19, 2021).

ASSOCIATED PRESS, RALEIGH, NC (*Leandro School Funding Verdict*) (Nov. 10, 2021).

WRAL, RALEIGH, NC (*Criticism of Failure to Prosecute 2020 “Rioters”*) (Nov. 1, 2021).

CBS17, RALEIGH, NC (*Employees Fired for Refusing COVID Vaccine*) (Oct. 17, 2021).

CBS17, RALEIGH, NC (*COVID Vaccine Requirements For Employers*) (Oct. 7, 2021).

SPECTRUM, RALEIGH, NC (*Legality of UNC Vaccine Requirement*) (Sep. 30, 2021).

BUSINESS POST, DUBLIN, IRELAND (*Mechanics of American Murder Re-Trials*) (Sep. 23, 2021).

CBS17, RALEIGH, NC (*Voting Rights of Felons*) (Aug. 19, 2021).

ABC11, RALEIGH, NC (*“Anti-riot” bill passed by North Carolina legislature*) (Aug. 18, 2021).

WRAL ON THE RECORD, RALEIGH, NC (*Police shooting of Andrew Brown, Jr.*) (May 22, 2021).

CAPITAL TONIGHT, RALEIGH, NC (*Police shooting of Andrew Brown, Jr.*) (May 18, 2021).

VICE, LAS VEGAS, NV (*Transgender self-defense claims*) (Mar. 23, 2021).

BANGOR DAILY NEWS, BANGOR, ME (*Second Amendment Sanctuaries*) (Feb. 23, 2021).

THE OREGONIAN, PORTLAND, OR (*Second Amendment Sanctuaries*) (Nov. 18, 2020).

CAPITAL TONIGHT, RALEIGH, NC (*Second Amendment Sanctuaries*) (Feb. 11, 2020).

REUTERS, CHICAGO, IL (*Firearms Regulation*) (Sep. 11, 2019).

NORTH STATE JOURNAL, RALEIGH, NC (*ICE Detainers*) (Sep. 4, 2019).

CBS 17, RALEIGH, NC (*Policing and Private DNA Services*) (Feb. 4, 2019).

CBS 2, RALEIGH, NC (*Immigrant Sanctuaries*) (Nov. 11, 2018).

ABC 11, RALEIGH, NC (*Birthright Citizenship*) (Oct. 30, 2018).

WPTF 680AM, RALEIGH, NC (*Asylum Law and the "Honduran Caravan"*) (Oct. 24, 2018).

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

CENTER FOR COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS ♦ San Diego, CA ♦ 2011-2016

Attorney Advocate

- Represented victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in RO hearings.
- Advised undocumented immigrant clients on T-Visas, U-Visas, and related relief.
- Drafted white paper for creation of new sexual assault protection order statute.

JOHNSON & WEAVER, LLP ♦ San Diego, CA ♦ 2010-2016

Litigation Associate

- Lead trial attorney in complex corporate and securities litigation matters.
- Argued over fifty pre-trial and appellate motions in state and federal courts.
- Participated in two California jury trials to verdict, one state and one federal.

ASYLUM ACCESS ♦ Kasulu & Dar es Salaam, Tanzania ♦ 2009-2010

Country Director

- Managed all Tanzania operations for global refugee legal aid organization.
- Supervised representation of 450 refugee status determination hearings.
- Coordinated resettlement of 500 vulnerable refugee families to United States.

UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES (UNHCR) ♦ Kigoma & Dar es Salaam, Tanzania ♦ 2009-2010

Senior Legal Officer

- Developed High Risk Identification Tool for victims of gender-based violence.
- Coordinated legal services for 135,000 refugees in camp-based situations.
- Presented legal and policy proposals before Tanzanian National Assembly and Ministry for Home Affairs.

LATHAM & WATKINS, LLP ♦ San Francisco, CA ♦ 2007-2009

Litigation Associate

- Drafted pre-trial and trial briefs for White Collar Crimes practice group.
- Represented clients in removal proceedings seeking asylum and CAT protection.