

BRITNEY R. WILSON

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

NEW YORK LAW SCHOOL

Associate Professor of Law

Director, Civil Rights and Disability Justice Clinic

New York, NY

May 2021-Present

Courses: Civil Rights and Disability Justice Clinic; Race, Bias, and Advocacy

- Develop, teach, and direct twelve-credit, academic year-long, impact litigation and social justice advocacy based clinic
- Supervise clinic students assisting with civil rights litigation and advocacy in federal courts and with federal agencies across a range of civil rights, racial justice, and disability rights matters, including a challenge to the New York State Department of Health's crisis standards of care under the Americans with Disabilities Act and an ongoing investigation into complaint under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Department of Transportation opposing the discriminatory construction and operation of a fracked gas pipeline in Brooklyn
- Co-teach seminar analyzing role of structural racism in American legal system and practice with particular emphasis on relationship between ableism and structural racism

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA LAW SCHOOL, Juris Doctor, Philadelphia, PA May 2015

Honors: Associate Editor, Vol. 16 *University of Pennsylvania Journal of Constitutional Law*

Dean Jefferson B. Fordham Human Rights Award, University of Pennsylvania Law School

Black Law Students Association, Outstanding 3L Award

Documentary: Looking for Justice: The Eugene Gilyard Story and Best Practices for Eyewitness Identification

HOWARD UNIVERSITY, Bachelor of Arts, English, *summa cum laude*, Washington, DC May 2012

Honors: Phi Beta Kappa

1st Tom Joyner Foundation Full-Ride HBCU Scholarship Recipient

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

NATIONAL CENTER FOR LAW AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE, New York, NY

Staff Attorney

September 2018-March 2021

- Researched Equal Protection and Fourth Amendment claims, managed and interviewed plaintiffs and potential plaintiffs, drafted pleadings and discovery documents, and coordinated and facilitated meetings with community members and government officials for case challenging racially discriminatory and excessive ticketing practices in Buffalo, NY
- Took and defended depositions; drafted class certification and summary judgment briefs for

criminalization of poverty case in Montgomery, AL

- Drafted motions and appellate briefs in Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)/*Olmstead* litigation in MI and LA
- Lead and developed ADA litigation in NY challenging discriminatory crisis standards of care
- Supervised legal fellows and interns; and otherwise assisted with litigation concerning disability, racial and economic justice

CENTER FOR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS, New York, NY

Bertha Justice Fellow

September 2016-September 2018

- Attorney assigned to the Government Misconduct Racial Justice docket
- Reviewed and edited police training documents, attended trainings and meetings, attended and helped facilitate community forums, and drafted and proposed policy recommendations as part of remedial phase of *Floyd v. City of New York*, a successful challenge to the NYPD's stop-and-frisk policies
- Conducted research on Section 1983, Administrative Procedures Act, and various constitutional issues for discriminatory policing cases in New York City and St. Louis, MO, an equal protection/voting rights case in Michigan, and immigration detention/FOIA cases
- Drafted motions and briefs in state appellate and federal courts, including a petition for certiorari to the U.S. Supreme Court in *Bellant v. Snyder* and a brief in opposition to certiorari in *The GEO Group, Inc. v. Detention Watch Network*
- Coordinated amicus efforts in state and U.S. Supreme Court; assisted with depositions; conducted know-your-rights trainings; and supervised interns

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION, New York, NY

Marvin M. Karpatkin Fellow

September 2015-September 2016

- Attorney in the Racial Justice Program in the ACLU’s National Legal Department
- Conducted legal research on equal protection and due process for debtors’ prison case in Mississippi
- Researched The Indian Child Welfare Act, the Fair Housing Act, and various civil rights statutes for existing and developing litigation
- Interviewed potential plaintiffs, drafted affidavits, and participated in overall early case management for litigation challenging disturbing schools’ laws in South Carolina
- Drafted discovery documents and conducted research for settlement of school-to-prison pipeline case challenging discriminatory gang databases
- Assisted in drafting of amicus brief to U.S. Supreme Court in *Fisher II*
- Recruited, hired, managed, and supervised semester and summer legal interns

BAR ADMISSIONS: New York State; U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit; U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York; U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York; U.S. District Court for the Western District of New York

SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS

- *Making Me Ill: Environmental Racism and Justice as Disability*, forthcoming in Vol. 170 of the University of Pennsylvania Law Review (2022) (symposium)
- “Crisis Standards of Care May Discriminate Against Patients with Disabilities,” *The Regulatory Review*, Nov. 1, 2021, <https://www.theregreview.org/2021/11/01/wilson-crisis-standards-of-care-may-discriminate-against-patients-with-disabilities/>
- *A Body’s Work: On Self and Peer Education as a Black Disabled Lawyer*, forthcoming in the Journal of Legal Education (2020)
- “Stuck in Neutral: The Americans with Disabilities Act and the State of Paratransit Service in New York City,” *Federal Bar Association, Transportation Law Newsletter*, Spring 2018
- “Disability and Policing,” *The Regulatory Review*, February 23, 2017 <https://www.theregreview.org/2017/02/23/wilson-disability-policing/>

BOOK CHAPTERS

- “On NYC’s Paratransit, Fighting for Safety, Respect, and Human Dignity,” in *DISABILITY VISIBILITY: FIRST-PERSON STORIES FROM THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY*, edited by Alice Wong, Vintage Books, 2020.

SELECTED BRIEFS

- Appellant Opening Brief, 21-2212, *Not Dead Yet v. Hochul* (2d. Cir. 2021) (as counsel of record for Civil Rights and Disability Justice Clinic)
- Appellant Reply Brief, 21-2212, *Not Dead Yet v. Hochul*, (2d. Cir. 2022) (as counsel of record for Civil Rights and Disability Justice Clinic)

SELECTED OP-EDS, ESSAYS, AND OTHER WRITTEN COMMENTARY

- “Major Keys,” Disability Visibility Project, July 25, 2021, <https://disabilityvisibilityproject.com/2021/07/25/major-keys/>
- “On New York City’s Paratransit, Fighting for Safety, Respect, and Human Dignity,” *Longreads*, September 1, 2017, <https://longreads.com/2017/09/01/on-nycs-paratransit-fighting-for-safety-respect-and-human-dignity/>
- “#BlackDisabledLivesMatter”, *The Nation*, November 30, 2016, <https://www.thenation.com/article/archive/blackdisabledlivesmatter/>

SELECTED MEDIA APPEARANCES

- “The Longest Distance Between Two Points,” October 20, 2017 <https://www.thisamericanlife.org/629/expect-delays/act-three-0> (wrote and narrated adaptation of *Longreads* essay “On New York City’s Paratransit, Fighting for Safety, Respect, and Human Dignity” for radio and podcast), THIS AMERICAN LIFE, Episode 629, “Expect Delays.”
- Clinic Work Featured, Greta Moran, “‘A slap in the face’: pipeline violates civil rights, say New Yorkers,” THE GUARDIAN, Feb. 11, 2022, <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2022/feb/11/brooklyn-pipeline-violates-black-lation-civil-rights-new-york>
- Clinic Work Featured, Samantha Maldonado, “Brooklyn Residents File Civil Rights Complaint Seeking to Pause Gas Pipeline,” THE CITY, August 30, 2021, <https://www.thecity.nyc/environment/2021/8/30/22649465/brooklyn-civil-rights-complaint-gas-pipeline>
- Clinic Work Featured, Liz Donovan, “Brooklyn Pipeline Project Violates Civil Rights Law, Residents and Environmentalists Allege,” CITY LIMITS, August 30, 2021, <https://citylimits.org/2021/08/30/brooklyn-pipeline-project-violates-civil-rights-law-residents-and-environmentalists-allege/>
- Clinic Work Featured, Lisa Parker and Tom Jones, “Advocates Demand Solutions For Sleep Apnea Patients Following Massive Device Recall,” NBC 5 Chicago, August 31, 2021, <https://www.nbcchicago.com/consumer/advocates-demand-solutions-for-sleep-apnea-patients-following-massive-device-recall/2602843/>
- Featured, Christine Charnosky, Law.com, “Disabling Ableism” Series, April-June 2022, <https://www.law.com/2022/04/26/i-felt-afraid-to-ask-law-students-with-disabilities-are-often-torn-between-trying-fit-in-and-seeking-accommodations/?sreturn=20220624221933>
- Featured, Stephanie Hughes, “Could the lessons of the pandemic be a boon to workers with disabilities?,” MARKETPLACE, August 26, 2021, <https://www.marketplace.org/2021/08/26/could-the-lessons-of-the-pandemic-be-a-boon-to-workers-with-disabilities/>
- Interviewee, “The Disability Rights Movement, 30 Years After The ADA,” NPR 1A, July 2, 2020, <https://www.npr.org/2020/07/02/886686992/the-disability-rights-movement-30-years-after-the-ada>

- Featured, “30 years after ADA’s passage, what it means to these Americans with disabilities,” PBS NEWSHOUR, July 27, 2020, <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/30-years-after-adas-passage-what-it-means-to-these-americans-with-disabilities>
- Featured, Elyse Wanshel, “Police Violence Against Black Disabled People Can’t Be Ignored Anymore,” THE HUFFINGTON POST, July 23, 2020, https://www.huffpost.com/entry/ignoring-police-violence-black-disabled-people_n_5f06164cc5b63a72c33c3f3e
- Featured, N. Jamilya Chisolm, “To Be BIPOC, Disabled and Fighting for Justice,” COLORLINES, Sept. 1, 2020, <https://www.colorlines.com/articles/be-bipoc-disabled-and-fighting-justice>
- Interviewee, *Disability Visibility* Podcast, Episode 50, “Disabled Lawyers”, May 6, 2019
- Profiled Subject, “The Foundation and the Fighter,” Andscape (formerly ESPN’s The Undefeated), <https://andscape.com/tag/britney-wilson/>

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 2022 - Ford Foundation Grant: Ford Foundation awarded the Civil Rights and Disability Justice Clinic \$300,000 core grant over a three-year period to support the work of the clinic
- 2022 - New York Law School Black Law Students Association Faculty Appreciation Award

SELECTED LECTURES, PANELS, AND PRESENTATIONS

- Invited Participant, White House Office of Science and Technology Policy Disability Pride Month Round Table, “The Time is Now: Advancing Equity in Science and Technology,” July 29, 2021
- Panelist, United Nations Conference of State Parties, Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, New York, NY, June 13, 2018
- Panelist, New York City Racial Justice Commission, “Transforming Foundations: Intersectionality: Equity Across Identities,” September 13, 2021
- Speaker, New York City Council Joint Committees on Transportation, Mental Health, Disabilities, Addiction, and Aging, New York, NY, December 18, 2019
- Moderator, Association of American Law Schools Conference on Clinical Legal Education, Plenary Session, “Seizing the Moment,” May 12, 2022
- Keynote Speaker, Inaugural North Carolina Black Disabilities Network Conference, Raleigh, NC, “Equity at the Intersection of Race and Disability,” April 29, 2022
- Keynote Speaker, New York City Department of Social Services ADA Celebration: Justice for All: Building an Accessible and Equitable Post-Pandemic Agency, January 13, 2022
- Keynote Speaker, Association of Higher Education and Disability, Accessing Higher

Ground Conference, Denver, CO, November 15, 2018

- Plenary Co-Facilitator, Association of University Centers on Disabilities Conference, “Leading Change to Achieve Equity: Conversations We Need to Have,” Dec. 8, 2020
- Presenter, University of Pennsylvania Law Review Symposium, “The Disability Frame: Opportunities, Costs, and Constraints in the Broad Struggle for Inclusion,” (presented forthcoming article “Making Me Ill: Environmental Racism and Justice as Disability”), February 19, 2022
- Presenter, New York Law School Faculty Workshop (presented draft article “Making Me Ill: Environmental Racism and Justice as Disability”), January 25, 2022
- Panelist, Association of American Law Schools Conference on Clinical Legal Education, “Confronting and Teaching About Ableism in your Clinical Pedagogy as a Best Practice,” May 10, 2022
- Panelist, Jacobus tenBroek Disability Law Symposium, “A Broader Role for the ADA in a Post-Pandemic World,” March 25, 2022
- Panelist, Edward V. Sparer Symposium, University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School, “Burdened by Design: The Harms of Inaccessibility,” February 11, 2022
- Panelist, Howard University School of Law Human & Civil Rights Law Review C. Clyde Ferguson Symposium, “Equal Access: Engineering an Accessible Law School,” January 27, 2022
- Panelist, Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network, “Incorporating Disability Justice into Legal Practice/Advocacy,” December 9, 2021
- Panelist, National Lawyers Guild Law 4 The People Convention, “Building Movements and Disability Solidarity in the Age of COVID-19,” October 16, 2021
- Guest Lecturer, Yale Medical School, School of Nursing, & Physician’s Associate Program, Health Justice Elective, October 16, 2021
- Panelist, The Arc’s Summer Leadership Institute, “Double Threat of Pandemic and Discrimination: the Arc’s Advocacy in Crisis,” July 14, 2021
- Panelist, Yale School of Medicine Program for Bioethics, “Disability-Based Allocation of Medical Resources: Legal and Ethical Issues,” May 26, 2021
- Invited Participant, Black Feminist Disability Justice iLab, Black Feminist Future, July 14-15, 2022

VOLUNTEER WORK

CENTER FOR INDEPENDENCE OF THE DISABLED, NEW YORK,
Board of Directors
Advocacy Committee; Executive Committee

New York, NY
November 2017- January 2022

INTERESTS

Creative writing and slam poetry: won 2nd place at International Youth Poetry Slam Brave New Voices with 2008 Urban Word NYC team, featured in 2009 HBO Documentary Russell Simmons Presents: Brave New Voices.