

BRITNEY R. WILSON

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

NEW YORK LAW SCHOOL

New York, NY

Associate Professor of Law

May 2021-Present

Founding Director, Civil Rights and Disability Justice Clinic

Develop, teach, and direct twelve-credit, academic-year-long clinic, focusing on federal civil rights class action litigation and other forms of social justice advocacy; 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; co-taught Race, Bias, and Advocacy 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

PUBLICATIONS

Articles and Book Chapters

Making Me Ill: Environmental Racism and Justice as Disability, 170 U. PA. L. REV. 1721 (2022) (symposium)

- Presenter, University of Pennsylvania Law Review Symposium, “The Disability Frame: Opportunities, Costs, and Constraints in the Broad Struggle for Inclusion”

A Body’s Work: On Self and Peer Education as a Black Disabled Lawyer, 71 J. LEGAL EDUC. (2021) (symposium)

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

Op-Eds and Essays

Crisis Standards of Care May Discriminate Against Patients with Disabilities, THE REGULATORY REVIEW, Nov. 1, 2021 ([link](#))

Major Keys, DISABILITY VISIBILITY PROJECT, July 25, 2021 ([link](#))

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

“On New York City’s Paratransit, Fighting for Safety, Respect, and Human Dignity,” LONGREADS, September 1, 2017 ([link](#))

Disability and Policing, THE REGULATORY REVIEW, February 23, 2017 ([link](#))

#BlackDisabledLivesMatter, THE NATION, November 30, 2016 ([link](#))

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 policing 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

SELECT MEDIA APPEARANCES

Podcasts and Video

"The Longest Distance Between Two Points," THIS AMERICAN LIFE, October 20, 2017 ([link](#))
(wrote and narrated adaptation of LONGREADS essay *On New York City's Paratransit, Fighting for Safety, Respect, and Human Dignity* for radio show and podcast), Episode 629, "Expect Delays"

Print/Web-Clinic Work Featured

"Readers sound off on Access-A-Ride, Carol Burnett's career and positive commentary," NEW YORK DAILY NEWS, May 2, 2023 ([link](#))

"Suing for the right to ride: federal lawsuit against the MTA's crummy Access-A-Ride for violating the Americans with Disabilities Act is well deserved," NEW YORK DAILY NEWS, April 28, 2023 ([link](#))

"MTA Access-A-Ride system discriminates against disabled New Yorkers, say disability advocates in federal lawsuit," NEW YORK DAILY NEWS, April 26, 2023 ([link](#))

"Advancing Climate Justice in New York City," THIRTEEN.ORG, April 10, 2023 ([link](#))

"A slap in the face': pipeline violates civil rights, say New Yorkers," THE GUARDIAN, Feb. 11, 2022 ([link](#))

WILSON-August 2023

“Advocates Demand Solutions For Sleep Apnea Patients Following Massive Device Recall,” NBC 5 Chicago, August 31, 2021 ([link](#))

“Brooklyn Residents File Civil Rights Complaint Seeking to Pause Gas Pipeline,” THE CITY, August 30, 2021 ([link](#))

“Brooklyn Pipeline Project Violates Civil Rights Law, Residents and Environmentalists Allege,” CITY LIMITS, August 30, 2021 ([link](#))

Commentary

Featured, Law.com, “Disabling Ableism” Series, April-June 2022 ([link](#))

Featured, “Could the lessons of the pandemic be a boon to workers with disabilities?,” MARKETPLACE, August 26, 2021 ([link](#))

Featured, “To Be BIPOC, Disabled and Fighting for Justice,” COLORLINES, Sept. 1, 2020 ([link](#))

Featured, “30 years after ADA’s passage, what it means to these Americans with disabilities,” PBS NEWSHOUR, July 27, 2020 ([link](#))

Featured, “Police Violence Against Black Disabled People Can’t Be Ignored Anymore,” THE HUFFINGTON POST, July 23, 2020 ([link](#))

Interviewee, “The Disability Rights Movement, 30 Years After The ADA,” NPR 1A, July 2, 2020 ([link](#))

Interviewee, *Disability Visibility* Podcast, Episode 50, “Disabled Lawyers”, May 6, 2019 ([link](#))

Profiles

Profiled Subject, “The Foundation and the Fighter,” Andscape (formerly ESPN’s The Undefeated), Oct. 25, 2019 ([link](#))

GRANTS AND AWARDS

2023 | Selected as Health Law Scholar by American Society of Law, Medicine, & Ethics and Saint Louis University Center for Health Law Studies

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

SELECT LECTURES, PANELS, AND PRESENTATIONS

Conference/Panel/Event Organizer

Reclaiming Disability Justice Symposium (co-organized and co-hosted the hybrid CLE-accredited two-day symposium in conjunction with Brooklyn Law School's Disability and Civil Rights Clinic), March-April 2023

Conference/Panel/Event Participant

2023

Panelist, first Michael Goldfarb Memorial Symposium: A Call to Action: The Broader Implications of Recent U.S. Supreme Court Rulings for Disability Rights and Protections, July 11, 2023

Tzedek Lecturer, Oregon Humanities Center, University of Oregon, "Down for the Cause: Grace, Space, and Belonging in Social Movements," May 16, 2023

Presenter Selected from Call for Papers, Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting, presented work-in-progress article "Predisposed: Race, Disability, and Death Investigations," Section on Law Professors with Disabilities and Allies Junior Faculty Works-In-Progress Session, January 5, 2023

2022

Moderator, Association of American Law Schools Conference on Clinical Legal Education, Plenary Session, "Seizing the Moment," May 12, 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

Keynote Speaker, Inaugural North Carolina Black Disabilities Network Conference, Raleigh, NC, "Equity at the Intersection of Race and Disability," April 29, 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

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

2021

Panelist, New York City Racial Justice Commission, "Transforming Foundations: Intersectionality: Equity Across Identities," September 13, 2021

WILSON-August 2023

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, Yale School of Medicine Program for Bioethics, “Disability-Based Allocation of Medical Resources: Legal and Ethical Issues,” May 26, 2021

2020

Plenary Co-Facilitator, Association of University Centers on Disabilities Conference, “Leading Change to Achieve Equity: Conversations We Need to Have,” Dec. 8, 2020

2019

Speaker, New York City Council Joint Committees on Transportation, Mental Health, Disabilities, Addiction, and Aging, New York, NY, December 18, 2019

2018

Keynote Speaker, Association of Higher Education and Disability, Accessing Higher Ground Conference, Denver, CO, November 15, 2018

Panelist, United Nations Conference of State Parties, Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, New York, NY, June 13, 2018

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

CENTER FOR INDEPENDENCE OF THE DISABLED, NEW YORK,	New York, NY
Board of Directors	November 2017- January 2022
Advocacy Committee; Executive Committee	

OTHER INTERESTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

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 Brave New Voices.