

NICOLE A. SUMMERS

Harvard Law School
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EDUCATION

Harvard Law School, J.D., 2014

Lead Research Assistant, Professor Lani Guinier
Teaching Assistant, Professor John Palfrey
Harvard Human Rights Journal, Editor-in-Chief
Harvard Legal Aid Bureau Student Attorney

The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, M.A.L.D., 2014

Fletcher Board of Overseers Scholar – scholarship for academic merit
Research Assistant, Professor Katrina Burgess

Brown University, A.B. in Development Studies with honors, *magna cum laude*, 2008

Phi Beta Kappa
Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Thesis Writing

TEACHING INTERESTS

Primary: Property, Civil Procedure, Civil Rights Law, Race and Inequality, Empirical Legal Studies, Poverty Law

Secondary: Torts, Contracts, Land Use Law, Consumer Law, Professional Responsibility

PUBLICATIONS

Law Review Articles

Civil Probation, 75 STAN. L. REV. (forthcoming 2023).

- Reviewed by Pamela Bookman, *Circumventing Procedure in Eviction Court*, JOTWELL (Dec. 3, 2021).

[*The Limits of Good Law: A Study of Housing Court Outcomes*](#), 87 U. CHI. L. REV. 145 (2020).

[*Setting the Standard for Proximate Cause in the Wake of Bank of America Corp. v. City of Miami*](#), 97 N.C. L. REV. 529 (2019).

[*Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac's Subversion of State Consumer Protection Law Under the Guise of HERA: Post-Foreclosure Litigation in Massachusetts*](#), 20 U. PA. J.L. & SOC. CHANGE 273 (2017).

Note, [*Colombia's Victims' Law: Transitional Justice Amidst Violent Conflict?*](#), 25 HARV. HUM. RTS. J. 219 (2012).

Essays, Peer-Reviewed Articles, and Book Chapters

Eviction and the (Re)Distribution of Property Rights, 117 NW. L. REV. (forthcoming 2022) (invited symposium)

[*Remembering Chief Justice Gants as a Champion for Housing Justice*](#), 62 B.C. L. REV. 2840 (2021), with Larisa Bowman & Esme Caramello.

[*Controversies, Authority, and the Limits of Participation*](#), 40 PoLAR: POL. & LEGAL ANTHROPOLOGY REV. 311 (2017), with Gianpaolo Baiocchi.

A Government Closer to the People: Chicago, Illinois in POPULAR DEMOCRACY: THE PARADOX OF PARTICIPATION, Stanford: Stanford University Press (2016), with Ernesto Ganuza and Gianpaolo Baiocchi.

[*Conflicts and Paradoxes in the Rhetoric of Participation*](#), 12 J. CIVIL SOCIETY 328 (2016), with Ernesto Ganuza and Gianpaolo Baiocchi.

ACADEMIC FELLOWSHIPS AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Harvard Law School

Lecturer on Law and Clinical Instructor, 2018 – present

Taught or co-taught *Housing Law and Policy*, *Harvard Legal Aid Bureau Clinic*, *Housing Clinic*, and *Spanish for Public Interest Lawyers*

AALS Bellow Scholar – two-year research award to conduct data analysis of eviction filings

American Bar Foundation/JPB Foundation

Access to Justice Faculty Scholar, 2021 – present

Fifteen-month non-residential fellowship providing financial and scholarly support for empirical research on access to justice; selected as one of seven Faculty Scholars nationwide

New York University School of Law, NYU Furman Center for Real Estate & Urban Policy

Legal Fellow, 2017 – 2018; *Research Affiliate*, 2018 – present

Conducted academic research and produced scholarship on a range of topics related to fair housing, eviction, and housing conditions laws

Fulbright Scholarship

Research Scholar, Nicaragua, 2008 – 2009

JUDICIAL CLERKSHIP

Late Hon. Chief Justice Ralph D. Gants, Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, 2015 – 2016

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

The Bronx Defenders

Staff Attorney, Civil Action Practice, 2016 – 2017

Represented low-income tenants in eviction proceedings and provided direct representation to low-income clients in other civil matters related to criminal justice system involvement

Northeast Justice Center of Massachusetts

Fellow, 2014 – 2015

Represented low-income tenants and post-foreclosure homeowners in eviction proceedings; litigated fair housing and foreclosure cases in state and Federal court

Center for Constitutional Rights

Summer Law Clerk, 2013

Conducted legal and policy research on a range of topics related to immigration and employment discrimination

New Orleans Workers' Center for Racial Justice

Summer Law Clerk, 2012

Conducted legal research on immigration, employment discrimination, and fair housing

DeJusticia (Center for Law, Justice, and Society), Bogota, Colombia

Summer Law Clerk, 2011

Drafted legal memoranda on land reform, international human rights, and environmental law

SELECT PRESENTATIONS

Civil Probation

University of Illinois College of Law Symposium, Settlement in the 21st Century, forthcoming April 2022
 Columbia University Law Review Symposium, The Other 98%: Racial, Gender, and Economic Injustice in State Civil Courts, forthcoming April 2022
 American Association of Law Schools, Poverty Law Section Workshop, 2021
 American Association of Law Schools, Civil Procedure Workshop, 2021
 American Bar Foundation/JPB Foundation Access to Justice Scholars Kick-Off, 2021

Eviction and the (Re)Distribution of Property Rights

Northwestern University Law Review Symposium, Property and Inequality, 2021

Low-Income Housing, Eviction, and Public Health,

Boston Medical Center, General Medicine Grand Rounds, 2022
 Boston Medical Center, Geriatrics Grand Rounds, 2022
 Beth Israel Lehigh Hospital, General Medicine Grand Rounds, 2021

The (Rent) Burden of Living in NYC: Housing Programs and Evictions, American Sociological Association, 2019

The Limits of Good Law: A Study of Housing Court Outcomes

New York University School of Law, Colloquium on the Law, Economics, and Politics of Urban Affairs, 2019
 American Association of Law Schools Conference on Clinical Legal Education, 2019
 NYC Housing Court Answers Conference, 2019

Massachusetts Joint Commission on the Judiciary, Testimony in Support of Bills Establishing a Right to Counsel in Eviction Proceedings, 2019

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Mass. Supreme Judicial Court Standing Advisory Committee on the Rules of Civil Procedure (appointed by the Mass. Supreme Judicial Court)	2021 – present
Hon. Chief Justice Ralph D. Gants Legacy Committee	2020 – present
Mass. Access to Justice Commission Housing Appellate Working Group	2019 – present
Mass. Right to Counsel Coalition Advisory Committee	2018 – present
David A. Grossman Fund Fellowship Selection Committee	2018 – present

BAR ADMISSIONS/LANGUAGE

Admitted in Massachusetts, New York
 Fluent in Spanish (certified as functionally native)

REFERENCES

Vicki Been
 Boxer Family Professor of Law
 New York University School of Law (on leave)
 vicki.been@nyu.edu; vbeen@cityhall.nyc.gov
 (917) 860-1983

Molly Brady
 Professor of Law
 Harvard Law School
 mbrady@law.harvard.edu
 (617) 384-0099

Jessica Steinberg
 Professor of Law
 George Washington University Law School
 jsteinberg@law.gwu.edu
 (202) 200-0552

Rebecca Sandefur
 Professor, Arizona State University
 Faculty Fellow, American Bar Foundation
 MacArthur “Genius” Fellow
 rsandefur@abfn.org
 (217) 333-6100

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REFERENCES (CONTINUED)

Esme Caramello
Clinical Professor of Law
Harvard Law School
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(617) 384-5591

Christine Desan
Leo Gottlieb Professor of Law
Harvard Law School
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Kathryn Sabbeth
Associate Professor of Law
University of North Carolina School of Law
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Joseph Singer
Bussey Professor of Law
Harvard Law School
jsinger@law.harvard.edu
(617) 496-5292