

DESSIE K. OTACHLISKA

Griswold 109, 1525 Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge, MA 02138 • 917-242-2977 • dotachliska@law.harvard.edu

EDUCATION

Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA

J.D., May 2021 (*cum laude*)

- Journal: *Civil Rights-Civil Liberties Law Review*: Managing Editor, Outreach and Partnerships; Article Selection Board
- Scholarship: R.A., Prof. Lawrence Lessig, Constitutional Law (Appellant brief for *Chiafalo v. Washington*, 140 S.Ct. 2316 (2020); Appellant brief for *Alaska Public Offices Commission v. Patrick*, No. 3 AN-18-05726 CI (Alaska 2020))
R.A., Prof. Rosalind Dixon, Comparative Constitutional Law
R.A., Prof. Ruth Okediji, Intellectual Property Law (CRISPR patent litigation)
- Select Activities: HLS Mock Trial Association, Firm Outreach & Finance Committee; Williams Moot Court Competition; Lambda Board Representative

Washington and Lee University, Lexington, VA

Bachelor of Arts, Economics, Philosophy, May 2012 (*cum laude*)

- Honors: Omicron Delta Epsilon Honor Society for Economics
Two-time recipient of the William Wells Chaffin Memorial Scholarship for Public Speaking
Recipient of the Washington Scholarship for Academic Excellence

PUBLICATIONS

- *Free Speech Post Dobbs: The Constitutionality of State and Federal Restrictions on the Dissemination of Abortion-Related Information*, N.Y.U. J. LEGIS. & PUB. POL'Y QUORUM (2023).
- *America's Underinsurance Crisis in the Age of COVID-19*, HLS PETRIE-FLOM CENTER (2021).
- *The Constitutionality of Technology-Assisted Contact Tracing*, HLS COVID-19 & THE LAW COLLOQUIUM SERIES (2020).
- *Election Litigation in the Era of COVID-19*, HLS COVID-19 & THE LAW COLLOQUIUM SERIES (2020).
- *Travel Restrictions During Coronavirus*, HLS COVID-19 & THE LAW COLLOQUIUM SERIES (2020).
- *Criminal Jury Trials by Zoom: An Uneasy Bargain with the Constitution*, HLS COVID-19 & THE LAW COLLOQUIUM SERIES (2020).
- *Access to Abortion in the Era of COVID-19*, HLS COVID-19 & THE LAW COLLOQUIUM SERIES (2020).
- *Mask Madness: When Freedom of Speech and Opinion Becomes Assaultive*, HLS COVID-19 & THE LAW COLLOQUIUM SERIES (2020).
- *Pandemic-Era Restrictions on Immigration, Green Cards, and Asylum Claims*, HLS COVID-19 & THE LAW COLLOQUIUM SERIES (2020).
- *The Mental Health Impact of COVID-19 on America's Young Adults*, HLS COVID-19 & THE LAW COLLOQUIUM SERIES (2020).

TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Constitutional Law (U.S. and Comparative)
- Theories of Constitutional Change and Democratic Backsliding
- Civil Procedure
- Federal Courts and Institutional Legitimacy
- Public Law and Legal Theory

- Civil Rights and Structural Constitutional Design

LEGAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA

Climenko Fellow & Lecturer on Law, July 2023 – Present

- Researching the intersection of constitutional law, democratic erosion, and institutional design
- Teaching faculty for 1L Legal Research and Writing
- One of the faculty advisors for Harvard Law School's chapter of Lambda
- Organizer for Harvard Law School's mental health symposium on burnout (forthcoming)

Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP, New York City, NY

Associate, July 2023 – July 2024

- Teaching Assistant for Professors Les Fagen and Darren Johnson for Columbia Law School's Spring 2024 Trial Practice seminar
- Experience in white collar defense and investigations, complex commercial litigation, securities litigation, and bankruptcy matters
- Worked on litigation involving constitutional structure, government accountability, or separation-of-powers claims
- Drafted various pleadings and briefing, including motions to dismiss, motions for summary judgement, and merits briefing (including for matters involving First Amendment and structural constitutional arguments)
- Pride@Work member

Latham & Watkins, LLP, New York City, NY

Associate, September 2021 – July 2023

Summer *Associate*, Summer 2020 (offer extended)

- Moot Court Judge for Columbia Law School's First Year Moot Court competition
- Experience in white collar defense and investigations, complex commercial litigation, securities litigation, and bankruptcy matters
- LGBTQ+ Lawyers Affinity Group member

Credit Suisse, New York City, NY

Summer *Intern*, Summer 2020 (two-week secondment)

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings, LLP, Birmingham, AL

Summer *Associate*, Summer 2019, Summer 2020 (offer extended)

REPRESENTATIVE NON-LEGAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Bloomberg, L.P., Washington, DC

Account *Manager, Government Contracting*, September 2017 – August 2018

- Strategically managed 300+ government and contractor clients by combining data informatics and custom research
- Oversaw a team of five account managers and was responsible for the retention of high-risk strategic accounts
- BProud – Washington, DC chapter co-founder

Neustar, Inc., McLean, VA

Account *Executive, Information Services and Analytics*, January 2017 – September 2017

- Supported and managed over 230 clients across various industries through the use of consumer data profiling, custom research, and data-driven consumer analytics

- Neustar Corporate Social Responsibility Committee – co-founder and diversity officer
- Neustar LGBTQ Association member

Hanover Research, Arlington, VA

Associate Director and Account Manager, Client Solutions, March 2015 – January 2017

Senior Research Associate; Research Associate, August 2014 – March 2015

- Built relationships with clients through in-depth institutional knowledge and consultative research solutions
- Drafted a variety of custom research reports and statistical analyses for B2B clients in a variety of verticals
- Hanover Pride – co-founder

LANGUAGES - Fluent in French, Bulgarian, Serbian, and Macedonian

REFERENCES

- Prof. Martha Minnow, 300th Anniversary University Professor, Harvard Law School
 - (p) 617-495-4276
 - (e) minow@law.harvard.edu
- Prof. Laura Weinrib, Fred N. Fishman Professor of Constitutional Law, Harvard Law School
 - (p) 617-384-6810
 - (e) lweinrib@law.harvard.edu
- Prof. Lawrence Lessig, Roy L. Furman Professor of Law and Leadership, Harvard Law School
 - (p) 616-496-8853
 - (e) lessig@law.harvard.edu
- Prof. Rosalind Dixon, Professor of Law, University of New South Wales
 - (p) +61 2 9385 6964
 - (e) Rosalind.dixon@unsw.edu.au