

**SARA STERNBERG GREENE**  
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## **ACADEMIC/TEACHING APPOINTMENTS**

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### **DUKE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW**

2014-Present

*Professor, 2019-Present*

*Associate Professor, 2014-2019*

Courses taught: Contracts, Poverty Law, Consumer Bankruptcy & Debt, Poverty Law for Judges (Bolch Judicial Institute Master of Judicial Studies Program)

## **EDUCATION**

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**HARVARD UNIVERSITY**, Ph.D., Sociology and Social Policy, 2014  
MA, Sociology, 2011

Dissertation: Essays in Access to Justice

Multidisciplinary Program on Inequality and Social Policy, *Fellow*

Teaching Fellow: Contracts (Professor Elizabeth Warren), Urban Social Problems (Professor Kathryn Edin), Social Science Methods (Professor Timothy Nelson)

**YALE LAW SCHOOL**, J.D., 2005

*Yale Law Review*, Notes Editor

*Yale Law & Policy Review*, Articles Editor

*Yale Journal of Law and the Humanities*, Executive Editor

Stephen J. Massey Prize (Excellence in Legal Advocacy)

**YALE UNIVERSITY**, B.A., Political Science, *magna cum laude*, 2002

Phi Beta Kappa

Highest Distinction in Major

Harry Truman Scholar, J.W. Saxe Memorial Prize; Heinz Gov. Service Fellowship

## **RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS**

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Poverty Law, Consumer Law, Contracts, Bankruptcy Law, Access to Justice, Family Law, Data Use, Housing Law, Law and Sociology, Research Methods and Design

## **PROFESSIONAL LEGAL EXPERIENCE**

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**KLEIN HORNIG LLP**, Boston, MA

2006-2007

*Associate, Housing Development, New Market Tax Credits, Public Housing*

**7<sup>TH</sup> CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS, JUDGE RICHARD CUDAHY**,

2005-2006

Chicago, IL

*Judicial Clerk*

Sara Sternberg Greene, CV

## SCHOLARSHIP

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### SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS AND WORKS IN PROGRESS

*Getting to Home: Collateral Consequences in the Rental Housing Market* (with Barbara Kiviat and Hesu Yoon) (draft available)

*Going Against the Record: How Algorithms Change the Way Landlords Make Exceptions for Bad Background Checks* (with Barbara Kiviat and Hesu Yoon) (draft available) (under review at AMERICAN JOURNAL OF SOCIOLOGY)

*Justice Without Law(yers)?: Race, Class, and the Problem of Informality* (with Guy Charles) (article in progress)

*Centering Fraud* (article in progress)

*The Savings Mirage, in LAW AND THE 100-YEAR LIFE*, (eds. Abbe Gluck & Anne Alstott, forthcoming 2024)

HOSPITALS SUING PATIENTS (August 2023) (with Barak Richman, Sean Chen, and Julie Havlak)

- Covered in NRP/National Public Radio Online, Politico Online, CBS17, News Break, KFF Health New Online, WUNC, WRAL-TV, The Charlotte Ledger, KFF Health New Online, American Military News, PWSOC-TV, Denver Gazette, WTVD-TV, and many other television, print, and radio news outlets.

*Judging Without a J.D.*, 122 COLUMBIA L. REV. 1287 (2022) (with Kristen Renberg)

- Reviewed by Maureen Carroll, Jotwell: Things We Like (Lots) (Sept. 12, 2022)

*Credit Scoring Duality*, 85 LAW & CONTEMP. PROBS. 101 (2022) (with Pamela Foohey)

- Discussed on *Marketplace* (July 7, 2022)  
Discussed in NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE, *The High Cost of Bad Credit* (June 7, 2023)

*Stealing (Identity) From the Poor*, 106 MINN. L. REV. 59 (2021)

- Selected for Response on *Headnotes*, by Michele Gilman
- Highlighted on Fox26 News Houston (March 29, 2022)
- Discussed on Refinery29 (April 28, 2021)

*Forward: Fees, Fines, Bail, and the Destitution Pipeline*, 69 DUKE LAW JOURNAL 1463 (2020) (with Brandon Garrett and Marin Levy)

*Working to Fail*, 27 DUKE J. OF GENDER L. & POL'Y 167 (2019-2020) (invited contribution)

*A Theory of Poverty: Legal Immobility*, 96 WASH. U. L. REV. 753 (2019)

- Highlighted on *Race, Racism, and the Law* Blog

*The Rainy Day Earned Income Tax Credit: A Reform to Boost Financial Security by Helping Low-Wage Workers Build Emergency Savings*, 4 RSF: THE RUSSELL SAGE FOUNDATION J. OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCES 161 (2018) (with Sarah Halpern-Meekin, Ezra Levin, & Kathryn Edin)

*The Bootstrap Trap*, 67 DUKE L.J. 233 (2017)

- Excerpted in GENDER AND LAW: THEORY, DOCTRINE, COMMENTARY (8<sup>th</sup> ed., 2020)
- Reviewed on Credit Slips by Adam Levitin (Feb. 7, 2018)

*Cracking the Code: An Empirical Analysis of Consumer Bankruptcy Success*, 101 MINN. L. REV. 1031 (2017) (with Katherine Porter and Parina Patel)

*Race, Class, and Access to Civil Justice*, 101 IOWA L. REV. 1263 (2016)

*The Failed Reform: Congressional Crackdown on Repeat Chapter 13 Bankruptcy Filers*, 89 AM. BANKR. L. J. 241 (2015) (peer reviewed)

*Robbing Peter to Pay Paul: Debt Management Strategies and the Reproduction of Inequality*, 61 SOCIAL PROBLEMS 1 (2014) (with Laura Tach) (peer reviewed)

*The Broken Safety Net: A Study of Earned Income Tax Credit Recipients and a Proposal for Repair*, 88 NYU L. REV. 515 (2013)

- Policy Proposal adopted into Federal Policy Proposal for Rainy Day Earned Income Tax Credit (Senators Booker and Moran)
- Discussed in Thomson Reuters, *The Long Read: Auditing Earned Income* (March 3, 2022)

SNAP FOOD SECURITY IN-DEPTH INTERVIEW STUDY, FINAL REPORT. NUTRITION ASSISTANCE REPORT SERIES, OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS, FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (2013) (with others)

#### POPULAR PIECES

*NC hospitals use deceit to sue patients, take their homes*, CHARLOTTE OBSERVER (Nov. 9, 2023)

*Courtrooms Where No One Knows the Law*, Law and Political Economy Project Blog (June 22, 2022)

*How to Stop Evictions From Further Ruining Lives*, Opinion, N.Y. TIMES (January 8, 2021) (with Barbara Kiviat)

*How Government Rules Prevent Poor Americans From Saving*, POLITICO (Sept. 3, 2020) (with

Pamela Foohey)

*Congress Must Provide Real Aid to People in the Next Stimulus Package*, THE JUSTICE COLLABORATIVE INSTITUTE (Aug. 3, 2020) (with Pamela Foohey)

*Coronavirus, refundable tax credits, and the poverty line*, THE HILL (July 9, 2020) (with Lawrence Zelenak)

*Bankruptcy courts ill-prepared for tsunami of people going broke from coronavirus shutdown*, SALON (May 17, 2020); THE CONVERSATION (May 13, 2020) (with Pamela Foohey, Dalie Jimenez, Michelle Miller, and Paige Skiba)

*Love your tax refund? Here's a bipartisan proposal to make it even better*, CENTER FOR AMERICAN PROGRESS (May 5, 2016) (with Sara Halpern-Meekin and Ezra Levin)

*Why Don't the Poor Trust Justice?*, NEWSWEEK (Feb. 12, 2016)

*Why African Americans don't trust the courts, and why it matters*, THE MARSHALL PROJECT (Feb. 11, 2016)

*Turning the EITC into an Emergency Savings Tool for Low-Wage Workers*, THE HILL (July 30, 2015) (with Kathryn Edin, Sarah Halpern-Meekin, and Ezra Levin)

#### FEDERAL POLICY PROPOSAL

*The Rainy Day EITC: A Reform to Boost Financial Security by Helping Low Wage Workers Build Emergency Savings*. Sen. Booker (D-NJ) and Sen. Moran (R-KS), sponsors. (with Kathryn Edin, Sarah Halpern-Meekin, and Ezra Levin)

#### **SELECTED PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS**

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Invited Presenter, University of Chicago, Colloquium on Law and Social Science (expected April 4, 2024)

Invited Presenter, American Bar Foundation Spring 2024 Speaker Series (expected April 3, 2024)

Invited Presenter, Minnesota Law School Public Law Workshop, Minneapolis, MN (Dec. 4, 2023)

Invited Presenter, Stanford Law School Faculty Workshop, Palo Alto, CA (Nov. 8, 2023)

Invited Presenter, Roundtable on Civil Access to Justice, Columbia, SC (March 31-April 1, 2023)

Invited Panelist, Consumer Federation of America Financial Services Conference,

Sara Sternberg Greene, CV

Errors on Credit Reports (Dec. 7, 2022)

Guest Speaker, National Consumer Law Center, Credit Report and Tenant Screening Group (Sept. 15, 2022)

Guest Lecturer, Berkeley Law, Cybersecurity Law and Policy (April 25, 2022)

Invited Presenter, University of Southern California Faculty Workshop (April 2022)

Selected Presenter, Consumer Law Scholars Conference, Boston, MA, (March 3-4, 2022)

Invited Panelist, Columbia Law Review Symposium, The Other 98%: Racial, Gender, and Economic Injustice in State Civil Courts, “Community Experiences of State Courts: The False Criminal/Civil Divide” Panel (Feb. 4, 2022—cancelled due to COVID)

Invited Panelist, Law Firm Antiracism Alliance/ABA Section of Taxation/American College of Tax Counsel, Addressing Equity in the Tax System Panel (December 7, 2021)

Invited Discussant, Law & Society Association Annual Meeting, Anti-Poverty Programs and Policies after Trump (May 30, 2021)

Invited Presenter, Cardozo Law School Consumer Law and Credit Seminar Workshop (March 23, 2021)

Invited Discussant, Consumer Law Scholars Conference, Virtual, (March 4-5, 2021)

Invited Speaker, Northern District of California Federal Practice Program, Civil Litigation, Race, and the Law (Oct. 14, 2020)

Invited Discussant, Virtual Poverty Law Workshop (June 2020)

Invited Keynote and Discussant, Posner Pro Bono Exchange and “On the Issues with Mike Gousha,” Marquette Law School (April 2020 – cancelled due to COVID-19)

Invited Presenter (The Bootstrap Trap), Seminar on Law and Community Vitality, Yale Law School (March 2020)

Invited Speaker, Symposium: Racial Bias, Disparities and Oppression in the 1L Curriculum: A Critical Approach to the Canonical First Year Law School Subjects, Boston University, Boston, MA (February 2020)

Invited Presenter, Progressing Reform of Fines & Fees: Towards a Research and Policy Agenda, Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA (September 2019)

Conference Organizer, Courting Poverty: Fines, Fees, and the Judiciary, Duke Law

School, Durham, NC (September 2019)

Invited Presenter, Law & Society Roundtable: Advancing Research on State Courts & Agendas, Washington, DC (June 2019)

Guest Lecturer, Master of Judicial Studies Program at Duke Law School, Durham, NC (June 2019), *Qualitative Methods in Legal Research*

Invited Presenter, New York University School of Law Tax Policy Colloquium, New York, NY (April 2019), *A Theory of Poverty: Legal Immobility*

Invited Participant, Access to Justice Summit, Fordham Law School, New York, NY (expected October 2018)

Invited Panelist, Association of American Law Schools Conference, San Diego, CA (January 2017), *The ABI Commission on Consumer Bankruptcy: How Can Academic Research Inform the Commission's Deliberations?*

Invited Panelist, Association of American Law Schools Conference, San Diego, CA (January 2017), *The Socio-economics of Intimate Relationships*

Invited Presenter, Columbia Law School Faculty Workshop, New York, NY (October 2017), *The Bootstrap Trap*

Invited Presenter, Columbia Law Tax Policy Colloquium, New York, NY (October 2017), *The Bootstrap Trap*

Guest Lecturer, Master of Judicial Studies Program at Duke Law School, Durham, NC (June 2017), *Qualitative Methods in Legal Research*

Invited Presenter, The Federal Judicial Center, National Workshop for Bankruptcy Judges, Panel on the Middle Class, Charleston, SC (March 2017)

Moderator and Presenter, Association of American Law Schools Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA (January 2017), *New Directions in Access to Justice Research: Measuring Outcomes*

Presenter, Conference on Law and Empirical Studies, Duke Law School, Durham, NC (November 2016), *Cracking the Code*

Invited Presenter, Consumer Credit in America Symposium, Journal of Law and Contemporary Problems, Durham, NC (September 2016), *The Bootstrap Trap*

Presenter, Duke Law Faculty Workshop, Durham, NC (August 2016), *The Bootstrap Trap*

Presenter, Law and Society Association Conference, New Orleans, LA (June 2016), *Cracking the Code*

Guest Lecturer, Master of Judicial Studies Program at Duke Law School, Durham, NC (May 2015), *Qualitative Methods in Legal Research*

Invited Panelist, U.S. Department of Justice: Civil Legal Aid Research Expert Workshop, Washington, D.C. (May 2015), *Consumer Law Panel*

Presenter, Law and Society Association Conference, Seattle, WA (May 2015), *The Failed Reform: Congressional Crackdown on Repeat Chapter 13 Bankruptcy Filers*

Presenter, Duke Law Faculty Scholarship Retreat, Durham, NC (January 2015), *Race, Class, and Access to Justice*

Invited Presenter, National Consumer Law Center, Boston, MA (July 2014), *Tax and Consumer Law – Connections*

Invited Panelist, American Bar Association Section of Taxation Meeting, Washington, D.C. (May 2014), *The Earned Income Tax Credit*

Invited Presentation, Duke Law School Tax Policy Workshop, Durham, NC (April 2013), *The Broken Safety Net*

Presenter, Eastern Sociology Society Annual Meeting, Cambridge, MA (March 2010), *The Broken Safety Net*

Presenter, American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA (August 2009), *In and Out of Financial Crisis: The Role of Family Networks*

Invited Lecture, Yale Law School (with Kathryn Edin), New Haven, CA (April 2008), *Investing in Enduring Resources – The Earned Income Tax Credit*

Presenter, American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Boston, MA (August 2008), *Race, Class, and Access to Civil Justice*

Presenter, Harvard University Race and Inequality Workshop, Cambridge, MA (February 2008), *Race, Class, and Access to Civil Justice*

## **SELECT MEDIA AND PODCAST APPEARANCES**

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NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO (NPR) ONLINE, POLITICO ONLINE, CBS17, NEWS BREAK, KFF HEALTH NEW ONLINE, WUNC, WRAL-TV, THE CHARLOTTE LEDGER, KFF HEALTH NEW ONLINE, American Military News, PWSOC-TV, DENVER GAZETTE, WTVD-TV, HOSPITALS Suing Patients (August and September, 2023)

NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE, *The High Cost of Bad Credit* (June 7, 2023)

Fox26 News Houston, *Report finds Black, Hispanic consumers twice as likely to have disputes of inaccuracies on credit reports* (March 29, 2022)

Thomson Reuters, *The Long Read: Auditing Earned Income* (March 3, 2022)

FINREG POD, *Stealing Identity From the Poor* (Jan. 14, 2022)

Refinery29, *His Identity Was Stolen Once. Then, It Happened Again. Why Didn't His Bank Believe Him?* (April 28, 2021).

BLOOMBERG LAW, *Bankruptcy Racial Disparities Poised to Add to Pandemic Pain* (Aug. 31, 2020)

CHARLOTTE OBSERVER, *Despite aid programs, thousands went bankrupt in North Carolina as COVID-19 raged* (Oct. 9, 2020)

Taxmaven Podcast with Steven Dean, *Thank God for Tax Day* (Sept. 22, 2020)

NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO (NPR), MARKETPLACE, *Here Comes the Bankruptcy Wave* (May 14, 2020)

WUNC, THE STATE OF THINGS, *The Debate over Panhandling and the Criminalization of Poverty* (September 11, 2018)

NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO (NPR), MARKETPLACE, *Consumer Financial Protection Bureau Arbitration Rule* (July 11, 2017)

This Week in Sociological Perspective Podcast with Samuel Lucas, *Low-income households' varying strategies for dealing with debt* (February 2014)

## **SELECT GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND HONORS**

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Bass Connections Grant, Duke University, Team Contributor, American Predatory Lending and the Global Financial Crisis, 2019-2020: \$10,000

Common American Bankruptcy Institute Junior Fellow, Professor Jay Lawrence Westbrook: Bankruptcy's Universal Pragmatist, University of Texas Law School, February 2-3, 2018

American Bar Foundation Litigation Research Fund Award for the project: *Race, Class, and Access to Justice*, 2009: \$10,000

Real Estate Academic Initiative Research Grant, Harvard University, 2009: \$8,700

Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Graduate Society Summer Predissertation Fellowship, Harvard University, 2009: \$3,000

Inequality & Social Policy Doctoral Fellowship, Multidisciplinary Program in Inequality & Social Policy, Harvard University, 2008-2013: \$30,000



Graduate Seed Grant, Center for American Political Studies, Harvard University, 2007: \$1000

Perry Family Fellowship, Harvard University, 2007-2009: tuition and stipend

Harry Truman Scholar, Harry Truman Scholarship Foundation, 2001: \$30,000

## SERVICE

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### *University and Law School Service (Duke University and Duke University School of Law)*

- Duke Law Lateral Appointments Committee: *Chair* (2023-2024), *Member* (2021-2023)
- Duke University Judicial Board: *Chair* (2023-present), *Member* (2021-2023)
- Duke University Research Data Initiative Advisory Board, member (2022-present)
- Duke University Academic Council, elected member (2021-2023)
- Duke Law School Public Interest and Public Service Certificate Committee: *Chair* (2018-2019), *Member* (2017-2023)
- Duke University Law School Dean Review Committee (2021)
- Duke Law School Diversity and Inclusion Committee (2020-2021)
- Duke Law School Entry-Level Appointments Committee (2019-2020)
- Duke Law School Technology Committee (2019-2020)
- Immigration Law Clinic Hiring Committee (2019)
- Duke University Provost's Committee on Re-Imagining Doctoral Education (2017-2019), Subcommittee on Focus Groups and Surveys, *Subcommittee Member* (2017-2019)
- Duke Law School Teaching Committee (2015-2016)
- Duke Law Office of Public Interest Advising, Summer Funding Committee (2019, 2015)
- Duke Law School Visiting Assistant Professor Selection Committee (2014-2016)
- Duke Law School Class of 1987 Legal Aid Fellowship Selection Committee (2018)

### *Service to the Profession*

- *Judicature*, Editorial Board Member (2023-present)
- *Law and Society Review*, Editorial Board Member (2020-2023)
- AALS, Creditor's and Debtor's Rights Section, Executive Committee, Chair (2021), Chair-Elect (2020), Secretary (2019), Treasurer (2018), Committee Member (2017)
- North Carolina Consumer Bankruptcy Rights Coalition, Board Member (2021-present)
- Fair Workweek Ordinance National Science Foundation Grant Proposal, Law & Social Sciences Project (PIs: Anna Gassman-Pines and Elizabeth Ananat, Duke University Sanford School of Public Policy), Expert Advisory Board Member (2018-2021)
- Bankruptcy Law & COVID Working Group, Consumer Committee (2020-2021)
- American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Making Justice Accessible: Designing Legal Services for the 21st Century, Family Law Committee Member (2019-2021)

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- United States Bankruptcy Court, Central District of CA, Health and Financial Literacy Project Exploration Committee (2017-present)
- Ad Hoc Peer Reviewer: Yale Law Journal, Harvard Law Review, Stanford Law Review, NYU Law Review, Journal of Empirical Legal Studies, Law & Society Review, Cambridge University Press, Social Problems, Perspectives on Psychological Science
- Peer Reviewer and Program Committee Member, Conference on Empirical Legal Studies (2016)