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SCHOOL OF LAW

SNAPSHOT

FALL-WINTER 2019

Small School.Big Value.Real New Mexican Perks.



SMALL SCHOOL. BIG MISSION.

Our mission is to educate and train students to become excellent lawyers who will enrich and serve local, state, tribal, national and international communities.

We seek to maintain our long tradition of opening access to the profession.

We endeavor to focus our resources on some of New Mexico's most pressing legal needs through a number of highly rated educational, research, and service programs.

These goals track with UNM's overall vision and mission to offer New Mexicans and others access to a high quality education.

UNM School of Law's close community encourages individual faculty-student contact and results in excellent employment outcomes for our graduates.

We also offer one of the best and most competitive tuition rates in the country.

**Small School.Big Value.
Real New Mexican Perks.**



DEAN'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

As our fall semester begins, I would like to recognize the collective efforts of our faculty, our staff, and our entire legal community. Together, we have had another wonderful start to a new academic year, and I feel very fortunate to be here at UNM School of Law.

We are pleased to welcome an extraordinary group of nine new tenure-stream faculty members and five new visiting professors who have joined us from around the country recently. They are dedicated teachers and scholars who are from diverse backgrounds and who have been educated at the nation's most distinguished law schools.

We are delighted they have chosen to advance their scholarly pursuits and teaching as members of UNM School of Law faculty.

Sergio Pareja
Dean and Professor of Law

Some of the best and brightest law professors from across the country have recently chosen to join UNM School of Law.

The quality of our faculty continues to be on the rise.

A+

TOP LAW SCHOOLS FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL LAW
preLaw Magazine 2019

#1

FOR HISPANICS
preLaw Magazine 2018

BEST

A "BEST" LAW SCHOOL
Princeton Review 2018



DYNAMIC.DEDICATED.

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**MEET OUR 9 NEW
FULL-TIME FACULTY:**



JOHN MIN KANG

Professor of Law
Ph.D. University of Michigan
J.D. UCLA
B.A. U.C. Berkeley

Professor John Kang graduated Phi Beta Kappa and with High Honors from U.C. Berkeley. Afterwards, he attended the UCLA School of Law where he served as editor-in-chief of a law journal. Upon graduation from law school, he earned a doctorate in political science at the University of Michigan. Professor Kang teaches Constitutional Law, and he writes about that, along with manliness, religion, public discourse, and other topics related to freedom and authority.

More information about him, including a list of downloadable articles, can be found on his personal website; <https://sites.google.com/site/johnmkang/>.

See Professor Kang's recent work, *Oliver Wendell Holmes and Fixations of Manliness* (Routledge, 2018). Available at the UNM Law Library.



MARC-TIZOC GONZÁLEZ

Professor of Law
J.D. University of California, Berkeley
M.A. San Francisco State University
B.A. University of California, Davis

Affiliated with Latina and Latino Critical Legal (LatCrit) theory, and chair emeritus of the executive committee of the American Association of Law Schools (AALS) Section on Poverty Law, Professor González researches and theorizes how constitutional jurisprudence, civil rights statutes, and property law affect people who are hungry, impoverished, or otherwise socially marginalized, as well as how lawyers work to promote social justice and to protect the rule of law over authority.

One major research project examines “the food-sharing cases,” a set of constitutional and statutory challenges to municipal laws that criminalize, or regulate, religious and political activists who publicly share food with homeless, impoverished, or hungry people in city-owned parks, sidewalks, and/or streets.

View Professor González's scholarship online via the Social Science Research Network, <http://ssrn.com/author=853428>.



VINAY HARPALANI

Associate Professor
Ph.D. University of Pennsylvania
J.D. New York University
M.Be University of Pennsylvania
M.S.Ed. University of Pennsylvania

Professor Harpalani's scholarship focuses on the intersections between race, education, and law.

Professor Harpalani teaches courses in Constitutional Law, Civil Rights, Civil Procedure, and Employment Discrimination. His scholarship focuses on the intersections between race, education, and law. His writings have covered topics such as affirmative action in university admissions, racial ambiguity, skin color discrimination, and the psychological development of racial identity. Professor Harpalani's 2012 law review article, "Diversity Within Racial Groups and the Constitutionality of Race-Conscious Admissions," was cited in eight U.S. Supreme Court amicus briefs and was quoted in Justice Samuel Alito's dissent in *Fisher II*. Several of his articles have been cited in legal briefs or opinions at the U.S. Supreme Court, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, and the New York Court of Appeals.



LAURA SPITZ

Associate Professor
J.S.D. Cornell University
J.D. University of British Columbia
B.A. University of Toronto

Professor Spitz's research focuses on laws' role(s) in the construction of personal, community, national, and regional borders and identities.

Professor Laura Spitz teaches Contracts, Commercial Law, and Business Law. Her research focuses on laws' role(s) in the construction of personal, community, national, and regional borders, and identities. Within this broader context, she is especially interested in examples at the intersection of economic law, global capitalism, and social justice, putting economic regulation in conversation with other bodies of law—local, regional, Indigenous, international, trans-systemic, and supranational—for the purpose of advancing contemporary policies aimed at alleviating the lived effects of social and economic inequality. Professor Spitz' practice experience includes both domestic and international business transactions, commercial transactions, tax law, social purpose and non-profit business law, banking law, and Indigenous economic development law.



**SONIA M.
GIPSON RANKIN**

Assistant Professor
J.D. University of Illinois
B.S. Morgan State University

In 2018, Professor Gipson Rankin was honored with a Woman of Influence Award by the Albuquerque Business Journal.

Professor Sonia Gipson Rankin teaches courses in Torts, Constitutional Law, Family Law, and Race and the Law. Her research is centered on the law and its impact on the Black American community, in the areas of technology, family dynamics, and race. Previously, she served as the Associate Dean for Curriculum and Program Development in University College and as a Senior Lecturer in Africana Studies, both at the University of New Mexico. She has served as a family mediator, legal advisor, and as a charter school trustee and has served on state-wide higher education committees and regularly presents on kinship care, mass incarceration, microaggressions, gender equity, and issues related to the Black American community. She is a former President of the New Mexico Black Lawyers Association, and a member of the State Bar of New Mexico Committee on Professionalism.



PAUL FIGUEROA

Assistant Professor
J.D. American University
B.A. Beloit College

During his ten years of government service, Professor Figueroa received several prestigious agency-wide awards related to strategic innovation in legal practice and institutional climate.

Professor Paul Figueroa brings extensive private and public sector practice experience to the classroom. He served as a foreign service officer and general counsel for the U.S. Agency for the International Development in Guatemala. Prior to that, he was an attorney adviser to various regional and technical bureaus at the USAID/Washington office. He served for five years as the chair to the Fund Council Group on Intellectual Property for the Consultative Group of International Research Centers. In the private sector, he served as manager for the Customs and Trade Compliance Group at Deloitte Consulting LLP in Chicago and as a senior associate in the Washington, DC office of Grunfeld Desiderio. Professor Figueroa taught International Trade Law as an Adjunct Professor for several years in Washington, DC and is fluent in three languages.



ELIZABETH ELIA

Assistant Professor
L.L.M. Georgetown Law
J.D. American University
B.A. New College of Florida

Professor Elia has structured and closed transactions totaling more than \$200 million in public and private financing for affordable housing developments.

Professor Elia teaches courses related to Property Law, Land Use, Real Estate Development, Poverty Law, and Clinic. Professor Elia worked for twelve years as a transactional lawyer specializing in the development and preservation of affordable housing. Professor Elia also has expertise in representing limited equity housing cooperatives, small businesses, and nonprofit corporations. In 2016, she was appointed to District of Columbia Mayor Muriel Bowser's Affordable Housing Strikeforce. On the Strikeforce, she served with agency heads and other leaders to develop a plan to preserve tens of thousands of units of affordable housing in the District of Columbia over a five-year period. Professor Elia has a long history of legislative policy work and grassroots organizing on issues related to affordable housing and community development and looks forward to continuing this work in New Mexico.



VERONICA C. GONZALES-ZAMORA

Assistant Professor
J.D. UNM School of Law
B.A. University of New Mexico

Currently, Professor Gonzales-Zamora serves as a board member of the New Mexico chapter of the Federal Bar Association.

Professor Veronica Gonzales-Zamora teaches courses in the Southwest Indian Law Clinic, Moot Court, Civil Procedure I and II, and Ethics. As an associate attorney she gained experience litigating family law cases involving intricate finances, multiple geographies, or complex custody, and represented corporations in a variety of commercial litigation matters. Currently, she serves as a board member of the New Mexico chapter of the Federal Bar Association. As a member of the ABA's Council of Appellate Lawyers, she was a contributing author to the ABA's Appellate Pro Bono Manual Update (2nd ed. 2017). Presently, Professor Gonzales-Zamora serves as a member of the Volunteer Attorney Panel with NM Legal Aid and the American Bar Association's (ABA) www.abafreelegalanswers.org initiative in New Mexico.



**JOSEPH A.
SCHREMMER**

Assistant Professor
J.D. University of Kansas
M.B.A. University of Kansas
B.S., B.A. University of Kansas

Professor Schremmer was honored as the 2019 adjunct professor of the year by the graduating class of Washburn Law.

Professor Joe Schremmer teaches courses on Oil and Gas Law, Commercial Law, and Property. He writes on issues of oil, gas, and mineral law and the nature and extent of property rights in the subsurface of land. He served as general counsel for a privately held oil and gas exploration, production, and service company. He previously taught as an Adjunct Professor at the University of Kansas School of Law and Washburn University School of Law. He was honored as the 2019 Adjunct Professor of the Year by the graduating class of Washburn Law. A graduate of the University of Kansas School of Law, Schremmer was the Editor-in-Chief of the University of Kansas Law Review and received the Samuel Mellinger Award as the top overall graduate in the areas of scholarship, leadership, and service.

FOR FULL FACULTY PROFILES VISIT:

JOHN MIN KANG:

<http://lawschool.unm.edu/faculty/kang/>

MARC-TIZOC GONZÁLEZ:

<http://lawschool.unm.edu/faculty/gonzalez/>

VINAY HARPALANI:

<http://lawschool.unm.edu/faculty/harpalani/>

LAURA SPITZ:

<http://lawschool.unm.edu/faculty/spitz/>

SONIA M. GIPSON RANKIN:

<http://lawschool.unm.edu/faculty/gipson-rankin/>

PAUL FIGUEROA:

<http://lawschool.unm.edu/faculty/figueroa/>

ELIZABETH ELIA:

<http://lawschool.unm.edu/faculty/elia/>

VERONICA C. GONZALES-ZAMORA:

<http://lawschool.unm.edu/faculty/gonzales-zamora/>

JOSEPH A. SCHREMMER:

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INNOVATIVE.

INSPIRED.IMPACTFUL.

**MEET OUR 5 NEW
VISITING FACULTY:**



JOSEPH GALLARDO

Visiting Assistant Professor
J.D. Harvard Law School
B.S. University of Texas at Austin
A.S. Palo Alto College

Professor Gallardo's research focuses on the theory and practice of street policing.

Professor Joseph Gallardo is a Visiting Assistant Professor at the University of New Mexico School of Law, where he teaches Elements of Legal Argumentation I and II. Professor Gallardo's research focuses on the theory and practice of street policing, and he writes for broader public audiences as well, with works appearing in USA Today and The New York Times. Professor Gallardo received his J.D. from Harvard Law School. Prior to law school, he earned his A.S. from Palo Alto College and his B.S. from the University of Texas at Austin, where he was honored as one of three Most Outstanding Graduates; he spent his final semester working in the Office of the Counselor to Chief Justice Roberts at the Supreme Court of the United States.



LYSETTE ROMERO CÓRDOVA

Visiting Assistant Professor
J.D. UNM School of Law
B.A. University of New Mexico

Professor Romero Córdova was hired as associate counsel with the Office of Supreme Court Counsel at the New Mexico Supreme Court.

Professor Lysette Romero Córdova is a Visiting Assistant Professor in the law school's Legal Analysis and Communication Program. She teaches Elements of Legal Argumentation I and II. She served as a law clerk to Justice Edward L. Chávez on the New Mexico Supreme Court and spent time in private practice before joining the New Mexico Court of Appeals as a Prehearing attorney. After four years with the Court of Appeals, she was hired as associate counsel with the Office of Supreme Court Counsel at the New Mexico Supreme Court. She has extensive experience in appeals, having worked on more than 250 cases spanning all areas of the law in her time with New Mexico's appellate courts. Romero Córdova serves on the board of the New Mexico Hispanic Bar Association and on the New Mexico Judicial Translation Project Committee.

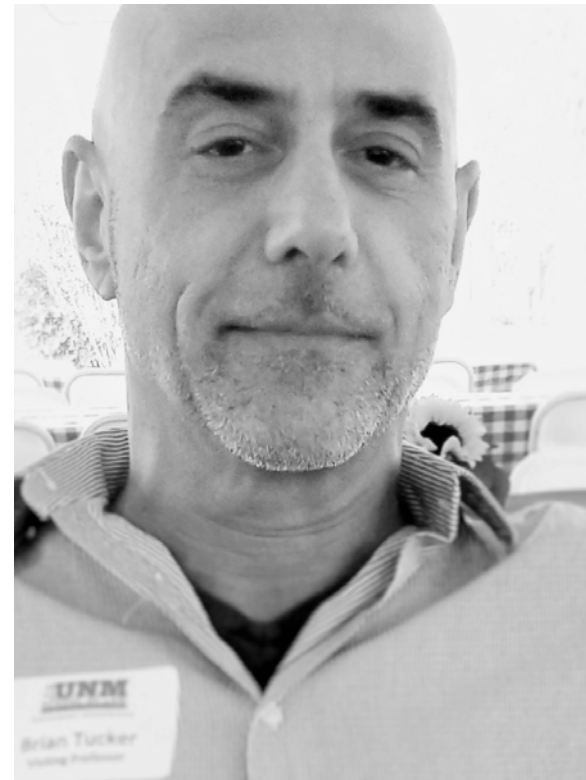


AMY SIRIGNANO

Visiting Assistant Professor
J.D. Rutgers Law School
M.F.S. George Washington
University
Certified Fraud Examiner

Professor Sirignano represents clients in State and Federal Courts on criminal matters, including a pending former death penalty case charging kidnapping and conspiracy to provide material support to terrorists.

Professor Amy Sirignano is a Visiting Assistant Professor and Supervising Attorney at UNM School of Law's Innocence and Justice Project. She has 20 years of experience in state/federal criminal defense and civil litigation spanning a wide-range of areas with an emphasis in complex cases, white-collar and financial crimes, corruption, and money laundering. She began her career as a Forensic Scientist with the FBI Laboratory, progressing through a wide-range of roles with the FBI including Special Agent with the agency's Los Angeles and New York divisions. As Assistant U.S. Attorney with the Department of Justice's (DOJ's) U.S. Attorney's Office (USAO) in the District of New Mexico, Amy represented the U.S. in matters related to international/domestic terrorism as well as white-collar crimes. She later transitioned to Trial Attorney as part of the DOJ's Criminal Division.

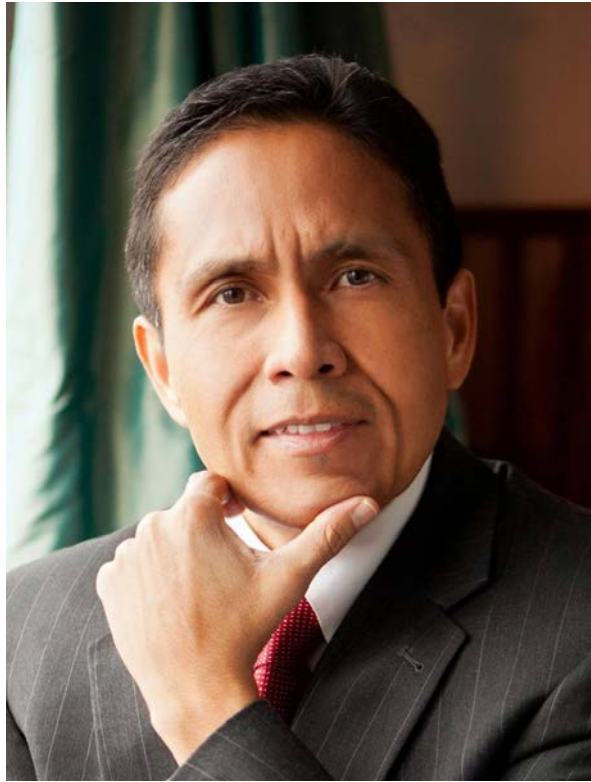


BRIAN TUCKER

Visiting Assistant Professor
J.D. Touro College
B.A. Long Island University

Prior to joining the IJP, Professor Tucker liaised with the Project, developing an internship program with the LOPD Post-Conviction Habeas Unit.

Professor Brian Tucker is a Visiting Assistant Professor and Supervising Attorney at UNM School of Law's Innocence and Justice Project (IJP). He served as Managing Attorney in the Post-Conviction Habeas Unit of the Law Offices of the Public Defender (LOPD) in Albuquerque, NM where he held statewide managerial responsibility for the LOPD Post-Conviction Habeas Unit. He served as a Senior Trial Attorney with the LOPD Post-Conviction Habeas Unit litigating post-conviction habeas corpus cases. He specializes in legal practice in prisoners' rights, First Amendment free exercise of religion claims, Eighth Amendment inadequate medical care HIV/hepatitis C claims, and disciplinary forfeiture of earned meritorious deduction due process claims. Professor Tucker holds a J.D. from Touro College, Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center where he founded PILOT, the Public Interest Law Organization of Touro.



SAMUEL WINDER

Visiting Assistant Professor
J.D. UNM School of Law
B.S. Stanford University

Professor Winder is a member of
the Tribal Issues Advisory Group
and the United States Sentencing
Commission.

Professor Sam Winder is a Visiting Assistant Professor with UNM School of Law's Southwest Indian Law Clinic (SILC). He has previously served as an Adjunct Professor at UNM School of Law, as a State District Court Judge, Second Judicial District, Bernalillo County, as a Federal Prosecutor, as a Tribal Liaison for the United States Attorney's Office, District of New Mexico, and as a Tribal Attorney for the Southern Ute Indian Tribe. Honors and awards include the Federal Executive Board Public Service Award, Sustained Superior Performance Awards as an Assistant United States Attorney, and the Special Act of Service Awards as Tribal Liaison for the District of New Mexico. He has served on the UNM Law School Alumni/ae Association Board and with the National Native American Bar Association, and is a former board member of both AMI Kids and Calvary of Albuquerque.

FOR FULL FACULTY PROFILES VISIT:

JOSEPH GALLARDO:

<http://lawschool.unm.edu/faculty/gallardo/>

LYSETTE ROMERO CORDOVA:

<http://lawschool.unm.edu/faculty/cordova/>

ANY SIRIGNANO:

<http://lawschool.unm.edu/faculty/sirignano/>

BRIAN TUCKER:

<http://lawschool.unm.edu/faculty/tucker/>

SAMUEL WINDER:

<http://lawschool.unm.edu/faculty/winder/>

SMALL SCHOOL.BIG IDEAS.

Our faculty bring diverse backgrounds, a passion for scholarship and teaching, and a shared appreciation for collaborative work. Learn more about our professors online on their faculty pages.

SELECTED RECENT & FORTHCOMING SCHOLARSHIP

Criminalizing Charity: Can First Amendment Free Exercise of Religion, RFRA, and RLUIPA Protect People who Share Food in Public?, 7 U.C. IRVINE L. REV. 291 (2017), Professor Marc-Tizoc González

La gran lucha: Michael A. Olivas, Breaking the Law on Principle and Confronting the Risks of Representation, Law Professor and Accidental Historian: The Scholarship of Michael A. Olivas (Ediberto Roman ed. 2017), Professor Marc-Tizoc González

U.S. Nonprofit Activity in Cuba: Challenges in Cuban Law and Practice, 50 CORNELL INT'L L. J. 199 (2017) (co-authored with Elizabeth Brundige, Lucía Domínguez Cisneros and Eduardo Peñalver), Professor Laura Spitz

Oliver Wendell Holmes and Fixations of Manliness (Routledge, 2018), Professor John Min Kang

Perpetual Affordability Covenants: Can These Land Use Tools Solve the Affordable Housing Crisis, 124 PENN ST. L. REV. (forthcoming 2019), Professor Elizabeth Elia

Civil Rights Law in Living Color, 79 MD. L. REV. (forthcoming 2020), Professor Vinay Harpalani

Getting Past Possession: Subsurface Property Disputes as Nuisances, 95 WASH. L. REV. (forthcoming 2020), Professor Joseph A. Schremmer

SMALL SCHOOL.BIG EXPERTISE.

Our professors hold law degrees from and have taught at many of the nation's top law schools including:

Berkeley

Harvard

University of Colorado

Northwestern

Columbia

NYU

Cornell

University of Pennsylvania

Emory

Yale

Georgetown

UCLA

Our faculty are steadfast when it comes to providing top quality, hands-on teaching. Practical experience forms the core of our students' legal education. Upon graduation, our students are highly employable and client-ready. Our devoted close-knit community continues to set us apart. **For these reasons, high-caliber faculty are choosing New Mexico and want to teach with us.**

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