

MICHAEL MELTSNER

**George J. and Kathleen Waters Matthews
Distinguished University Professor of Law,
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CURRICULUM VITAE

Employment

(1984-present)

Michael Meltsner is George J. and Kathleen Waters Matthews Distinguished University Professor of Law, Northeastern University School of Law (416 Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02115)

(2000-2005)

On leave from Northeastern, he was Visiting Professor of Law and Director, First-Year Lawyering Program, Harvard Law School

He is also a Marriage/Family Therapist. Primary affiliations: Member, Massachusetts Board of Registration for Allied Mental Health (1989 - 1997); Consultant, Middlesex Probate Court Family Service Clinic (1995 - 1997); Board, Center for Family Connections (1996 -2001).

(1979-1984)

Dean and Professor of Law, Northeastern University School of Law. Chief Executive Officer of the School of Law. Responsible for academic program, planning and administration, including budget preparation and management, physical plant, curriculum, personnel policy and external relations.

(1970-1979)

Professor of Law, Columbia University School of Law; Co-Founder and Director, Morningside Heights Legal Services, Inc., a law school-sponsored legal services program in which second and third year students represented indigent clients under faculty supervision.

(1961-1970)

First Assistant Counsel, NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. (LDF); Co-Director, National Office for the Rights of the Indigent (NORI).

Duties included litigation responsibility for trial and appeal of a diverse docket of civil rights, federal jurisdiction and criminal law cases as well as supervisory and administrative direction of a special program dealing with the legal rights of indigents.¹ As a member of the LDF and NORI staff, I participated in the trial and/or appeal of several hundred cases before the federal district courts, courts of appeals, and in the state courts.²

¹ I have argued the following Supreme Court cases: Coleman v. Alabama, 377 U.S. 129 (1964), see also 389 U.S. 22 (1967); Biggers v. Tennessee, 390 U.S. 404 (1968); Turner v. Fouche, 396 U.S. 346 (1970); In re Burrus (reported with McKeiver v. Pennsylvania), 403 U.S. 528 (1971); Neil v. Biggers, 409 U.S. 188 (1972); and Warner v. Flemings, 413 U.S. 1346 (1974).

² Illustrative of the above diverse subject matter of these cases are the following decisions: Jackson v. Godwin, 400 F.2d 529 (5th Cir. 1968) (prisoners' rights); Beck v. Winters, 407 F.2d 125 (8th Cir. 1969) (misdemeanants' right to counsel); Smith v. Morrilton, 365 F.2d 770 (8th Cir. 1966) (discriminatory discharge of black teachers); Cypress v. Nonsectarian Hospital, 375 F.2d 648 (4th Cir. 1967); Simkins v. Moses Cone Memorial Hospital, 323 F.2d 969 (4th Cir. 1963) (discrimination against black patients and physicians); Newman v. Piggie Park, 377 F.2d 433 (4th Cir. 1967), modified, 390 U.S. 400 (counsel fees for denial of public accommodation); Ali v. New York State Athletic Commission, 316 F. Supp. 1246 (S.D.N.Y. 1970) (denial of boxing license to black muslim); Maxwell v. Bishop, 398 F.2d 138 (8th Cir. 1968) (constitutional challenge to death penalty); Lampkin v. Conner, 239 F. Supp 757, aff'd, 390 F.2d 505 (D.C. Cir. 1966) (apportionment); Kelly v. Althiemer, 378 F.2d 483 (8th Cir. 1967) (school desegregation); Gonzales v. Warden, 21 N.Y.2d 265, cert. denied, 390 U.S. 973 (1968) (constitutional challenge to money bail system); Powell v. Wainwright, 403 F.2d 33 (5th Cir. 1968) (due process rights of parolee); Mosher v. LaVallee, 491 F.2d 1346 (2d. Cir. 1974) (voluntariness of guilty plea).

Education

A.B., Oberlin College (1957)
LL.B/J.D., Yale Law School (1960)
Kantor Family Institute (1983-85)

Other Academic Positions

Guest Lecturer, Whitehead School of Diplomacy, Seton Hall University
(2009, 2010)

Guest Professor, Albert-Ludwigs-Universitat Freiburg, Germany (2001, 2003,
2004, 2006, 2008, 2010)

Lecturer, Humboldt University Faculty of Law
Berlin, Germany (1999)

Lecturer/Consultant
National Law School of India (Bangalore);
Law Centre II of New Delhi (1998)

Visiting Scholar, Harvard Law School (1983)

Lecturer on American Law, Columbia-Leyden (The Netherlands) Program
(1978)

Clinical Instructor, Department of Psychology, Teachers College (1976-78)

Lecturer on Criminal Law, New York University School of Law
(1967-69)

Professional Associations

China Mediation Training Task Force (2009)

Consultant\Evaluator, Washington University School of Law (1997);
Harvard Law School (1993), University of Maryland School of
Law (1993), Boston College School of Law (1993)

Consultant\Evaluator, Institute of Judicial Administration, New York
University School of Law (1992); Vermont Judicial College (1994),
Tri-State Judicial Program (1996)

Consultant (on Lawyer Training) Legal Resources Centre, Johannesburg,
South Africa (1992)

Clinical Member, American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy
(1987-97)

Consultant, Vermont Law School (1985-86)

Affiliate, The Family Center (1985-95), Member of the Board
(1988-95)

Special Consultant to the General Counsel, New York State Department of
Social Services (1983-88)

Chair, Standing Committee of Association of American Law Schools on
Clinical Legal Education (1982), and member of the Committee
(1981-84)

Member, Advisory Committee on Legal Services, National Legal Aid and
Defender Association (1981)

Member, New England Steering Committee, NAACP Legal Defense and
Educational Fund, Inc.

Member, Committee on Legal Education, Supreme Judicial Court of
Massachusetts (1979-80)

Member, Committee to Revise Chapter 119, Massachusetts Committee on
Children and Youth (1979-80)

Member, Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts, Children's Rights
Committee (1979-80)

Member, Joint ABA-AALS Committee on the "Static State" (1980)

Special Consultant, United States Department of Justice, Civil Rights
Division (1978)

Outside Evaluator, University of Pennsylvania School of Law Clinical
Program (1978)

Consultant to the Carnegie Foundation on Southern Africa (1977-88)

Member, Advisory Board, Higher Education in Prisons Program,
University of Massachusetts (1976-85)

Member of the Board, Society of American Law Teachers (1977-1983)

Consultant, Legal Action Center of the City of New York (1973),
Member of the Board (1975-)

Member of the Board, Institute for Applied Study of Social Systems
(1974-77)

Consultant, regarding public interest law, to the Ford Foundation
(1974) and the Fund for the City of New York (1974)

Committee on Criminal Courts, Law and Procedure, Association of the
Bar of the City of New York

Member of the Board of Overseers of the Center for the Study of
Violence, Brandeis University (1967-73)

Conference Participation

Panelist on the film “The Power To Heal,” Harvard Medical School (2018) dealing inter alia with a constitutional case I handled in the 1960s

Panelist, “Supreme Court and Capital Punishment” at Harvard Law school (2016)

Panelist, “Forty Years after Gregg “at University of Texas, Austin (2016)

Panelist, Conference on Mandery, A Wild Justice (2014) at New England School of Law

Conference on the Law of War, American University (2009)

“Writing, Reflecting and Professionalism,” address to Conference on “Learning From Practice,” Catholic University School of Law (March 7, 1998), and to the American Association of Law Schools, Section on Legal Writing, Reasoning and Research (1/2000)

Commentator on “Reconstructing the Marital Narrative During Divorce” at the Center for Literary and Cultural Studies, Harvard University (1996)

“Ethical Issues” address to the annual meeting of the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Association (1992)

“The Jagged Line Between Mediation and Couples Therapy,” Cambridge Hospital\Harvard Medical School Conference on “Treating Couples and Their Families” (October, 1991)

“Giving and Getting Supervision,” UCLA and University of Warwick Arrowhead Conference (October, 1986)

“Feeling Like a Lawyer,” Nat'l Clinical Law Teachers Conference, Minneapolis, Minn. (June 20, 1982)

“Reading, Writing, and the Law,” Ford Foundation and the Association of American Publishers Conference, New York (April 19, 1980)

The Roscoe Pound American Trial Lawyers Foundation Conference on Capital Punishment, Harvard Law School (June 20, 1980)

“The Third Year: Proposals for Abolition, Apprenticeship, and Modification,”
Eighth Annual Deans' Workshop, American Bar Association, Atlanta,
Georgia (February 9, 1979).

Judicial Citations (recognition of performance)

Smith v. Morrilton, 365 F.2d 770, 784 (8th Cir. 1966) (Blackmun, J.).

Flemings v. Chafee, 300 F. Supp. 193, 203 (E.D.N.Y. 1971)
(Weinstein, J.).

Flemings v. Chafee, 485 F.2d 544, 556 (2nd Cir. 1973) (Kaufman, J.).

Publications

A. Books

With Passion: An Activist Lawyer's Life, Twelve Tables Press (2017)

“Innocence Before DNA,” in Medwed, edit. Wrongful Convictions
(Cambridge University Press, 2018)

Rape, Race and Justice Editor and preface, University of Tennessee Press
(2012)

Essay in Cambridge Voices Cambridge Public Library (2009)

The Making of a Civil Rights Lawyer University of Virginia Press (2006)

Reflections on Clinical Legal Education (with P. Schrag) Northeastern
University Press (1998)

“On Death Row, The Wait Continues” in The Burger Years (Schwartz, Ed.),
Viking (1987)

Short Takes, a novel, Random House (1980)

Toward Simulation in Legal Education: An Experimental Course in Pretrial Litigation (with P. Schrag). Published by grant from the Council on Legal Education for Professional Responsibility, New York (1975); Foundation Press edition (1979)

Public Interest Advocacy: Materials for Clinical Legal Education (with P. Schrag), Little, Brown and Co., Boston (1974)

Cruel and Unusual: The Supreme Court and Capital Punishment, Random House, New York (1973). (Second Edition, Quid Pro Books, 2011)

“Southern Appellate Courts: A Dead End,” in Southern Justice (Friedman, ed.) (Pantheon, New York, 1965)

B. Articles and Journal Contributions

Huffington Post articles

“A Road Map For Death Penalty Abolition” (October 6, 2016)

“Charleston Then”
(June 27, 2015)

“The Tsarnaev Victims Should Have Their Say On Sentence” (April 29, 2015)

“Thurgood Marshall’s Improbable But Brilliant Choice”
(January 7, 2015)

“Time For Some Candor From The Supreme Court” (July 25 2014)

“Arguendo” (September 26 2013)

“Deciding Death” (June 6 2013)

A Failing Grade For A ‘Broken System,’ Boston Globe, (7/06)

“Celebrating The Lawyering Process,” 10 Clinical Law Review 327 (2003)

“Me And Muhammad,” 12 Marq. Sports Law Rev. 583 (2002)

“Writing and Reflecting and Professionalism” 5 Clinical Law Review 455 (1999)

Review: “Confronting Unequal Protection of the Law,” 24 NYU Review of Law and Social Change 123 (1999) (with H. Subin)

“The Late Justice,” in The Nation (February 15, 1993)

“The Jagged Line Between Mediation and Couples Therapy,” 9 Negotiation Journal 261 (1993)

“The Bike Tour Leader's Dilemma: Talking About Supervision,” (with James Rowan and Daniel Givelber) 13 Vt. Law Review 399 (1989)

Book Review: Sanford Levinson, “Constitutional Faith” in The Nation (March 20, 1989)

“Shifting The Focus of Associate Training,” (with James Rowan and Daniel Givelber) The American Lawyer (November, 1988)

“A Proposal for a General Practice Program at the Vermont Law School,” a report submitted to the faculty and dean of the Vermont Law School (1986)

“Healing The Breach: Harmonizing Legal Practice and Education,” 11 Vt. Law Review 377 (1986)

“Wither Legal Education,” 30 N.Y. Law Review 579 (1985).

Contributor to “Fifteen Years of the Burger Court,” The Nation, September 29, 1984

“Feeling Like a Lawyer,” 34 Journal of Legal Education, 624 (1984)

“The Coming Bloodbath,” Newsday (February 27, 1984)

Introduction to Symposium on Current Death Penalty Issues (with Marvin Wolfgang) 74 J. of Criminal Law and Criminology 659 (1983)

Book Review: Jack Bass, “Unlikely Heroes,” in The Nation (June 27, 1981)

“Public Interest Law: Some Practical Aspects,” (with P. Schrag), in Taking Ideals Seriously (Robert L. Ellis, ed.) The Equal Justice Foundation, Inc. (1981)

Book Review: Christopher Davis, “Waiting For It,” in The Nation (September 28, 1980)

Book Review: Richard Sennett, “Authority,” in Boston Sunday Globe July, 1980)

Book Review: Woodward and Armstrong, “The Brethren,” in The Nation (February 2, 1980)

Book Review: John Morton Blum, “The Progressive Presidents,” in Boston Sunday Globe (June 8, 1980)

“Reassessing Law Schooling: The Sterling Forest Group,” 53 N.Y.U.L.Rev. 570 (1978)

“Scenes From a Clinic,” (with P. Schrag), 127 University of Pennsylvania Law Review, 1 (1978)

Introduction, Death Penalty by L. Stevens (1978)

“Report From a CLEPR Colony,” (with P. Schrag), 76 Col.L.Rev., 581 (1976)

“The Fight to Save Mozart,” MORE (April, 1975)

Book Review: “Trial Manual For The Defense Of Criminal Cases,” ALI-ABA CLE Review (February 14, 1975)

“Cruel and Unusual Punishment,” The New York Times, Op-Ed Page (October 11, 1974)

“Stolen: One 1965 Buick,” New York News Magazine (May 5, 1974)

Review: "Cruel and Unusual Justice," by Jack Newfield, New Republic (April 6, 1974)

"Test Case Planning For The Trial Bar," (with P. Schrag) Trial Magazine (Jan./Feb. 1974)

"Legal Aid After The Walkout," (with P. Schrag) Pro Bono Report (December, 1973)

"Negotiating Tactics For Legal Services Lawyers," (with P. Schrag), 7 Clearinghouse Review, 259 (1973)

"An Act To Promote The Rehabilitation Of Criminal Offenders In The State Of New York," 24 Syracuse Law Review, 885 (1973) (with M. Caplan and W. Lane)

"Litigating Against The Death Penalty," 82 Yale Law Journal, 1111 (1973)

"Clinical Education At Columbia: The Columbia Legal Assistance Resource," 24 Journal of Legal Education, 237 (1972)

Book Review: Jack Newfield, "Law Against The People," The New York Times (March 5, 1972)

"Capital Punishment: The Moment of Truth," Juris Doctor (Nov. 1971)

"Minimum Standards Proposed to Govern Bail Practices In Courts Of The State Of New York," (for the Committee on Criminal Courts of the Association of the Bar), 26 The Record, 402 (1971)

"The Future Of Correction: A Defense Attorney's View," 17 Crime and Delinquency, 266 (1971)

"Equality and Health," 115 University of Pennsylvania Law Review, 22 (1966)

"Pre-Trial Detention, Bail Pending Appeal, and Jail Time Credit: The Constitutional Problems and Some Suggested Remedies," 3 Criminal Law Bulletin, 618 (1967)

Fellowships, Prizes and Special Lectures

A Celebration of the Life of Jack Greenberg, Harvard Law School (October, 2018)

The Alfange Lecture, U Mass. Amherst, “The Punishment After Punishment” (Sept. 2017)

Keynote address on Life Without Parole Sentencing at the 20th anniversary celebration of the Criminal Justice Policy Coalition (CJPC) (April, 2016)

Honorary Doctor of Laws, Joh Jay College CUNY (2012)
(for capitalpunishment work)

Hugo Bedau Award for death penalty scholarship (2010)

Cambridge Public Library, panel on Cambridge Voices (March 11, 2010)

Guest Lectures on civil rights history, teleconference sponsored by the Department of State (Indonnesia (2008) Jordan (2010)

Keynote Address, Thurgood Marshall Journalism Awards, sponsored by the Death Penalty Information Center, June 26, 2006, National Press Club

“First Year Lawyering” lecture delivered at Osgoode Hall Law School (Toronto, January 15, 2003)

Prize Fellowship, American Academy of Berlin (2000)

Lecturing to Law Faculties and Students in German and Indian Universities Under Sponsorship of the USIA and the Ford Foundation, respectively (1999)

Association of the Bar, City of New York, Thurgood Marshall Award (1998)

“There Is Work To Do If It’s The Work You Want To Do,” Georgetowm Law School (April 29, 1998)

Designated Matthews Distinguished University Professor, Northeastern University (1987)

The Waterman Lecture, Vermont Law School (May, 1986)

“Whither Clinical Legal Education,” presented to New York Law School Symposium, April 12, 1985

American Bar Association Silver Gavel Award (1985)

Writer in Residence, Yaddo Foundation (March, 1983)

“Capital Punishment Revisited,” Seattle King County Bar Association (June 10, 1981)

Address on The Third Year of Law School, American Bar Association Law Dean’s Workshop (1979)

“Public Interest Law,” presented to faculty and students of University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa (1978)

John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship, for research on the legal profession (1977-78)

Address to Clinical Section, American Association of Law Schools (1975)

“Capital Punishment,” at the University of Toledo School of Law (1973)

Address to the annual meeting of the National Legal Aid and Public Defender Association (1968)