

MELVIN J. KELLEY IV

Associate Professor of Law & Business, Northeastern University
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EDUCATION

- Columbia Law School**, New York, NY *Juris Doctor, Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar*, received May 2011
Activities: Columbia Journal of Law & Social Problems, *Writing & Research Editor* (10-11)
National Black Law Journal, *Staff Editor* (09-10)
Columbia Law High School Institute, *Constitutional Law Teacher* (09-11)
- College of the Holy Cross**, Worcester, MA *Bachelor of Arts, Woodson Scholar*, received May 2007
Major: Political Science and Economics; Africana Studies Concentration
Activities: Black Student Union, *Co-Chair* (05-07)
Diversity Task Force, *Student Representative* (05-07)

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Northeastern University School of Law and D'Amore-McKim School of Business** Boston, MA
Associate Professor of Law & Business Summer 2021 – Present
Courses: Property Law (Fall 2021); Transformative Social Innovation & Urban Development (Spring 2022).
- Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law** Villanova, PA
Assistant Professor of Law Summer 2019 – Spring 2021
Courses: Fair Housing (Fall 2019, Fall 2020); Critical Legal Theory (Fall 2019, Fall 2020); Property (Spring 2019, forthcoming Spring 2020); and State & Local Government Law (forthcoming Spring 2020).
- Northeastern University School of Law** Boston, MA
Visiting Assistant Professor and Zitrin Fellow Summer 2018 – Summer 2019
Elizabeth Ann Zitrin Teaching Fellow Winter 2016 – Spring 2018
Courses: Civil Rights and Restorative Justice (Fall 2016, Summer 2017, and Fall 2018) and Critical Race Theory (Summer 2017 and Spring 2019).

EXPERIENCE

- Connecticut Fair Housing Center** Hartford, CT
Staff Attorney Fall 2013 – Winter 2016
Enforced fair housing rights in administrative actions as well as in state and federal court. Managed all aspects of litigation in two dozen cases. Developed and implemented projects combining novel legal tactics with grassroots organizing to combat discrimination, segregation, and exclusionary zoning.
- Opportunity Law & Policy Fellow* Fall 2012 – Fall 2013
Formulated three educational guides designed to raise awareness of fair housing rights and obligations. Reviewed and proposed legislation to bring the state's public policy in line with fair housing objectives.
- American Civil Liberties Union of Connecticut** Hartford, CT
Social Justice Fellow Summer 2010, Fall 2011 – Fall 2012
Interviewed clients, conducted legal research, and prepared memos evaluating the viability of potential constitutional claims. Drafted record requests, demand letters, complaints, and motions and assisted with discovery. Lead campaign for compliance with the Alvin W. Penn Racial Profiling Prohibition Act.
- Connecticut Commission on Human Rights & Opportunities** Hartford, CT
Assistant Human Rights Advocate Summer 2010
Upheld civil and human rights in employment, housing, and public services through enforcement actions in public hearings and state court. Updated agency regulations governing fact-finding investigations.
- Office of Public Defenders at New Britain Superior Court** New Britain, CT
Assistant Public Defender Summer 2009
Served as counsel for indigent defendants accused of criminal offenses. Handled daily bond hearings and

arraignments. Negotiated plea agreements. Strived to obtain best outcome for clients in court and beyond.

PUBLICATIONS

Articles

Trading Spaces or Changing Places: At the Crossroads of Defining and Redressing Segregation, 54 CONN. L. REV. ____ (2022).

Testing One, Two, Three: Detecting and Proving Intersectional Housing Discrimination, 42 HARV. J. L. & GENDER 301 (2019).

Retuning Bell: Searching for Freedom's Ring as Whiteness Resurges in Value, 34 HARV. J. RACIAL & ETHNIC JUST. 131 (2018).

Interpreting Equal Protection Clause Jurisprudence under the Whiteness-Bell Curve: How Diversity Has Overtaken Equity in Education, 21 J. GENDER RACE & JUST. 135 (2017).

Reports

Co-editor, *Historical Injustices and Present Policing: Lessons from Intergenerational Trauma Transmission* (2019).

Co-author, *Civil Rights and Restorative Justice Annual Report* (2018).

Co-author, *Civil Rights and Restorative Justice Annual Report* (2017).

Co-author, *Civil Rights and Restorative Justice Annual Report* (2016).

Co-architect, *Interactive Self-Help Guide for Requesting a Reasonable Accommodation or Reasonable Modification* (2015).

Contributing author, *A Guide to Zoning for Fair and Open Communities* (2013).

Co-author, *Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing: A Guide for Housing Providers* (2013).

Co-author, *Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing: A Guide for State & Federal Housing Grantees* (2013).

Contributing author, *Accessing Opportunity: Affirmative Marketing and Tenant Selection in the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit and Other Housing Programs* (2012).

Contributing author, *Protect, Serve, and Listen: Accepting Civilian Complaints at Connecticut Police Departments* (2012).

Co-architect, *A Disturbing Trend in Law School Diversity* (2010) (website detailing a drop in the percentage of African American and Mexican American students enrolled in U.S. law schools from 1993 to 2008).

Works in Progress

No Further Fair Housing: Stuck in Transition on the Path to Transformation

Decentralization and Urban Revitalization: Restructuring Federal Links in the Local Chain of Change

RECENT PRESENTATIONS

- “No Further Fair Housing,” New Voices in Property Law Panel at AALS (Virtual), January 8, 2022.
- “Critical Theory and Property Law,” Northeastern University School of Law (Boston, MA), November 12, 2021.
- “Transformative Social Innovation and Urban Development: Tactics for Constructing Opportunity Communities” Northeastern University D'Amore-McKim School of Business (Boston, MA) October 27, 2021.
- “Racism in Public Interest,” Boston University School of Law Fourth Annual Public Interest Retreat (Boston, MA), September 18, 2021.
- “Defining and Redressing Segregation,” Northeastern University School of Law (Boston, MA), November 23, 2020.

- “Resisting the Colorblind Imperative of the Fair Housing Act,” Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law (Villanova, PA), August 5, 2020.
- “Inclusive Teaching Workshop,” Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law (Villanova, PA), June 29, 2020.
- “Historical Injustices, Present Remedies, and the Future of Advocacy,” Northeastern University School of Law (Boston, MA), May 19, 2020.
- “Paving a Path to Public Interest Lawyering,” Public Interest Fellows Faculty Career Panel at Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law (Villanova, PA), February 17, 2020.
- “Critical Race Theory and Prison Abolition,” Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law (Villanova, PA), February 6, 2020.
- “Critical Race Theory and Prison Abolition,” Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law (Villanova, PA), February 6, 2020.
- “Historical Injustices and Present Policing: Exploring the Family Tree of Karen Branan,” Northeastern University School of Law (Boston, MA) April 16, 2019.
- “Movement Lawyering: Lessons From and For Critical Race Theory,” First Annual Critical Race Theory Conference at Harvard Law School (Boston, MA), April 12, 2019.
- “Critical Race Theory: Origins, Big Ideas, and Future Prospects,” Harvard Law School (Boston, MA), March 29, 2019.
- “Toward a Right to Housing,” Yale Law Robert M. Cover Retreat at the Sargent Center (Peterborough, NH), February 23, 2019.
- “An Introduction to Critical Race Theory,” Yale Law Robert M. Cover Retreat at the Sargent Center (Peterborough, NH), February 23, 2019.
- “Lessons from Critical Race Theory on Fair Housing Lawyering,” Columbia Law School (New York, NY) April 4, 2019.
- “Where Do We Go From Here? Fair Housing and Community Development at a Crossroads,” Real Property Law Schmooze at Texas A&M University School of Law (Fort Worth, TX), February 2, 2019.
- “Transplanting Intersectional Insights to Civil Rights,” Property Works in Progress Conference at Boston University School of Law (Boston, MA), October 20, 2018.
- “Testing One, Two, Three: Detecting and Proving Intersectional Discrimination in Housing Transactions,” Columbia Law School (New York, NY), September 7, 2018.
- “Teaching from the Cold Case: Using History as a Catalyst for Changing the Conversation in Today’s Classrooms,” Selma Center for Nonviolence (Selma, AL), March 3, 2018.
- “The Case for Reparations as Just Compensation for Racialized Regulatory Takings,” Northeastern University School of Law (Boston, MA), February 2, 2018.
- “Race-ing for Property Rights: Why Some Tend to Finish Last,” Northeastern University School of Law (Boston, MA), August 4, 2017.
- “Accessing Education on a Revocable License,” Northeast People of Color and Asian Pacific Law Faculty Joint Conference at Brooklyn Law School (Brooklyn, NY), June 3, 2017.
- “Lessons from a Unified Theory of Interest Convergence and Whiteness as Property,” New Directions in Critical Race Theory and Ethnic Studies Conference at University of Tennessee at Knoxville (Knoxville, TN), April 28, 2017.
- “Injustice Accounting: Researching Racial Violence to Further Dr. King’s Dream,” Northeastern University (Boston, MA), January 19, 2017.

- “Justice Delayed is Justice Denied: Reauthorizing the Till Act for Families,” Syracuse University Greenberg House (Washington, D.C.), September 12, 2016.
- “Commemoration of the Life and Legacy of Ellis Hutson Sr.,” Nacogdoches County Courthouse (Nacogdoches, TX), August 20, 2016.

SERVICE

Northeastern University Service

- Faculty Member of the Law School’s Committee Against Institutional Racism (CAIR) (Fall 2021 – Present).
- Faculty Advisor, Housing Justice Collective (Fall 2021 – Present).
- Contributor, Faculty Appointments Committee (Fall 2021– Present) (participating in interviews, providing feedback on scholarship, and attending recruitment convenings).
- Program Consultant, Northeastern Student Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild (November 2021)
- Advisory Board, Civil Rights and Restorative Justice Project (Fall 2019 – Present).
- Search Committee for Director of Center of Law, Equity, and Race (Fall 2021 – Present).
- Panelist, Civil Rights and Restorative Justice Final Presentations (Summer 2021)
- Civil Rights and Restorative Justice Project’s protocols for researching historical racial violence as well as maintenance of both physical and electronic records by coordinating a team of archivists, librarians, and website designers (Winter 2016 – Summer 2019).
- Revamped the Civil Rights and Restorative Justice Project’s protocols for researching historical racial violence as well as maintenance of both physical and electronic records by coordinating a team of archivists, librarians, and website designers (Winter 2016 – Summer 2019).
- Primary drafter of successful \$50,000 “Tier One” Grant Application titled *Historical Injustices and Present Policing*, forming a multidisciplinary team that leverages lessons on historical racial violence to improve relationships between communities of color and law enforcement personnel through trainings designed to promote reckonings with the past, enhance procedural justice, and reduce implicit bias (Fall 2018 – Summer 2019).
- Co-Director of joint initiative between the Civil Rights and Restorative Justice Project and the John D. O’Bryant African American Institute on supplemental university events honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr (Summer 2016 – Summer 2019).
- Advisory Committee for the Center for Public Interest Advocacy and Collaboration(Summer 2016 – Summer 2019).
- Exploratory Committee for Remote Courses in the JD, MLS, and LLM curricula (Summer 2018 – Summer 2019).
- 2016 Post-Election Planning Committee (Fall 2016 – Summer 2019) (working alongside students and faculty to craft workshops on a range of social justice topics).
- Standing Committee for Clinical Collaboration (Winter 2016 – Summer 2019).
- Coordinated and supervised undergraduate internship program for
- John D. O’Bryant African American Institute 50th Anniversary Consultant (Summer 2018).
- Partnered with Department of African and African American Studies to develop directed study opportunities for undergraduate students to support transdisciplinary projects seeking to further racial justice (Spring 2018).
- Spearheaded *Digital Red Records* workshop that convened prominent scholars utilizing digital technologies to augment their research of historical racial violence (Fall 2017 – Winter 2018).

- Search Committee for a Director of the Center for Public Interest Advocacy and Collaboration (Summer 2016 – Fall 2017).
- Public Interest Law Scholars Selection Committee (Fall 2016 – Summer 2017).
- Secured supplemental funds by conducting two semester long courses for eight high school students in the Spring providing instruction in the investigation of cold cases involving racially motivated homicides from Louisiana through a collaboration with Cambridge Rindge and Latin High School known as the Kimbrough Scholars Program (Spring 2016, Spring 2017).
- Served on the Coalition for Reauthorization of the Till Act and successfully advocated for passage of the Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crimes Reauthorization Act of 2016 (Spring 2016 – Winter 2017).
- Collaborated with Northeastern University Office of General Counsel to analyze prospects for an intellectual property infringement claim stemming from publications that raised concerns for the law school's Civil Rights and Restorative Justice Project (Spring 2016 – Fall 2016).
- Facilitated an online course that enabled law students from Southern University Law Center and Louisiana to provide research assistance in the investigation of local, historical incidents of racial violence (Summer 2016).
- Researched legal landscape of the Voting Rights Act to facilitate Northeastern School of Law Alumni Weekend Panel Discussion (Fall 2016).

Villanova University Service

- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force (Fall 2020 – Spring 2021).
- Inclusive 1L Curriculum Committee (Fall 2020 – Spring 2021).
- Law Alumni Minority Association Town Hall Planning Committee (Fall 2020 – Spring 2021).
- Villanova University Black Alumni Cultural Advocacy and Empowerment Committee (Fall 2020 – Spring 2021).
- Villanova Black Employee Resource Group (Fall 2020 – Spring 2021).
- Center for Global & Public Health Race Disparities Committee (Fall 2020 – Spring 2021).
- Faculty Mentor, Professional Development Program I (Fall 2020 – Spring 2021).
- Faculty Mentor, Professional Development Program II (Fall 2019 – Spring 2021).
- Academic Affairs Committee (Fall 2019 – Spring 2021).
- Strategic Planning Committee for Community Development (Fall 2019 – Spring 2021).
- Quarterfinal Round Judge for 60th Annual Reimel Moot Court Competition (Fall 2019).
- Attendee, Red Mass (October 2, 2020 and September 13, 2019).
- Attendee, Virtual Commencement (May 15, 2020).
- Participant, Institute for Research and Scholarship Writing Group Launch, Series, and Debrief (Spring 2020 – Summer 2020).
- Anti-Poverty Fellow Search Committee (Fall 2019 – Spring 2020).
- Participant, Public Interest Fellows Program Week of Public Interest (February 2020).
- Attendee and Contributing Guest Host, Annual Pepper Hamilton MLK Lecture, (February 11, 2020).
- Participant, 3L Graduation Contact Initiative (May 2020).
- Contributor, Faculty Appointments Committee (Spring 2020) (participating in interviews, providing feedback on scholarship, and attending recruitment convenings).

- Attendee, Virtual Pre-Graduation Celebration (May 12, 2020).
- Consultant, Villanova Law Visiting Faculty Program (Fall 2019) (offering feedback to participants as requested during market navigation).
- Attendee and Participant, Faculty Meetings (Fall 2019 – Present).
- Attendee and Participant, Strategic Planning Initiative Workshops, Fall 2019 (August 30, 2019; September 27, 2019; and November 8, 2019).
- Member, Villanova Black Law Students Association (Fall 2019 – Spring 2021).

Public Service

- Program Consultant, Needham Human Rights Committee (January 2022)
- Program Consultant, Rosie’s Place (January 2022)
- Project Consultant, Where’s My Land (December 2021)
- Advisory Committee, College of the Holy Cross’ Slavery, Memorial and Justice Initiative (Spring 2021 – Present).
- Member, American Savings Foundation Scholarship Selection Committee (March 2012– Present).
- Participant, Black Lives Matter Protest Series (Summer 2020).
- Speaker and Volunteer, “Breakfast for Brothers,” (January 11, 2019) (forum for convening young men of color to discuss personal and professional development).
- Legal Career Representative, “Cristo Rey Boston High School’s Career Fair,” (May 22, 2018) (institution’s first annual event for providing students with an opportunity to explore various professions).
- Speaker, “Passing the Torch,” (February 19, 2017) (an outlet for providing words of wisdom to future generations in central Connecticut as they embark on their own paths to success).
- Speaker and Volunteer, “College Goal Saturday,” (October 29, 2016) (a program designed to connect low-income high school students from the central Connecticut region with financial resources for college).
- Mentor, “Match Beyond’s Student Networking Night,” (October 5, 2016) (opportunity for Boston area students enrolled in an online degree program at Southern New Hampshire University to connect with young professionals).
- Investor, “Boston Ujima Project,” August 13, 2016 (an initiative pooling community financial resources to support businesses owned and operated by people of color in Roxbury and Dorchester).
- Legal Career Representative, “Connecting College to Career Day,” July 23, 2016 (providing opportunity for low-income and first-generation college students from the Greater Boston area to speak with young professionals in the fields they wish to pursue).

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Award for Exceptional Service to Ellis Hutson Sr. from the Hutson Family (2016).
- NAACP LDF Earl Warren Scholar (2008-11).
- ABA Opportunity Scholar (2008-11).
- Multicultural Leadership Award (2007).
- Dr. Carter G. Woodson Award (2007).
- Dr. P. Marfuggi Award (2003).

MEDIA CONTRIBUTIONS

- Press Release, Cambridge Police Department (MA), *Statement Following the Death of George Floyd and the Actions It is Committed to Taking*, May 30, 2020, <https://www.cambridgema.gov/cpd/newsandalerts/Archives/2020/05/goingbeyondwords> (announcing that it is the first police department in the country to adopt a training curriculum that I conceived, procured grant funding for, and co-authored titled “Historical Injustices and Present Policing”).
- Quoted, “Northeastern, NAACP President Consider ‘What Would Dr. King Do Now?,” News@Northeastern, January 20, 2017.
- Quoted, “NU Mentorship Program Holds Martin Luther King Jr. Service Day,” The Huntington News, January 19, 2017.
- “Hutson’s Legacy One of Martyrdom,” The Daily Sentinel, August 19, 2016.
- Quoted, “CRLS Students Seek Answers in 1940 Louisiana Lynching,” WBUR Boston’s NPR News Station, June 3, 2016.
- Radio Interview, “Investigation of Louisiana Cold Case,” KCLF 1500 AM, April 26, 2016.
- Radio Interview, “Kimbrough Scholars Program and Horace ‘Booster’ Williams,” The Jim Engster Show, April 27, 2016.
- Quoted, “CT Fair Housing Center Launches Online Tool to Improve Housing Access for People with Disabilities,” Hartford Courant, October 22, 2015.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND BAR ADMISSIONS

- Member of the American Bar Association (2011), College of the Holy Cross Lawyers Association (2011), and NAACP Legal Defense Fund Inc. Alumni Network (2011).
- Member of the State Bar of Connecticut (2011), State Bar of Massachusetts (2011), and United States District Court for the District of Connecticut (2013)

