

SAMEER M. ASHAR

317 3rd Street, Apt. 3C • Brooklyn, New York 11215 • 718-340-4180 • asbar@mail.law.cuny.edu

EDUCATION

HARVARD LAW SCHOOL, J.D., *cum laude*, 1996. Recipient of Irving Kaufman Public Service Fellowship. Lead Articles Editor, *Harvard Civil Rights-Civil Liberties Law Review*; Editor, Political Lawyering symposium, 1995-96; Organizer, Economic Justice in America's Cities symposium, 1994-95. Editing Assistant, Professor Martha Minow; Research Assistant, Professor Charles Ogletree. Co-chair, Coalition for Civil Rights. Clinical placements with Community Enterprise Project and Social Security Disability Unit, Hale & Dorr Legal Services Center; Community-Based Advocacy, Faneuil Public Housing Development, Brighton, MA.

SWARTHMORE COLLEGE, B.A., *High Honors*, Political Science, Economics and Religion, 1991. Ivy Award for Leadership, Scholarship and Contributions to the Community.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK SCHOOL OF LAW, Flushing, NY

Associate Dean for Clinical Programs. June 2008 – . Manage team of 19 faculty/supervising attorneys and 7 support staff in 8 subject area legal clinics. Responsible for budget and operations and lead on curricular and program reform. Counsel to dean of the law school. Co-teach weekly clinic seminars in Immigrant and Refugee Rights Clinic and Community Economic Development Clinic. Supervise student team on federal litigation project and counseling of community-based organizations on legislative, administrative, and community education projects.

CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK SCHOOL OF LAW, IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE RIGHTS CLINIC, Flushing, NY

Associate Professor of Law and Director. July 2003 – May 2008. Directed year-long clinic with 19 students. Managed team of adjunct teachers and administrative support. Co-taught weekly clinic seminars. Supervised student teams on federal and state litigation projects and counseling of community-based organizations on legislative, administrative, and community education projects. Specifically:

- Diversified the subject matter of fieldwork and in-class instruction to include immigrant labor, asylum, VAWA, and criminal convictions, in place of a unitary focus on gender-based asylum;
- Forged new relationships with community-based organizations and infused both fieldwork and in-class instruction with connections to grassroots movements for social justice;
- Focused fieldwork on a primary litigation case and non-litigation project;
- Reduced the number of legacy cases on the docket through a concerted focus on adjustment of status for Perales class members, the closing of cases, and the exercise of care in accepting new cases;
- Developed a job network amongst IRRC alums through an email listserv, with the aim of generating greater interaction between alums and current students in future years;
- Led two searches for adjunct faculty and incorporated new members of the teaching team in 2004, 2005, and 2006;
- Increased enrollment to a high of 22 students in 2006.
- Litigated seven federal and state cases on behalf of immigrant workers and recovered over \$300,000.00 in damages.

Advised students on fellowship and clerkship applications and career placement. Organized clinical program retreat in 2006. Recipient of PSC-CUNY Faculty Support Fellowship in 2004-05 and 2007-08. Member of Professional Development Committee, Faculty Senate Alternate, and Chair of Instructor Search Committee. Served on Academic Standing, Budget, Curriculum, Faculty Reappointments, Student Recruitment, and Worker Employment Labor Committees.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF LAW, CIVIL RIGHTS CLINIC, Baltimore, MD

Assistant Professor of Law. July 2002 – June 2003. Co-taught year-long clinic with 19 students. Co-led weekly clinic seminar. Supervised student teams on federal and state litigation projects and on provision of counsel to community-based organizations on state and federal legislative and administrative advocacy and community education projects. Member of Curriculum Committee.

NYU SCHOOL OF LAW, IMMIGRANT RIGHTS CLINIC, New York, NY

Acting Assistant Professor of Clinical Law. July 2001 - May 2002. Co-taught 14-credit, year-long clinic with 14 students. Led clinic seminar. Supervised student teams on federal litigation projects and on provision of counsel to community-based organizations on state and city legislative advocacy, administrative and media advocacy, and community education projects.

Clinical Fellow. September 2000 - June 2001. Created unit on identity and lawyering and a class on outcome evaluation and led discussion in those classes. Assisted in the supervision of students on litigation and policy advocacy projects. Litigated federal involuntary servitude case in the Southern District of New York, Fair Labor Standards Act cases in the Eastern District of New York, a deportation case before the Executive Office of Immigration Review, and a predatory lending case in New York State Supreme Court on behalf of immigrant workers. Drafted complaint against the New York Workers' Compensation Board for submission to the

NAFTA labor tribunal alleging due process violations. Co-counseled immigrant worker group on rule-making petitions submitted to a municipal regulatory agency. Advised members of multi-group domestic worker coalition.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

THE HONORABLE DEBORAH A. BATTS, United States District Court, Southern District of New York, New York, NY, 1999 - 2000.
Law Clerk.

PAUL, WEISS, RIFKIND, WHARTON & GARRISON, New York, NY, October 1998 - September 1999
Associate. Drafted documents and managed the legal formation of an investment fund. Drafted merger agreement for the purchase of a food services company. Filed SEC disclosure documents for a tender offer. Revised registration rights agreement and observed negotiations in the purchase of an auto parts business. Undertook due diligence for a joint venture in the energy industry. Researched various securities and corporate law issues.

LAWYERS' COMMITTEE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS, San Francisco, CA, 1996 - 98
Skadden Fellow/Staff Attorney. Facilitated legal intern program and supervised law students. Identified plaintiffs and experts and drafted declarations for class action litigation against anti-affirmative action ballot initiative. Researched and wrote Ninth Circuit amicus brief on racially discriminatory genetic testing in the workplace. Co-founded Legal Services for Entrepreneurs, matching pro bono lawyers with low income clients starting businesses. Managed coalition of advocates and service providers in negotiations and drafting sessions with the city on low income hiring legislation. Counseled tenants and advocates seeking to enforce HUD Section 3 job creation and business development regulations. Represented tenants seeking to stop HOPE VI demolition of public housing.

DEBEVOISE AND PLIMPTON, New York, NY, 1995
Summer Associate. Conducted research and wrote memoranda for litigation and corporate departments.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, ANTITRUST DIVISION, Washington, DC, 1995
Summer Law Intern. Conducted research and wrote memoranda for merger task force.

LAWYERS' COMMITTEE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS, San Francisco, CA, 1994
Summer Law Clerk. Conducted research and wrote memoranda on Section 1983, asylum, and employment cases.

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION, New York, NY and Washington, DC, 1992 - 93
Bayard Rustin Fellow/Legal Assistant. Drafted testimony for the U.S. Sentencing Commission against the crack/powder cocaine distinction.

CITY COUNCIL MEMBER RONNIE ELDRIDGE, New York, NY, 1991 - 92
Urban Fellow/Legislative Assistant. Briefed economic development, transportation and education issues.

PUBLICATIONS

Law, Social Control, and Mobilization: The Case of Immigration Enforcement (work in progress), 2009 U. CHIC. LEGAL FOR. (Forthcoming 2009).

Law Clinics and Collective Mobilization, 14 CLINICAL L. REV. 455 (2008).

Public Interest Lawyers and Resistance Movements, 95 CAL. L. REV. 1879 (2007).

Immigration Enforcement and Subordination: The Consequences of Racial Profiling After September 11, 34 CONN. L. REV. 1185 (2002). Reprinted, 23 IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY LAW REVIEW 545 (2003).

Justice O'Connor's Blind Rationalization of Affirmative Action Jurisprudence: Adarand Constructors, Inc. v. Peña (with Lisa Opoku), 31 HARV. C.R.-C.L. L. REV. 223 (1996).

PRESENTATIONS

Speaker, *Law, Social Control, and Mobilization: The Case of Immigration Enforcement*, Symposium, University of Chicago Law School (November 15, 2008).

Speaker, *Law Clinics and Collective Mobilization*, Clinical Workshop, Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA (November 14, 2008).

Speaker, *Law, Social Control, and Mobilization: The Case of Immigration Enforcement*, Annual Meeting, Law and Society Association, Montreal, Canada (May 29-June 1, 2008).

Facilitator, *Curricular Reform and Social Justice*, AALS Section on Clinical Education, Tucson, AZ (May 4-7, 2008).

Speaker, *Law Clinics and Collective Mobilization*, Faculty Workshop, Washington College of Law, American University, Washington, D.C. (January 25, 2008).

Speaker, AALS Section on Poverty Law, New York, NY (January 5, 2008).

Speaker, Society of American Law Teachers, New York, NY (January 3, 2008).

Facilitator and Speaker, *Political Immigrant Defense*, Bellow Scholar Workshop, AALS Committee on Public Interest Lawyering, Baltimore, MD (September 27-28, 2007).

Facilitator, *Cause Lawyering and Clinical Legal Education*, AALS Section on Clinical Education, New Orleans, LA (May 2-6, 2007).

Speaker, *Public Interest Lawyers and Resistance Movements*, California Law Review Symposium on Community Lawyering, Boalt Hall School of Law, Berkeley, CA (April 5-6, 2007).

Speaker, *Immigrant Defenders After 9/11* (roundtable) and *The Law Clinic as a Site of Radical Democratic Resistance* (panel), Annual Meeting, Law and Society Association, Baltimore, MD (July 6-9, 2006).

Facilitator (with Sue Bryant), *Teaching Students to Collaborate*, AALS Section on Clinical Education, New York, NY (May 1, 2006).

Speaker, *Rights and Resistance: The Uses of Law by Immigrant Workers*, Faculty Colloquium, Seton Hall University School of Law, Newark, NJ (April 10, 2006).

Speaker, *The Law Clinic as a Site of Radical Democratic Resistance*, Faculty Forum, CUNY School of Law, Flushing, NY (April 5, 2006).

Speaker, *Rights and Resistance: The Uses of Law by Immigrant Workers*, Connecting with Clients and Communities: Community Advocacy, Community-Based Lawyering, and Community Development, Washington University, St. Louis, MS (March 31, 2006).

Speaker, *Rights and Resistance: The Uses of Law by Immigrant Workers*, Workers' Rights Symposium, Stanford Law School, Stanford, CA (March 4, 2006).

Speaker, *A Global Transformative Approach to Racial Solidarity in the United States*, The Fate of Minority Inter-Group Collaboration, Conflict and Coalition Formation: A Critical Dialogue about Minority to Minority Race-Relations, AALS Minority Groups Section, Washington, D.C. (January 7, 2006).

Speaker, *The Pedagogy of Mobilization Lawyering*, Revisiting the Relationship Between the Clinic and Social Justice, 6th International Clinical Conference, Los Angeles, CA (October 28, 2005).

Speaker, *The Ethics of Mobilization Lawyering* (with Donna Lee), Clinical Supervisors Workshop, Osgoode Hall School of Law, Toronto, ON (June 22, 2005).

Speaker, *The Pedagogy of Mobilization Lawyering*, Coming into Community, Roger Williams University School of Law, Bristol, RI (June 18, 2005).

Facilitator (with Sue Bryant), Immigration Small Group, AALS Section on Clinical Education Conference, Chicago, IL (May 1-3, 2005).

Teaching Demonstrator, *The Ethics of Mobilization Lawyering* (with Donna Lee), Curricular Decisions for 21st Century Lawyering, CUNY School of Law, Flushing, NY (April 1, 2005).

Speaker, *Undocumented Workers, Mobilization Lawyers, and the State*, Cause Lawyers and Social Movements, UCLA School of Law, Los Angeles, CA (March 4-5, 2005).

Speaker, *Mobilization Lawyering and Macropolitics*, Clinical Legal Theory Workshop, New York Law School, New York, NY (January 28, 2005).

Speaker, *Individual Rights, Collective Action, and Immigrant Workers*, Law and Society Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL (May 28, 2004).

Teaching Demonstrator (with Sue Bryant), Immigration and Human Rights Clinics, AALS Section on Clinical Education Conference, San Diego, CA (May 4, 2004).

Speaker, *Restaurant Workers Case Study*, Law and Organizing and Law Clinics, AALS Section on Clinical Education Conference, San Diego, CA (May 3, 2004).

Speaker, *Individual Rights and Economic Justice in Immigrant Communities in the Post-9/11 Era*, South Asian American Leaders of Tomorrow, New York, NY (November 18, 2004).

Speaker, *Individual Rights, Collective Action, and Immigrant Workers*, Faculty Forum, CUNY School of Law, Flushing, NY (April 28, 2004).

Moderator, *Hate Crimes Panel*, APALSA Forum, CUNY School of Law, Flushing, NY (April 1, 2004).

Speaker, *Immigrant Workers After 9/11*, Labor Coalition Forum, CUNY School of Law, Flushing, NY (October 2003).

Speaker, *The Organizing Imperative*, Project IMPACT Dinner, New York, NY (August 13, 2003).

Speaker, *Rights Consciousness and Undocumented Workers*, Law and Society Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA (June 8, 2003).

Facilitator, Small Group, AALS Section on Clinical Education Conference, Vancouver, BC (May 3-6, 2003).

Speaker, *The Macropolitics of Immigrant Work*, Edward V. Sparer Symposium, The New Economy and the Unraveling Social Safety Net, Brooklyn Law School, Brooklyn, NY (April 11, 2003).

Speaker, *Race and Immigration Enforcement*, International Law Institute, Temple University School of Law, Philadelphia, PA (February 28, 2003).

Moderator, *The Future of Affirmative Action in Higher Education*, South Asian Bar Association, Washington, D.C. (February 25, 2003); CSPAN Viewing (March 1, 2003).

Speaker, *The Impact of Post-9/11 Immigration Enforcement on Workers in the Low-wage Economy*, Journal of Employment and Labor Law Symposium, University of Pennsylvania School of Law, Philadelphia, PA (February 15, 2003).

Speaker, *Immigration Enforcement Unchecked*, Muslims and National Security Law, National Association of Muslim Lawyers, New York, NY, October 12, 2002.

Speaker, *Clinical Teaching and Lawyering in Response to 9-11*, Society of American Law Teachers, New York, NY, October 11, 2002.

Facilitator, *Representing Low-Wage and Immigrant Workers*, National Law Students Workers' Rights Conference, Silver Spring, MD, October 5, 2002.

Speaker, *Immigration Enforcement and Racial Profiling after September 11*, Civil Liberties After September 11th: A Closer Look at Detention Powers, University of Connecticut School of Law, Hartford, CT, April 4, 2002.

Speaker, *Domestic Worker Litigation and the Replication of Socioeconomic Hierarchy in the South Asian Diaspora in New York*, Globalization, Labor and South Asian Communities, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, November 9-10, 2001.

Moderator, *The Devolution of Immigration Enforcement Authority*, Migration Regulation Goes Local: The Role of States in U.S. Immigration Policy, New York University Annual Survey of American Law, New York, NY, October 26, 2001.

Speaker, *Undocumented New Yorkers and the World Trade Center Tragedy*, Hunter College Asian American Studies Program, New York, NY, October 9, 2001.

Speaker, *Representing Law Breakers*, Immigration Panel, Building the Model South Asian Law Firm, National South Asian Law Students Association, Washington, DC, February 17, 2001.

PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Poverty Law Section, Association of American Law Schools, Chair (2009).

Law and Society Association, Board of Trustees, Member (2008-2011).

Committee on Public Interest Lawyering, Association of American Law Schools Clinical Education Section, Member (2006-08).

Restaurant Opportunities Center, New York, NY, Advisor to Executive Director (2003-present).

South Asian Bar Association, New York, NY, Member of Selection Committee for Public Interest Fellowship (2005 & 2007).

Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund, New York, NY, Board Member (2002-05) and Co-sponsor/Mentor of OSI Community Fellow (2004-06).

South Asian Youth Action, Elmhurst, NY, Tutor and Grant-writer (1999-2001).

Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA, Member of Board of Managers (1993-97).