

Geoffrey K. McDonald
University of Massachusetts School of Law
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of Massachusetts School of Law, Dartmouth, Massachusetts, Fall 2020 to the present
Assistant Professor of Law

Courses: Contracts, Bankruptcy, Secured Transactions, Jurisprudence

Service: Curriculum Committee (Chair); Faculty Development Committee (Chair); Adjunct & Advising Committee (Chair); Faculty Appointments Committee; Institutional Planning and Accreditation Committee; Mentoring Committee; Library, Technology, and Facilities Committee; Law Academic Council; Policy & Process Committee (University service beyond the Law School)

Faculty Advisor: First-Generation Law Students Association

Emory University School of Law, Atlanta, Georgia, Spring 2001

Lecturer in Law

Course: Jurisprudence (co-taught course with Professor Timothy P. Terrell)

EDUCATION

St. John's University School of Law, Queens, New York

LL.M. in Bankruptcy, June 2011

Honors: Dean's Scholarship

Judge – Hon. Conrad B. Duberstein Bankruptcy Moot Court Competition

CALI Excellence for the Future Award (highest grade) in Bankruptcy Practice: Opinion Drafting

Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia

Ph.D. in Religion: Ethics & Society, August 2008

Honors: Graduate Fellowship 1998 – 2002

Nominated for Templeton Award at the University of Heidelberg (for best doctoral dissertation)

Lecturer in Law – Spring Semester 2001

Emory University School of Law, Atlanta, Georgia

J.D., May 2000

Honors: Teaching Assistant to Archbishop Desmond Tutu – Spring Semester 2000

Herman Dooyeweerd Prize in Law and Religion

Award for the study of Capital Punishment

Dean's List – Fall Semester 1997, Spring Semester 2000

Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut

M.A.R. in Philosophy of Religion, May 1995

Honors: Editor, YALE JOURNAL OF LAW & THE HUMANITIES, Yale Law School

Honors in courses given by Professors Bruce Ackerman and Jan Deutsch, Yale Law School

Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut

B.A. in Philosophy *with honors*, May 1994

Honors: Nominated for Rhodes and Marshall Scholarships

Research Assistant to Barbara Ehrenreich

PRIOR TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Emory University Candler School of Theology, Atlanta, Georgia, 1999 – 2000

Teaching Assistant/Teaching Associate

Courses: Theology (with Archbishop Desmond Tutu), Christian Ethics, Economic Ethics

PUBLICATIONS

Articles

Groundwork for the Recognition of Housing as a Human Right and Legal Entitlement, 129 W. VA. L. REV. (forthcoming 2027).

Love Thy Neighbor: Religious Ethics, Homelessness Amelioration and the Free Exercise Clause, 16 WAKE FOREST J.L. & POL'Y 181 (2026).

Addressing Legal Resolution to Homelessness in the Context of Contemporary Moral Philosophy, 17 WASH. U. JUR. REV. 49 (2024).

Homelessness in the COVID Era: Utilizing the Bankruptcy Solution, 41 YALE L. & POL'Y REV. 122 (2022).

In Process

Religious Ethics and the Recognition of Housing as a Human Right and Legal Entitlement

KIERKEGAARD AS ANTINOMIAN: ETHICS, POLITICS, LAW (book based on Ph.D. dissertation)

Peer-Reviewed

The Question of Consent in Executive Benefits: Can Bankruptcy Courts Exercise the Judicial Power of the United States Under Article III Based on Litigant Consent Alone?, 87 AM. BANKR. L.J. 271 (2013).

Shorter Pieces

The Road Not Taken: RadLAX and the Unstated Constitutional Basis and Limits of a Secured Creditor's Right to Credit Bid at a Bankruptcy Sale of Its Collateral, NORTON ANNUAL SURVEY OF BANKRUPTCY LAW (West 2014 ed.).

Radical Forgiveness as a Regulative Ideal in the Bankruptcy Context: Toward a Genuine Fresh Start for Individual Debtors, NORTON ANNUAL SURVEY OF BANKRUPTCY LAW (West 2012 ed.).

The End of the "Good Faith" Filing Requirement in Business Bankruptcy, NORTON ANNUAL SURVEY OF BANKRUPTCY LAW (West 2012 ed.).

Why "Litigation Tactic" is Not Cause for Dismissal of a Bankruptcy Case under Section 1112(b), 20 J. BANKR. L. & PRAC. 6 Art. 5 (2011).

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Legal Services NYC – Bronx, Bronx, New York, 2015 – 2020

Senior Staff Attorney. All aspects of foreclosure prevention and consumer bankruptcy practice, including representation of homeowners in state court foreclosure settlement conferences and bankruptcy proceedings; arguing before the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York; motion practice in all areas of foreclosure and consumer bankruptcy law as well as defense and prosecution of adversary proceedings; directly advise clients on various elements of foreclosure, bankruptcy and debtor/creditor law.

Legal Services of the Hudson Valley, Yonkers, New York, 2014 – 2015

Staff Attorney. Comprehensive legal services for people facing eviction or foreclosure, including counseling clients on their legal rights and providing representation in negotiations with landlords, banks and other creditors, as well as in housing, state, federal, bankruptcy and appellate courts.

Teitelbaum & Baskin, LLP, White Plains, New York, 2012 – 2013

Associate Attorney. Represent creditors, debtors, trustees and other significant parties in interest in such prominent and complex Chapter 11 bankruptcy cases as *Tribune*, *Kodak* and *Residential Capital*; prosecute adversary proceedings and assist in negotiating settlements of same; argue before the United States Bankruptcy Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York; motion practice in all areas of bankruptcy law; directly advise clients on various aspects of bankruptcy law.

Molod Spitz & DeSantis, P.C., New York, New York, 2010 – 2011

Associate Attorney. Handled all aspects of commercial and general civil litigation, including large scale document discovery, responding to interrogatories, preparation of witnesses for depositions, taking and defending depositions, arguing motions, attending and preparing for hearings, counseling clients in litigation and negotiating settlements of various types of litigation.

Shapiro & Shapiro, LLP, Brooklyn, New York, 2009 – 2010

Associate Attorney. Handled all aspects of commercial litigation, including court appearances, motion practice, discovery, real estate workouts and foreclosure defense involving commercial properties, and supervision of junior litigation attorneys.

Kanterman, O’Leary & Soscia, LLP, White Plains, New York, 2005 – 2009

Associate Attorney. Handled all aspects of medical malpractice litigation, including court appearances, research and writing, motion practice, discovery, depositions, assisting at trials and with appeals.

Marshall, Conway & Wright, P.C., New York, New York, 2004 – 2005

Associate Attorney. Managed caseload of general defense throughout the litigation process.

Jones Hirsch Connors & Bull P.C., New York, New York, 2003 – 2004

Associate Attorney. Managed caseload of general defense, medical malpractice, labor law and construction, premises and products liability matters throughout the litigation process.

BAR AND COURT ADMISSIONS

New York – 2003

U.S. District Court, Southern & Eastern Districts of New York – 2009

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Presenter and Session Chair (Panel on “Human Rights and the Carceral State”), *Groundwork for the Recognition of Housing as a Human Right and Legal Entitlement*, Twenty-Eighth Annual Conference of The Association for the Study of Law, Culture, and the Humanities, *Uprooted Law: Reflecting on the Origins and Outgrowths of Law*, at DePaul University College of Law, Chicago, IL, June 2026 (in addition to panel chair responsibilities).

Presenter, *Groundwork for the Recognition of Housing as a Human Right and Legal Entitlement*, Eighth UMass Interdisciplinary Legal Studies Colloquium, UMass Club, Boston, MA, March 2026.

Presenter, *Love Thy Neighbor: Religious Ethics, Homelessness Amelioration and the Free Exercise Clause*, Seventh UMass Interdisciplinary Legal Studies Colloquium, UMass Club, Boston, MA, March 2025.

Presenter, *Addressing Legal Resolution to Homelessness in the Context of Contemporary Moral Philosophy*, Sixth UMass Interdisciplinary Legal Studies Colloquium, UMass Club, Boston, MA, April 2024.

MEMBERSHIP

American Bankruptcy Institute

REFERENCES

Bruce Ackerman
Sterling Professor of Law and Political Science
Yale Law School
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Sterling Professor Emeritus of Law
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Harvey Karp Visiting Lecturer in Law
Yale Law School
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