

Danielle D’Onfro

Washington University School of Law
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APPOINTMENT

Washington University School of Law, St. Louis, MO
Treiman Professor of Law (2024–Present); Professor of Law (2024–Present);
Associate Professor of Law (2019–2023); Lecturer in Law (2016–2018)
Honors: David M. Becker Professor of the Year Award (2022, 2026)
Courses: Property; Advanced Private Law Seminar; Advanced Real Property;
Corporations

RESEARCH

Property, Private Law Theory, Contracts, Commercial Law, Bankruptcy, Torts

EDUCATION

Harvard Law School, J.D. *cum laude* (June 2011)
Columbia College, B.A. *magna cum laude*, Classics (May 2006)

PUBLICATIONS

Works in Progress

Exactions Redux
Abandoned Real Property
Property, Privacy, and Negative Rights

Articles

Constitutional Rights and General Private Law, 140 HARV. L. REV. (forthcoming 2027) (with Daniel Epps)

Tortious Interference Revisited, 174 U. PA. L. REV. (forthcoming 2026) (with Cathy Hwang)

Reviewed in Robert Hillman, *Everything (Almost) You Wanted To Know About Tortious Interference*, JOTWELL (July 29, 2025)

Private Law without Precedent, 79 VAND. L. REV. 1385 (2025)

Contract-Wrapped Property, 137 HARV. L. REV. 1058 (2024)

Reviewed in Martha Ertman, *Inequitable Servitudes: Property Law Shield Against Contractual Excesses*, JOTWELL (June 12, 2024)

The Fourth Amendment and General Law, 132 YALE L.J. 910 (2023) (with Daniel Epps)

The New Bailments, 96 WASH. L. REV. 97 (2022)

Error-Resilient Consumer Contracts, 71 DUKE L.J. 541 (2021)

Companies as Commodities, 48 FLA. ST. U. L. REV. 1 (2020)

Corporate Stewardship, 44 J. CORP. L. 439 (2019)

Limited Liability Property, 39 CARDOZO L. REV. 1365 (2018)

Note, *A New Uniform Code of Consumer Credit*, 5 HARV. L. & POL'Y REV. 449 (2011)

Book

NETWORKS, PLATFORMS, & UTILITIES: LAW & POLICY (2d ed. forthcoming, Princeton University Press) (with Morgan Ricks, Ganesh Sitaraman, Shelley Welton, Tejas Narechania & Lev Menand)

Invited Contributions

Regulating Contract with Tortious Interference, in OXFORD HANDBOOK ON REGULATORY CONTRACT (forthcoming) (with Cathy Hwang)

Smart Contracts and the Illusion of Automated Enforcement, 61 WASH. U. J.L. & POL'Y 173 (2020)

Select Commentary

A narrow win for creditors, SCOTUSBLOG (Jan. 20, 2021)

Argument analysis: Bankruptcy metaphysics, SCOTUSBLOG (Oct. 16, 2020)

Case preview: Squaring impoundment with federal bankruptcy procedure, SCOTUSBLOG (Oct. 12, 2020)

Opinion analysis: A very narrow decision to start the term, SCOTUSBLOG (Dec. 11, 2019)

Argument analysis: "Not a paragon of clarity", SCOTUSBLOG (Oct. 18, 2019)

Argument preview: A conflict between plain text and background rules, SCOTUSBLOG (Oct. 10, 2019)

Opinion analysis: An extremely narrow Fair Debt Collection Practices Act ruling, SCOTUSBLOG (Mar. 22, 2019)

Argument analysis: Searching for the least unnatural reading, SCOTUSBLOG (Jan. 9, 2019)

Argument preview: Is foreclosure debt collection?, SCOTUSBLOG (Dec. 31, 2018)

Opinion analysis: Justices confirm that "respecting" means "relating to" in the Bankruptcy Code, SCOTUSBLOG (June 5, 2018)

Argument analysis: When neither baseball nor Vermeer analogies persuade the court, SCOTUSBLOG (Apr. 18, 2018)

Argument preview: Court to decide whether Bankruptcy Code protects dishonest debtors, SCOTUSBLOG (Apr. 10, 2018)

The Best Way to Hold Equifax Accountable, WASH. POST (Sept. 14, 2017)

Surprise Dismissal of Bankruptcy Case Seemingly Prompted by Change in Claim Ownership, SCOTUSBLOG (Aug. 11, 2017)

Bankruptcy Expert, FIRST MONDAYS (Supreme Court podcast) (2016–2019)

Two Years after Bankruptcy Reform, Much Ado About Little, WALL ST. J. PRO (Dec. 8, 2016) (with Elliot Ganz)

Limiting the Background Noise: Investor Motivation and Identity in Bankruptcy, 33 AM. BANKR. INST. J. 38 (Dec. 2014) (with Allison Hester-Haddad)

PRESENTATIONS

Constitutional Property and General Private Law

Washington University School of Law (June 2026)

Property Works in Progress (Oct. 2025)

Tortious Interference Revisited

Columbia Law School Private Law Workshop (Nov. 2025)

Obligations, Harvard Law School (July 2025)

Penn-NYU Empirical Contracts Workshop (May 2025)

University of Toronto Faculty Colloquium (Apr. 2025)

UCLA Business Law Workshop (Apr. 2025)

North American Workshop on Private Law Theory, Berkeley Law School (Jan. 2025)

Regulating Contract with Tortious Interference

Workshop on Regulatory Contract Law, University of Zürich (July 2025)

Private Law without Precedent

University of Texas School of Law Faculty Workshop (Apr. 2024)

George Mason Law and Economics Workshop (Mar. 2024)

Contract-Wrapped Property

Cornell Law School (Nov. 2023)

EALe Annual Conference, Freie Universität and Humboldt Universität, Berlin, Germany (Sept. 2023)

ALEA Annual Meeting, Boston University School of Law (June 2023)

Michigan State University College of Law (Mar. 2023)

University of Florida Levin College of Law (Mar. 2023)

Consumer Law Scholars Conference, UC-Berkeley School of Law (Mar. 2023)

Harvard Law School Private Law Theory Workshop (Feb. 2023)

American Association of Law Schools, New Voices in Property Law (Jan. 2023)

Washington University School of Law, *Property as Consumer Protection* (Aug. 2022)

The Fourth Amendment and General Law

Washington University School of Law (June 2021)

The New Bailments

ALEA Annual Meeting, The University of Chicago Law School (Oct. 2021)

Notre Dame Law School (Mar. 2021)

Penn-NYU Empirical Contracts Workshop (June 2020)

Error-Resilient Consumer Contracts

Washington University School of Law (July 2020)

Berkeley Consumer Law Scholars' Conference, UC Berkeley School of Law (Feb. 2018)

Companies as Commodities

National Business Law Scholars Conference, UC Berkeley School of Law,

Corporations as Commons (June 2019)

Washington University School of Law, *Corporations as Commons* (June 2019)

University of Richmond Junior Faculty Forum, *Corporations as Commons* (May 2019)

ClimenkoFest, Harvard Law School, *Corporations as Commons* (Mar. 2019)

Corporate Stewardship

Washington University School of Law (Aug. 2018)

National Business Law Scholars Conference, University of Georgia School of Law (June 2018)

Limited Liability Property

American Bankruptcy Institute Junior Scholars Conference, Brooklyn Law School (Nov. 2017) (Commentators: Ted Janger & Jay Westbrook)

Other Presentations

CESifo Area Conference on Economics of Digitization Conference 2024, Munich, Germany, *Fundamental Entitlements in Digital Assets* (Keynote) (Oct. 2024)

MEDIA

Danielle D'Onfro on Error-Resilient Consumer Contracts, THE PRIVATE LAW PODCAST (Mar. 18, 2021)

Shira Tarlo, *The Sackler family made billions from OxyContin. Will they face repercussions?*, SALON (Sept. 29, 2019)

Michael Kruse, *The 2008 Class That Explains Elizabeth Warren's Style*, POLITICO MAG. (June 25, 2019)

David Migoya, *Colorado foreclosure system under the microscope in U.S. Supreme Court case*, DENVER POST (Jan. 25, 2019)

Diane Davis, *'Dishonest Debtor' Prevails Over Law Firm at Supreme Court*, BNA'S BANKR. L. REP. (June 5, 2018)

Randy Evans, *Equifax, Tell Us About Burdensome Regulations*, IOWA WATCH (Sept. 20, 2017)

Kimberly Strawbridge Robinson, *SCOTUS Opening Day: United States v. United States?*, U.S. L. WEEK (Aug. 16, 2017)

PROFESSIONAL
MEMBERSHIPS

American Law Institute (2026–present)

European Association of Law & Economics (2023–present)

American Law & Economics Association (2018–present)

SERVICE

Law School & University Service

Rules Committee (2026–2027)
 Ad Hoc Committee on Bar Passage and Student Success (2025–2026)
 University Tenure Appeal Committee (2025–2026)
 Faculty Appointments Committee (chair 2024–2025, member 2021–2022)
 School of Law Dean Search Committee (2023–2024)
 Law Library Director Search Committee (2022–2023)
 Clerkship Committee (2017–2021)
 Faculty Advisor, Disability Law Caucus
 Faculty Advisor, First Generation Law Society

Service to the Profession

AALS Property Section (executive committee member)
 European Association of Law & Economics 2024 Annual Meeting, Area Organizer
 Law & Economics Theory (LET) XII, Washington University in St. Louis School of Law, Program Committee (Dec. 2023)
 American Law & Economics Association 2023 Annual Meeting, Area Organizer

Service to the Community

St. Louis City Transportation & Mobility Plan, Community Advisory Committee (2024-2025)
 Shaw Neighborhood Improvement Association

PRACTICE

Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale & Dorr LLP

Senior Associate (2015–2016) & Associate (2012–2014), Bankruptcy & Financial Restructuring
 Divided practice among regulatory compliance, debt-financing transactions, bankruptcy litigation, and policy advocacy.

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, Raleigh, NC (2011–2012)

Law Clerk to Judge Allyson Kay Duncan

Congressional Oversight Panel, Washington, DC (2008–2010)

Volunteer

Public Citizen Litigation Group, Washington, DC (Summer 2010)

Law Clerk

Federal Trade Commission, Washington, DC (Summer 2009)

Law Clerk, Bureau of Consumer Protection

BAR ADMISSIONS District of Columbia (2011)
Massachusetts (2014)

Last updated: July 2026