

# SANDRA SIMKINS

## SUMMARY OF ACHIEVEMENTS

- Department of Justice Due Process Compliance Monitor, Memphis Tennessee: Selected to be settlement agreement monitor in response to historic Department of Justice Investigation of Shelby County, Tennessee, 2012-2018.
- Scholarship: Author of over a dozen professional articles related to juvenile justice issues; book *When Kids Get Arrested: What Every Adult Should Know*, released in 2009. Expertise in criminal justice, juvenile justice, gender issues, institutional abuse and post dispositional advocacy for children.
- Fundraising and Grant Management: Awarded grant in excess of \$650,000 from the MacArthur Foundation to participate in the *Models for Change* Juvenile Indigent Defense Action Network.
- Teaching: “*Lawyering Professor of the Year*” award received Spring 2016, 2015, 2009, “*Best New Professor of the Year*” award received Spring, 2007. Taught traditional law classes in juvenile law, criminal defense and professional responsibility.
- Co-Founder and Director, Childrens Justice Clinic (CJC): The CJC, designed to give third year law students an opportunity to represent New Jersey youth facing delinquency charges, uses national best practice standards and a holistic model. CJC’s website can be found at: <http://wwwcamlaw.rutgers.edu/site/clinics/childjustice/>
- Presentations: Invited as a national expert to present lectures and training in 30 states.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Rutgers School of Law-Camden, Camden, NJ

*Distinguished Clinical Professor*

May 2015

*Director of Clinical Programs*

2013, 2016

*Clinical Professor*

May 2011

*Clinical Associate Professor of Law*

2006 to 2011

- Successfully litigated *In re J.J.*, State ex rel. J.J., 49 A.3d 877 (App.Div. 2012) which invalidated regulation that allowed direct transfer of juveniles to adult prison.
- Designed and developed curriculum for intensive clinical experience which combines classroom instruction with individual student counseling, advising, and advocacy. The clinic provides direct representation of children in delinquency and related matters.

**Defender Association of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA**

*Assistant Chief, Juvenile Unit*

1991 to 2006

- Managed department of 40, (including 23 lawyers, social workers, investigators and administrative staff) provided legal representation to 6500 children arrested annually.
- Provided training for new employees, conduct performance reviews, provide strategic planning, and execute office policies.

**Northeast Region Juvenile Defender Center, Philadelphia, PA**

*Co-Director*

2003 to 2017

- Provided consultation and training in Delaware, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania.

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- Championed the creation of effective statewide coalitions and fundraising initiatives
- Created instructional materials (including online instruction) for professionals.
- Lead the planning, marketing and fundraising of annual statewide training events.
- Developed and maintain database, website ([www.pajuvdefenders.org](http://www.pajuvdefenders.org)), and listserv.

## ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

<b>University of Graz, Austria</b> Adjunct Professor, American Criminal and Juvenile Law	2018
<b><i>University of Pennsylvania Law School</i></b> Adjunct Professor, Juvenile Justice Clinical Instructor	2000 to 2006 1999 to 2001
<b><i>Rutgers Camden Law School</i></b> Adjunct Professor, Juvenile Justice	2002
<b><i>Temple University Beasley School of Law</i></b> Adjunct Professor, Juvenile Justice	2001

## PUBLICATIONS

### Book

*When Kids Get Arrested, What Every Adult Should Know*, Rutgers University Press, released December 2009

### Chapters/Articles/Reports

*“The Pink Ghettoes of Public Interest Law: An Open Secret,”* 68 BUFFALO LAW REVIEW 3 (2020)

*Rights, Race and Reform: 50 Years of Child Advocacy in the Juvenile Justice System*, Chapter 14, No More “desert Devil’s Island”: the right to counsel for incarcerated children, Routledge Press, 2018.

Department of Justice Due Process Monitor, Juvenile Court Memphis Shelby County, Publication of 12 compliance reports, 2012-2018, See: <http://www.justice.gov/crt/about/spl/findsettle.php>

*The Critical Role of Post-Disposition Representation in Addressing the Needs of Incarcerated Youth*, 8 JOHN MARSHALL L. J.312 (2015) (with Laura Cohen).

*New Jersey: Juvenile Collateral Consequences Checklist*, 2015. See: <http://njdc.info/northeast-jdc/>

*Juvenile Solitary Confinement: New Jersey Makes an Important First Step*, New Jersey Lawyer, October 2015.

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*Success in Shelby County: A Roadmap to Systemic Juvenile Reform*, 44 U. MEM. L. REV. 727 (2014).

Simkins, S., Beyer, M., Geis, L., The Harmful Use of Isolation in Juvenile Facilities: The Need for Post Disposition Representation, WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, JOURNAL OF LAW AND POLICY, Vol. 241-287, 2012.

Book chapter for Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, the topic of the book is "Vulnerable Populations in the Juvenile Justice System" and my chapter focuses on how New Jersey's lack of Post Dispositional advocacy places children at risk, November 2009.

Simkins, S., Out of Sight Out of Mind: Lack of Post Dispositional Advocacy in Juvenile Court increases risk of Recidivism and Institutional Abuse, RUTGERS LAW REVIEW, Vol. 60. No. 1. 207-224, Fall 2007.

Simkins, S., Roadtrip! Practical Strategies for Preventing the Institutional Abuse of Girls, WOMEN GIRLS AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE, Vol. 8 No. 1, December/January 2007.

Lieberman, A, Simkins, S., Your patients in the juvenile justice system, and your role in their care and well-being, Contemporary Pediatrics, July 2006, pp. 57-64.

Simkins, S., Hirsh, A., Horvat, E., Moss, M., The School to Prison Pipeline for Girls: The Role of Physical and Sexual Abuse, CHILDREN'S LEGAL RIGHTS JOURNAL, Vol. 24, No. 4, Winter 2004, pp56-72.

Simkins, S., The Female Detention Project: The Typical Girl in Detention in Philadelphia, February 2004, THE PREVENTION RESEARCHER, Vol. 11, No. 1, February 2004, pp. 15-18.

Beyer, M., Blair, G., Katz, S., Simkins, S., Steinberg, A., A Better way to Spend \$500,000: How the Juvenile Justice System Fails Girls, WISCONSIN WOMEN'S LAW JOURNAL, Vol. 18, No. 1, Spring 2003, pp 51-76.

Simkins, S., Katz, S., Criminalizing Abused Girls, VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN JOURNAL, Vol. 8, No. 12, December 2002, pp. 1474-1499.

Simkins, S., Creative Fundraising Leads to Development of Specialized Expertise within the Philadelphia Defender Association, Juvenile Justice Update, Vol.9, No.2, April/May 2003, p.13

Collaboration of Girls Justice Initiative Advisory Board Justice by Gender, The Lack of Appropriate Prevention, Diversion and Treatment alternatives for Girls in the Justice System, Collaboration with the American Bar Association and the National Bar Association, May 1, 2001

Ambrose, A., Simkins, S., Philadelphia's Female Detention Project, Women Girls and Criminal Justice, Vol.1 No.4, June/July 2000, p. 53.

Simkins, S., Taking on the Challenge of Girls, National Defender Newsletter, American Bar Association, Summer 2000.

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## FUND RAISING AND GRANT MANAGEMENT

**Pratt Grant**, Youth and Criminal Justice Transparency Project, 2018

Goal of project is to collect, publish and disseminate data relating to New Jersey's Juvenile Court and juvenile and adult corrections systems to hold public agencies accountable. \$150,000

**MacArthur Foundation**, *Models for Change* Juvenile Indigent Defense Action Network, 2008

New Jersey was among the four new states selected for this groundbreaking initiative to promote change that strengthens and enhances juvenile indigent defense systems. \$650,000

**New Jersey State Bar Foundation Grant**, 2006- present

*Grant continues to support the Children's Justice Clinic*

**Valentine Foundation**, 2006

*Capital Campaign to Support Women's Non Profit Leadership*

**Statewide Training Grant**, July 2004- 2006

*Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency,*

Annual Budget: \$75,000

**Statewide Aftercare Initiative**, 2004-2007

*John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation*

Annual Budget: \$35,000

## AWARDS/HONORS

- Mary Philbrook Public Interest Recognition, 2017
- Robert E. Shephard Jr. Award, *For Excellence in Juvenile Defense*, 2012
- Camden Mayor's Youth Council Award, December 2009
- "Lawyering Professor of the Year" award received Spring, 2016, 2015, 2009
- "Best New Professor of the Year" award received Spring, 2007
- Harvard Business School Advanced Non-Profit Management training, 2005.
- MacArthur Foundation, Juvenile Justice Aftercare Initiative in Pennsylvania, 2004.
- Recipient of the ABA's Award for "Outstanding representation of Children," 2002.

## PRESENTATION AND TRAINING EXPERIENCE

**Keynote Address**, *Finding Your Voice*, New Jersey Association for Justice, Women Litigator's Luncheon, November 2018.

**Keynote Address**, Law Mentoring Weekend, University of Delaware, April 2018.

**National Juvenile Defender Summit**, *Vicarious Trauma and Burnout*, St. Paul, Minnesota, 2018.

**National Juvenile Defender Summit**, *Ending Solitary Confinement: Strategies for Reform*, Atlanta, GA October 2016

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**Delaware Conference**, Collateral Consequences of Arrest and Prosecution of Children, September, 2016.

**Pennsylvania Bar Institute**: *LGBTQ Issues for Foster Care and Homeless Out of Home Youth*, Philadelphia, PA November 2015.

**National Juvenile Defender Summit**, *Breaking into Prisons: Effective Advocacy for Youth in Out of Home Placements*, Salt Lake City, Utah, October 2015.

**National Juvenile Defender Summit**, *Dealing With Difficult Judges*, Salt Lake City, Utah, October 2015

**Drexel Law Review Symposium**: *Crossroads: Crime Community and Public Health, Community Participation in Re-Entry*, October 2015.

**2015 Dean Robert D'Agostino Symposium**, *Decreasing Youth Incarceration through Quality Juvenile Defense*, Atlanta, Georgia, March 2015.

**Rutgers University**, *Creating Bridges for Camden's Youth: Juvenile Justice Concerns and Local Solutions*, March 2015.

**Philadelphia Higher Education Network for Neighborhood Development**, *Justice For All*, Rutgers Camden, New Jersey, February 2015.

**National Juvenile Defender Summit**, *Apart and Alone: The Case Against Isolation*, Louisville, Kentucky, October 2014.

**Keynote: University of Memphis Law Review Symposium**, *Juvenile Courts in Transition: Where We Have Been and Where We are Going*, Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law, Memphis, Tennessee, February 2014.

**Cultivating Alliances with Academia: Equipping Practitioners with Resources, Research & Writing on Poverty**, December 11, 2013, Philadelphia Bar Association.

**Developmental Science Catalyzing System Change: Its Impact on Statewide Effort Against the Use of Isolation**, MacArthur Models for Change, December 16-17, Washington D.C.

**Statewide Juvenile Defender Training**, Post-Dispositional Advocacy and In re J.J., January 13, 2013, Trenton, New Jersey.

**Trauma and Resilience: A new look at legal advocacy for youth in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems**, *Laying the Groundwork: using trauma in legal advocacy*, January 28-29, 2013, Philadelphia, Pa.

**Key Note Speaker: Southern Regional Juvenile Defender Center**, *Lessons from Shelby*, June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013, Greenville, South Carolina.

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**7th Annual Models for Change National Working Conference**, “Town and Gown: Law School Public Defender Collaborations as Catalysts for Change,” Washington D.C. December 2012

**National Juvenile Defender Center Summit**, San Juan, Puerto Rico, *Complex Trauma Pitfalls and Opportunities, Accounting for trauma in your advocacy, Juvenile Defense Clinical Programs*, October 2012

**Society of American Law Teachers**, *Rutgers Clinical Programs: Modeling Collaboration and Strategic Laweaying to Provide Statewide Access to Justice for Youth*, Maryland, October 2012

**Convocation Speaker, University of Delaware** Department of Political Science and International Affairs, May 25, 2012.

**New Jersey Office of Public Defender**, Statewide Essential Skills Training for Juvenile Defenders, *Preparing for Disposition and Post Disposition*, May 2, 2012

**Annie E. Casey Foundation, JDAI Inter-Site Conference**, *Defense Innovations*, Houston Texas, April 25, 2012.

**12<sup>th</sup> Annual Access to Equal Justice Colloquium, Evolving Standards in Juvenile Justice: From Gault to Graham and Beyond**, “*Successes & Lessons from Youth Advocacy*,” Washington University School of Law, March 23, 2012.

**6th Annual Models for Change National Working Conference**, “Do You Really Know What Goes on Behind the Walls?”, Washington D.C. December 2011

**OJJDP National Conference**, “Responding to the Legal Needs of Children” at the Washington, D.C., October 2012

**National Juvenile Defender Summit**, Seattle, Washington, “ Defense Post-Disposition Initiative” and “Appeals and” Post Disposition Advocacy” October 2012

**“Learn at Lunch” Sponsored by Barry University, Orlando Florida**, *Dealing with Parents*, June 24, 2011

**New Jersey Youth Development Forum**, *Innovations in Youth Development*, New Brunswick, N.J., April 29, 2011.

**National Juvenile Defender Summit**, *Successful Post Disposition Collaborations*, Washington, D.C., October 16, 2010.

**AALS Conference on Clinical Education**, Group Leader for Criminal/Juvenile Clinicians, Baltimore Maryland, May 4-8, 2010

**Rutgers Law Review Symposium 2010, Righting the Wronged: Causes, Effects, and Remedies of Juvenile Wrongful Convictions** Moderated, *Role of Counsel*, April 9, 2010

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**Rutgers School of Law- Newark**, Guest Speaker, *Post Dispositional Advocacy for Girls*, Juvenile Justice Seminar, March 1, 2010.

**National Symposium on Indigent Defense, Department of Justice**, *MacArthur Juvenile Indigent Defense Action Network*, Washington, D.C. February 18-19, 2010

**Juvenile Defenders Association of Pennsylvania, Luzerne County**, *Ethical Considerations for Juvenile Defense Counsel: Exploring the Roles of Defense Counsel and the Child Client in Building an Appropriate Strategy and Decision Making Plan for Adjudication and Disposition*, January 29, 2010.

**Juvenile Defenders Association of Pennsylvania, Luzerne County** *School Searches, Identification Procedures, and Statements/Confessions by Juveniles: A Discussion of Current Law and Issues for Defense Counsel's Case Preparation and Pre-Adjudication Litigation*, January 29, 2010.

**MacArthur Foundation's Models for Change National Working Conference**, *Juvenile Indigent Defense Action Network*, Washington D.C., December 8, 2009.

**Juvenile Defender Leadership Summit**, *The Ins and Outs of Working with Parents*, Denver Colorado, October 17, 2009.

**Juvenile Defender Leadership Summit**, *Juvenile Defense Clinics: The Next Generation*, Denver Colorado, October 17, 2009

**Princeton University, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs**, *Future of Children, Vulnerable Populations in the Juvenile Justice System: A research and Policy Conference*, November 2008.

**National Juvenile Defender Leadership Summit**, *A Call for Post Disposition Advocacy*, (plenary session moderator) New Orleans, LA, October 2008.

**Rutgers Faculty Forum on Violence against Women and Children**, May 2008.

**New Jersey Office of the Public Defender Juvenile Tri-Annual Meeting**, *The Critical Role of Post- Dispositional Advocacy*, April 2008.

**National Juvenile Defender Summit**, presented on the topic of *Child Fatalities & Abuse in Juvenile Facilities*, October 2007

**New Jersey Statewide Defender Training**, co-presented with Prof. Shalick on the topic of *Growing Pains: Girls in the family court system*, September 2007.

**Federal Advisory Commission on Juvenile Justice**, presented testimony, April 2007.

**Rutgers-University School of Law, Newark, New Jersey**, *"The Promise of Gault: Promoting and Protecting the Right to Counsel in Juvenile Court,"* April 2007.

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**Mississippi Youth Justice Project**, trained juvenile defenders on post dispositional advocacy and ethics, March 2007.

**National Juvenile Defender Summit**, "*Raising the Bar: Invigorating the Protections of Gault*" October, 2006

**National Juvenile Defender Summit**, "*Strategies to keep youth safe in juvenile facilities*"  
October, 2006

**Pennsylvania Statewide Juvenile Defender Training**, "*Representing Girls, understanding the Dependent/Delinquent Connection*"  
April, 2006

**Law and Adolescence Symposium**, Temple University Beasley School of Law,  
March, 2006

**Law and Society Week**, Community College of Philadelphia, "*Can an 11 year old Murderer be saved? The case of Miriam White*"  
February, 2006

**Villanova Distinguished Speakers**, The National Landscape of Juvenile Justice,  
November, 2005.

**Juvenile Defender Leadership Summit**, *Juvenile Sex Offenders*, Los Angeles, California,  
October 2005.

**Los Angeles County Juvenile Delinquency Training Seminar**, *Defense Strategies for Girls*,  
April 2005.

**National Legal Aid and Defender Association Annual Conference**, *Advancing the Ten Principles for Juvenile Justice*, December 2004

**Juvenile Defender Leadership Summit**, *Girls in the Juvenile Justice System: Strategies for Dealing with Institutional Abuse*, Nashville, Tennessee, October 2004.

**Ohio Juvenile Defender Leadership Summit**, *Girls in the Juvenile Justice System*  
Spring, 2004.

**Pennsylvania Criminal Defense Lawyers Association**, First Annual Juvenile Law Forum,  
*Focusing on Disposition from the Moment of Arrest*, Spring 2004

**New Jersey Juvenile Defender Summit**, *Girls in the Juvenile Justice System*,  
Spring 2004.

**Indiana Juvenile Defender Training**, *Detention Reform Strategies*,  
Spring 2004

**Wisconsin Juvenile Defender Training**, *Girls in the Juvenile Justice System*,



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Fall, 2004

**Juvenile Defender Leadership Summit**, *Girls in the Juvenile Justice System: Strategies for Dealing with Institutional Abuse*, Baltimore Maryland, October 2003

**Harvard University Civil Rights Project**, *The School to Prison Pipeline for Girls: The Role of Physical and Sexual Abuse*, Spring 2003.

**Pennsylvania Bar Institute, Current Issues for Child Advocates**, *What's Age Got to do with It?* Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, March 2003

**30<sup>th</sup> National Conference on Juvenile Justice**, *Defender Assessments: The Pennsylvania Story* Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, March 2003

**National Institute of Trial Advocacy**, *Representing the Whole Child* Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, October 2002

**New Mexico Public Defender Trial Advocacy Training**, *Representing Juveniles* Albuquerque, New Mexico, November 2002

**Keynote Speaker, Northeast Regional Juvenile Defender Center Training**, *Mental Health Issues in Representing Juveniles*, New York, December 2001

**Juvenile Defender Leadership Summit**, *Gender based Defense Strategies for Girls – from Detention to Disposition*, Miami Florida, October 2001

**Girl Talk Conference I and II**, *Judicial Issues* Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, December 2000, December 2001

**Juvenile Defender Leadership Summit**, *Showcase Presentation: Philadelphia's Female Detention Project*, Houston, Texas, October 2000

## MEDIA WORK

Professor Simkins Report featured in the Daily Memphian, *DOJ Report Says Juvenile Court Still Has Problems*, Memphis Commercial Appeal, *DOJ Report Details Issues in Juvenile Court*, December 12, 2018.

Professor Simkins Report featured in the Memphis Commercial Appeal, *DOJ Report Details Issues in Juvenile Court*, December 11, 2018.

Professor Simkins was quoted in NJ.com *\$400K award to settle lawsuit over solitary confinement of 2 N.J. boys*. Ryan Hutchins, Star Ledger, January 3, 2014.  
[http://www.nj.com/politics/index.ssf/2014/01/400k\\_awarded\\_to\\_settle\\_lawsuit\\_over\\_solitary\\_confinement\\_of\\_2\\_nj\\_boys.html](http://www.nj.com/politics/index.ssf/2014/01/400k_awarded_to_settle_lawsuit_over_solitary_confinement_of_2_nj_boys.html)

Professor Simkins was quoted in *N.J. Solitary Confinement: Extreme Cases of Life in the Box* [Juvenile Justice Information Exchange](http://www.nj.com/politics/index.ssf/2014/01/400k_awarded_to_settle_lawsuit_over_solitary_confinement_of_2_nj_boys.html) by Gary Gately, March 9, 2014.  
<http://jjie.org/n-j-solitary-confinement-extreme-cases-of-life-in-the-box/>

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Rutgers Magazine, Professor Simkins and Professor Cohen appeared in the Fall 2013 Rutgers Magazine related to their work to eliminate solitary confinement.

Star-Ledger: Thursday, July 18: editorial; “State should ban solitary confinement for juvenile offenders” Prof. Sandra Simkins (clinical professor, CLAW) was cited in this editorial calling for juvenile justice

form.[http://blog.nj.com/njv\\_editorial\\_page/2013/07/state\\_should\\_ban\\_solitary\\_conf.html](http://blog.nj.com/njv_editorial_page/2013/07/state_should_ban_solitary_conf.html)

The Commercial Appeal: Thursday, June 6: news story; “Federal monitor: Memphis juvenile detainees' attorneys receive 'woefully low' resource support” Prof. Sandra Simkins (clinical professor, CLAW) discussed her role in overseeing juvenile court reforms during an interview in the Tennessee newspaper.

<http://www.commercialappeal.com/news/2013/jun/06/federal-monitor-memphis-juvenile-detainees-low>

New Jersey Post Disposition model, created in collaboration with the NJ Office of Public Defender and Rutgers School of Law Newark, was highlighted in Juvenile Justice Update in May 2013

New Jersey Law Journal, *Court Voids Rules on Transfers of Juvenile Inmates to Adult Facilities*, August 2012

Breakfast at the Barracks, TV interview, December 2010, <http://rutgers.tv/node/47>

The Bar Report, New Jersey Bar Association, *Law School Clinic Helps Kids in Court*, July, 2010

Protecting Children from Detention Abuses, Letter to the Editor in response to the Department of Justice report revealing Pennsylvania treatment facility ranked one of worst for abuse of children, Philadelphia Inquirer, January 22, 2010.

Chestnut Hill Local November 12, 2009

Springfield Sun Newspaper, November 12, 2009

Foreword magazine.com November/December 2009

Rutgers FOCUS, October 2009

KWY Newsradio October 15, 2009

Courier Post coverage of Juvenile Justice Speaker series, April 8, 2007.

CN8 interview, Comcast Newsmakers, March 13, 2007.

Gloucester County Times, coverage of Juvenile Justice Speaker Series, February 11, 2007.

KYW interview, January 25, 2007.

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Philadelphia Inquirer, "Students Put Law in Motion," January 21, 2007.

Courier Post, "New Clinic focuses on doing justice to juveniles," January 6, 2007.

Rutgers Focus, "Helping Children in the Juvenile Justice system get their lives on track," October 25, 2006.

WHYY Radio Show, Guest Speaker, Family Voices with Dan Gottlieb, Preventing Girls Violence, August 8, 2005.

Restraining Disorder, Our Juvenile Justice System is among the best in the Nation. So why are our kids ending up hurt? Or in one case, dead? By Doron Taussig, City Paper, May 19, 2005.

Better Children's Care, Letter to the Editor in response to the death of Walter Brown, Philadelphia Inquirer, May 4, 2005.

## EDUCATION

**Rutgers Law School**, Camden, New Jersey  
Juris Doctorate 1991

**University of Delaware**, Newark, Delaware  
Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Economics 1987  
Recipient of Paul Dolan Scholarship