

Z. PAYVAND AHDOUT

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA SCHOOL OF LAW, July 2021 – Present

Associate Professor of Law

Courses: Federal Courts; Separation of Powers in the Federal Courts;
Congress, Oversight, & the Separation of Powers

Committee Service: Academic Placement; Faculty Workshops & Retreat

Honors: UVA Research Achievement Honoree (for outstanding research and scholarship) (2023)

Yale Law Journal Emerging Scholar of the Year (2022)

COLUMBIA LAW SCHOOL, January 2018 – June 2021

Academic Fellow

Columbia Fellow

NYU SCHOOL OF LAW, September – December 2016

Research Fellow

EDUCATION

COLUMBIA LAW SCHOOL, J.D., 2013

Honors: Ruth Bader Ginsburg Prize for outstanding academic achievement in all three years
James Kent Scholar for outstanding academic achievement (2010–13)
Wilfred Feinberg Prize for academic excellence in an area related to federal courts
Federal Courts, Best in Class Award
Iranian American Bar Association Scholarship Recipient

Activities: *Columbia Law Review* Vols. 112, 113
Columbia Law Student Senate

THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA, B.A. in Economics and Government, *Highest Distinction*, 2010

Honors: *Phi Beta Kappa*
Jefferson Scholar (full four-year, merit-based scholarship)
Best Undergraduate Thesis in Economics
Echols Scholar (honors program)
Raven Society (honor society)
David A. Harrison III Undergraduate Research Award

Activities: Middle East Leadership Council (Community Engagement Chair)
University Judiciary Committee (Elected College of Arts & Sciences Representative)
Jefferson Scholars Foundation Public Service Fellows
Jefferson Literary & Debating Society

CLERKSHIPS & GOVERNMENT SERVICE

HON. RUTH BADER GINSBURG, SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

Law Clerk, October Term 2015

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR GENERAL

Bristow Fellow, October Term 2014

HON. DEBRA ANN LIVINGSTON, U.S. COURT OF APPEALS, SECOND CIRCUIT
Law Clerk, August 2013 – July 2014

PUBLICATIONS & WORKS IN PROGRESS

Layered Constitutionalism and Structural Interdependency, COLUM. L. REV. (forthcoming 2024)
(with Bridget Fahey)

Separation-of-Powers Avoidance, [132 YALE L.J. 2360](#) (2023)

Enforcement Lawmaking and Judicial Review, [135 HARV. L. REV. 937](#) (2022)

Beyond The Notorious: A Tribute To My Justice, [121 COLUM. L. REV. 577](#) (2021)

Direct Collateral Review, [121 COLUM. L. REV. 159](#) (2021)

Reviewed by Thomas Bennett, *Habeas, Hail Mary, and the Hook and Ladder*, JOTWELL (June 7, 2021)

Cited by *May v. Shinn*, __ F.4th __, 2022 WL 2092569 (9th Cir. 2022) (Block, J., concurring)

“Neutral” Gray Briefs, [43 FORDHAM INT’L L.J. 128](#) (2020) (invited symposium contribution)

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Managerial Judges @ 40, Yale Law School, Commentator (November 2022)

Separation-of-Powers Avoidance

- UT Austin Faculty Workshop (September 2022)
- UVa Law Faculty Workshop (September 2022)
- Roundtable on Federalism, the Courts & the Constitution, William & Mary Law School (July 2022)
- Civil Procedure Workshop, Cardozo Law School (May 2022)
- U.C. Berkeley Colloquium on Courts and Judicial Process (April 2022)
- National Conference of Constitutional Law Scholars, The Rehnquist Center at the University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law (online) (February 2022)

Enforcement Lawmaking and Judicial Review (previously titled *Separation-of-Powers Suits*)

- The University of Virginia School of Law (2020)
- Northwestern Pritzker School of Law (2020)
- Cornell Law School (2020)
- Iowa Law School (2020)
- Utah S.J. Quinney School of Law (2020)
- Cardozo Law School (2020)
- Brooklyn Law School (2020)
- St. John’s Law School (2020)
- Columbia A&F Workshop (2020)
- New York Fellows Roundtable (2020)

June Medical Services & Little Sisters of the Poor, Public Law Workshop, Columbia Law School (2020)

Ahdout CV

The Judicial Power & U.S. Foreign Affairs, Fordham Law School (2020)

Direct Collateral Review

- Junior Federal Courts Conference, Arkansas Law School at Fayetteville (2019)
- Columbia Law School A&F Workshop (2019)

CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY

Witness, Hearing on Examining Civil Rights Litigation Reform, Part 2: State and Local Government Employer Liability, House Judiciary Committee, Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties (June 9, 2022)

OTHER LEGAL EXPERIENCE

KIRKLAND & ELLIS LLP

Of Counsel, January 2019 – March 2021

Associate, January 2017 – January 2019

WACHTELL, LIPTON, ROSEN & KATZ

Law Clerk, September 2012 – May 2013

Summer Associate, May 2012 – August 2012

OFFICE OF THE NEW YORK STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Antitrust Bureau Intern, January 2012 – May 2012

DEWEY & LEBOEUF, LLP

Summer Associate, June 2011 – July 2011

New York City Bar Diversity Fellow

Other Service

The Appellate Project, Mentor & Development Committee Member

Jefferson Scholars Foundation, National Selection Committee

Jefferson Scholars Foundation, Regional Selection Committee (New York City)

BAR ADMISSIONS

New York State

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

In 2006, MIT Lincoln Laboratory named a planet “Zimra Payvand Ahdout” for research on a new approach to blend two incompatible polymers.