

## **Symposium Panelist Bios**

### **1. The Risk of Secondary Trauma in the Legal Profession and Increasing Awareness**

#### Eilene Zimmerman

Eilene Zimmerman (<https://www.eilenezimmerman.com/>) is a journalist and social worker. For three decades, she has written about business, technology and social issues for a wide array of national magazines and newspapers. She was a columnist for *The New York Times* for eight years and has been a regular contributor since 2004. Ms. Zimmerman recently published *Smacked: A Story of White Collar Ambition, Addiction, and Tragedy*, in which she tells the story of her late husband's suffering and death from substance abuse and the effects on her and their children.

#### Robbie Grier

Robbie Grier was the jury foreman in the death penalty trial of Henry Louis Wallace, (351 N.C. 481 (2000)), in Charlotte, N.C., in 1996. The jury convicted Wallace of the murders and rapes or sexual assaults of nine women, as well as the assault on a 10-month old baby committed during one of the murders. The jury had to hear detailed evidence, including recorded interrogations, about the murders and rapes. Mr. Grier will discuss, for the first time publicly, the effects of this case on him, and the counseling and treatment in which he has only recently participated. He is retired and very active in his Church.

#### Lt. Col. Andrea Hall

Lt Col Andrea M. Hall is the Staff Judge Advocate of the Peterson-Schriever Garrison Legal Office in Colorado Springs, Colorado. She is responsible for providing legal advice to seven Special Court-Martial Convening Authorities, 111 mission partners, and oversees the provision of legal services to over 17,000 military and civilian personnel serving at six major installations and 15 additional operating locations worldwide. The Garrison legal office supports 175 communications, navigation, and surveillance satellites with their associated systems, as well as missile warning and space control for combat forces and the national command authorities of the United States and Canada.

Lt Col Hall entered the United States Air Force through direct commission in 2006. She has served at the base-level as Deputy Staff Judge Advocate, Chief of Military Justice, Civil Law, Adverse Actions, and Legal Assistance, at the MAJCOM level as an executive officer and Chief of Military Justice, and deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. She also previously served as an Area Defense Counsel and Senior Defense Counsel. She is admitted to practice law before the Supreme Court of Wisconsin and the United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces.

Larry Hammond (d. 2020) [recorded interview by Mark Rabil 2015]

Larry Hammond was a founding member of the Arizona law firm of Osborn Maledon. He received his law degree from the University of Texas in 1971, where he served as editor-in-chief of the law review. He clerked for Supreme Court Justices Hugo Black and Lewis Powell from 1971-1973. He worked for President Carter's Office of Legal Counsel spending a great deal of time on the Iran hostage crisis. Mr. Hammond and his firm continuously represented five or six capital defendants from the founding of his firm until his death in 2020. This dedication to capital defense was because of his strong belief that as long as he lived in a state which had the death penalty, then he and his firm were obligated to represent the individuals being pursued. He founded the Arizona Justice Project in 1998, which, as the fifth innocence organization in the U.S., has freed 28 individuals.

## **2. Secondary Trauma Studies of Lawyers and Judges**

Professor Lindsay M. Harris

Lindsay M. Harris is an Associate Professor and Director of the Immigration and Human Rights Clinic at the University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law. She was the 2020 recipient of the American Immigration Lawyers Association's [Elmer Fried Excellence in Teaching Award](#).

Previously, Prof. Harris worked at the American Immigration Council focused on efforts to end the detention of immigrant families and at the Tahirih Justice Center as an Equal Justice Works fellow and staff attorney leading the African Women's Empowerment Project. She clerked on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and previously taught at Georgetown Law and as an adjunct at George Mason.

Prof. Harris regularly publishes on contemporary issues in asylum law and policy as well as best practices in clinical pedagogy. She has published widely, including in the Wisconsin Law Review, the New York Review of Law and Social Change, the Columbia Human Rights Law Review, and the Clinical Law Review, and writes shorter pieces in the Washington Post and other outlets. With Professor Laila Hlass, Lindsay is the co-creator of the [Legal Interviewing and Language Access Film Project](#), a teaching tool and resource to address legal interviewing and collaboration across difference. Their article on Critical Interviewing is forthcoming with the Utah Law Review.

Professor Harris earned her J.D. from Berkeley Law and her L.L.M. from Georgetown. She serves as Vice-Chair of the American Immigration Lawyers Association's National Asylum Committee and as the Vice-Chair of [AsylumWorks](#). She is a mother of two and originally from the U.K.

### Professor Mark Rabil

Mark Rabil is a Clinical Professor of Law and the Director of the Innocence & Justice Clinic at Wake Forest University School of Law. He began full-time teaching in 2013. He engaged in the private practice of law from 1980 to 2003 in various small law firms in Winston-Salem, N.C., and focused on criminal and civil litigation. He represented clients charged with first degree murder and facing the possibility of the death penalty from 1984 until 2019. He worked as an Assistant Capital Defender in N.C. from 2003 until 2012. From 1984 until 2004, he represented Darryl Hunt, a 19 year old Black man wrongfully convicted of the rape and murder of a white newspaper editor, Deborah Sykes, in Winston-Salem, N.C. Hunt was finally exonerated by DNA evidence in 2004. The story of the Hunt case is told in the award-winning HBO documentary by Ricki Stern and Annie Sunberg, *The Trials of Darryl Hunt* ([www.breakthru films.org](http://www.breakthru films.org)). The complete story of Darryl Hunt's life and 2016 death will be told in a forthcoming book by Phoebe Zerwick, the journalist (and now Wake professor) whose 8-part series in November 2003 in the *Winston-Salem Journal* led to the exoneration of Hunt.

### Dr. Stephannie Walker Seaton

Stephannie Walker Seaton obtained her Ph.D. in psychology and law with a minor in statistics from the University of Wyoming. She has experience as a professor, a department chair, a research associate, and an outreach coordinator. She currently works with Wake Forest School of Medicine's department of Public Health Sciences and Wake Forest University's Bioethics program. She is also a member of the Triad Woodcarvers Association.

### Kimberly Wiseman

Kimberly Wiseman, MS, completed her Master's in Psychology and Law at the University of Wyoming and has over ten years of experience conducting mixed methods research in psychology, law, and public health. Currently, she works at Wake Forest School of Medicine managing a research program aimed at increasing the accessibility of research among faculty.

### Dr. Dawn McQuiston

Dr. Dawn McQuiston is an Associate Professor of Psychology at Wofford College in Spartanburg, South Carolina with an expertise in the intersection of psychology and the law. Her work involves applying psychological science to issues of justice, specifically involving the reliability of eyewitness testimony, trauma in the courtroom, and jurors' evaluation of evidence. She has published numerous scholarly articles and given presentations at academic and legal conferences, her research has been funded by the National Institute of Justice, and her work was recently featured in CNN news and the New York Times. She regularly guest lectures at Wake Forest University School of Law in their Innocence & Justice Clinic. Prior to her position at Wofford, she was on the faculty at Arizona State University and worked with the Arizona Justice Project. Dr. McQuiston provides consultation and expert testimony on issues related to her expertise, and regularly gives CLE presentations and workshops on topics focusing on the intersection of psychology and the law. Learn more about her work at [dawnmcquiston.wixsite.com/legalpsy](http://dawnmcquiston.wixsite.com/legalpsy).

### **3. Practices to Reduce the Risk of Secondary Trauma**

#### Dr. Katherine Porterfield

Dr. Porterfield is a psychologist at the Bellevue/NYU Program for Survivors of Torture and Adjunct Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at the NYU School of Medicine. Dr. Porterfield has provided clinical care to adults and children who have experienced war and refugee trauma and torture for over 20 years. She regularly consults on issues pertaining to trauma, including in cases at the Guantanamo Bay Detention Center and the International Criminal Court and with journalists and human rights organizations. Dr. Porterfield is a founding staff member of a the Journalist Trauma Support Network, an initiative at the Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma at Columbia University. Dr. Porterfield regularly teaches and works with groups around issues of wellbeing, stress management and team communication. She trained with and continues to teach at the legendary *Second City* improvisational theater.

#### Mark Godsey

Professor Godsey is a leading scholar, attorney and activist in the Innocence Movement.

In addition to teaching Criminal Law, Evidence, and other courses at University of Cincinnati College of Law, Professor Godsey co-founded and directs the Ohio Innocence Project. The OIP is recognized as one of the most active and successful Innocence Projects in the country, and to date secured the release of 30 individuals on grounds of innocence who together served nearly 600 years in prison for crimes they did not commit.

Professor Godsey is also a regular commentator on issues relating to wrongful conviction in both the local and national press, and has appeared nationally on Larry King Live, Dateline NBC, CNN, ESPN, BBC, Forensic Files, and NPR among others. He is frequently quoted in papers and magazines across the country, including The New York Times, Newsweek, People and the Wall Street Journal. In 2017, Time Magazine profiled his career. His best-selling 2017 book *Blind Injustice: A Former Prosecutor Exposes the Psychology and Politics of Wrongful Convictions* is considered a foundational work in the field of wrongful convictions. In 2019, The Cincinnati Opera premiered an original opera, *Blind Injustice*, inspired by the book and the stories of six of OIP's exonerees.

Professor Godsey and the OIP have also proposed several significant legislative reforms in Ohio, and worked tirelessly to get them passed into law. In 2010, for example, Governor Strickland signed Senate Bill 77, a law proposed and championed by the OIP that has been called "one of the most important pieces of criminal justice legislation in this state in a century," and a law that makes Ohio a "national model" on reforms to reduce and prevent the wrongful conviction of the innocent. In 2018, Governor Kasich signed the OIP's exoneree compensation bill into law. The OIP currently has a bill pending that would require police to record interrogations, and plan for a full legislative agenda in future years.

Professor Godsey has been a leading figure in spreading awareness of wrongful convictions around the world, and with assisting lawyers and scholars in other countries to establish mechanisms for fighting wrongful convictions. Professor Godsey has widely lectured and consulted on the subject

in Asia, Africa and Europe. He helped establish the European Innocence Network, on which he currently serves as a board member. The Center for the Global Study of Wrongful Conviction that Godsey directs, a sub-component of the OIP, sponsors an international innocence conference in a different country each year, having thus far sponsored conferences in China, Italy, Ireland, Spain, the Netherlands, Taiwan, Japan, and the Czech Republic.

Professor Godsey graduated from the Moritz College of Law at The Ohio State University and then clerked for Chief Judge Monroe G. McKay of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit in Salt Lake City, Utah. He then practiced civil litigation and white collar-criminal defense at Jones, Day, Reavis and Pogue in Chicago and New York City.

Next, Professor Godsey joined the Department of Justice as an Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) for the Southern District of New York, where he prosecuted federal crimes ranging from political corruption to hijacking to organized crime. He received several awards for his performance as an AUSA, including the Director's Award for Superior Performance, presented to him by then-Attorney General Janet Reno.

#### Dr. Donna Mayerson

Dr. Donna Mayerson earned her Master's degree in Special Education from the University of Cincinnati and her Ph.D. in counseling psychology from the University of Utah. Donna has specialized in child and family therapy and currently focuses on strengths-based counseling/coaching. Donna serves on the Board of Directors of *The Manuel D. and Rhoda Mayerson Foundation*.

Dr. Mayerson was formerly the Director of practice for the VIA Institute which focuses on the science of character strengths in promoting human flourishing. Over the past three years she has worked with the Ohio Innocence Project to counsel the project's staff, students, fellows and attorneys on mitigating the impact of secondary trauma as well as preventing secondary trauma from occurring. Additionally, she works with exonerees and their families on post release adjustment and PTSD.

#### Cheryl Niccum

Cheryl Niccum is a Clinical Social Worker with the U.S. Department of Justice, Executive Office for United States Attorneys, Employee Assistance Program. Niccum serves as the Clinical Director of the Project Safe Childhood Wellness Program which provides prevention and education services around secondary trauma resulting from work on child exploitation matters. Niccum has been with the DOJ since November 2009 and previously worked over 25 years with the Department of the Army and Veterans Affairs in the areas of trauma, resilience, and recovery. Niccum also serves as a volunteer with the American Red Cross as a member of the Disaster Mental Health team and fosters service dogs.

## 4. The Intersection Between Secondary Traumatic Effects and Race

### Christina Swarns

Christina Swarns is the Executive Director of the Innocence Project. She previously served as the President and Attorney-in-Charge of the Office of the Appellate Defender, Inc. (OAD), one of New York City's oldest intentional providers of indigent appellate defense representation; as the Litigation Director for the NAACP Legal Defense & Education Fund, Inc. (LDF), America's premier legal organization fighting for racial justice; as a Supervising Assistant Federal Defender in the Capital Habeas Corpus Unit of the Philadelphia Community Defender Office; and as Staff Attorney for the Legal Aid Society's Criminal Defense Division in New York.

Swarns spent more than a decade at the LDF, where she served as LDF's litigation director and criminal justice project director. Throughout her career, Swarns has successfully represented several high-profile clients in consequential cases. She argued, and won, *Buck v. Davis* – a challenge to the introduction of explicitly racially biased evidence in a Texas death penalty case – in the United States Supreme Court. In a February 2017 decision, Chief Justice John Roberts, writing for a 6-2 majority, vacated Duane Buck's death sentence and denounced the “noxious strain of racial prejudice” that infected the case after an expert witness testified that Mr. Buck was more likely to commit criminal acts of violence in the future because he is Black. Swarns was the only Black woman to argue in that Supreme Court term and is one of the few Black women ever to have argued before the nation's highest court.

Prior to joining LDF, Swarns served as a supervising assistant federal defender and assistant federal defender at the Capital Habeas Unit of Philadelphia's Federal Community Defender Office. While there, Christina represented numerous individuals with death-sentences whose convictions and/or death-sentences were reversed, including Nicholas Yarris, the first man sentenced to death in Pennsylvania and later to be exonerated by DNA evidence. Swarns began her legal career as a staff attorney with the Legal Aid Society's Criminal Defense Division in New York.

### Henderson Hill

Henderson Hill joined the ACLU as Senior Counsel after decades-long service as a public defender, director of the NC Death Penalty Resource Center (and its non-profit successor, the Center for Death Penalty Litigation), a partner at the civil rights law firm, Ferguson Stein Chambers, and as director of the Federal Defenders of Western North Carolina. Most recently, Hill served as founding director of the 8th Amendment Project. Hill launched, and continues to serve as co-director of RedressNC, an initiative to unwind extreme sentences through collaboration with community stakeholders, most principally moderate-progressive district attorneys. Hill is also on the Board of Directors of the Sentencing Project.

Hill's community leadership activities include founding the Charlotte Coalition for Moratorium Now (CCMN), a grassroots organization that for ten years led a successful campaign for a city council moratorium resolution, and supported moratorium campaigns and criminal law reform efforts at the state legislature. Hill also founded the non-profit Neighborhood Advocacy Center, a law office that provided parental representation in abuse, neglect, and dependency cases in

Mecklenburg County. After five years of dramatically raising the level of practice in the family court, the staff and operations of NAC were absorbed into the local public defender's office.

### Judge Gregory Weeks

The Honorable Gregory A. Weeks served as a judge in the North Carolina court systems for 24 years and was an assistant Cumberland County public defender for 10 years. In 2012, in a series of landmark rulings, Judge Weeks issued the first and only rulings under North Carolina's Racial Justice Act, vacating the death sentences of four men after finding that prosecutors engaged in intentional and systemic race discrimination against African Americans in jury selection in capital cases in NC, at the county level and in their individual cases. He is also the recipient of the Frank Porter Graham Award for Lifetime Achievement in Civil Liberties.

Before serving as a judge in the Fourth Division of North Carolina, Judge Weeks worked in the private practice of law and served as an Assistant Cumberland County public defender.

Judge Weeks has served on the Board of Directors of The Sentencing Project, on the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Justice Center, and as the Chairman on the North Carolina Commission on Racial and Ethnic Disparities.

### Satana Deberry

Satana Deberry was elected Durham's District Attorney in 2018. A native of Hamlet, NC, she moved to Durham in 1991 to attend Duke Law School after graduating from Princeton University. She has practiced criminal defense law and served as Executive Director of the NC Housing Coalition. She has a professional background that has included legal work, finance, and nonprofit management – working with institutions like TROSA and Habitat for Humanity — all in the pursuit of dismantling the systems that restrict the lives of poor people, families, communities of color and other marginalized and underrepresented groups. Since taking office, she has led a program dismissing old traffic ticket fines and has made bail reform a priority. Cosponsored by the Sanford School of Public Policy, the DeWitt Wallace Center for Media and Democracy, and Polis: Center for Politics.

### Judge Karen-Eady Williams

Judge Karen Eady-Williams was appointed to the Superior Court bench for the 26<sup>th</sup> Judicial District of North Carolina in December 2017. She also ran to retain her for Superior Court judicial seat without opposition in 2018. She currently presides over both civil and criminal matters in the Fifth Division of Superior Court, which is comprised of 25 counties stretching from Mecklenburg to Cherokee. Prior to serving on the Superior Court bench, Judge Eady-Williams served on the District Court bench for the 26<sup>th</sup> Judicial District for eight years, where she presided over civil, criminal and family court matters. She was the Lead District Court Criminal Judge and the Lead Treatment Courts Judge for the Mecklenburg County Courts during her last two years in District Court. Judge Eady-Williams started her legal career as an Assistant Public Defender here in the 26<sup>th</sup> Judicial District's Public Defender's Office, where she defended individuals charged with both felonies and misdemeanors.

After four years as a criminal defense attorney, in 1996, Judge Eady-Williams accepted a position as an Assistant United States Attorney for the Western District of North Carolina. While there she was the Lead Health Care Fraud prosecutor. Her federal prosecutions focused on general criminal and white-collar crimes cases ranging from bank fraud to tax evasion to money laundering. She also successfully prosecuted the first Three Strikes case in the Western District of North Carolina, which was a non-drug case. And she was the Financial Litigation Unit supervisor for the Civil Division of the U.S. Attorney's Office. Further, as an Asst. U.S. Attorney, she served as the Co-Chair of Charlotte Weed and Seed. She received several awards as an Assistant U.S. Attorney.

Judge Eady-Williams left the U.S. Attorney's Office in 2003, after seven years, to join Wachovia Corporation as a Vice President and Assistant General Counsel in their Legal Division where she managed defensive litigation relating to consumer and commercial deposit accounts. She also provided legal advice for the Anti-Money Laundering Division and Internal Investigations. Further, she assisted with many compliance matters for the General Banking Group of the company. She worked for Wachovia for six and a half years.

Within her profession, Judge Eady-Williams is a former Vice President of the Mecklenburg County Bar (MCB), and she has served on various MCB committees. She was appointed by the NC State Bar President to serve two terms on the North Carolina State Bar Disciplinary Hearings Commission, where she presided over numerous ethics trials involving North Carolina lawyers as defendants who were at risk of being suspended or disbarred. She has also twice served on the Federal Local Rules Committee for the Western District of North Carolina. And, in 2012, she served on the Federal Merit Selection Panel for the re-appointment of Federal Magistrate Judge David Keesler. She is currently serving on the North Carolina Pattern Jury Instruction Committee.

Judge Eady-Williams is also active in the community. She has most recently served on the Boards of Directors for the Arts and Science Council and Legal Services of the Southern Piedmont. Judge Eady-Williams has also served on the Boards of Directors for the Festival in the Park, the Belmont Community Development Corporation and the Hornets Nest Girl Scouts Counsel. She is currently an active member of the Crown Jewels (NC) Chapter of the Links, Incorporated, where she serves as the chair of their Scholarship Committee, and Judge Eady-Williams is an active member of the Charlotte Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Judge Eady-Williams received her undergraduate degree from the College of William and Mary in 1989 and her law degree from Wake Forest University School of Law in 1992. She is a member of St. Paul Baptist Church in Charlotte, NC. And she is married to former Mecklenburg County Commissioner and local architect Darrel J. Williams, FAIA.

### Seema Saiffee

Seema Saiffee is an Academic Fellow at the Quattrone Center for the Fair Administration of Justice at the University of Pennsylvania Law School, where she researches and writes in criminal law and constitutional criminal procedure. Saiffee was previously a staff attorney at the Innocence Project where she represented indigent clients in post-conviction cases nationwide seeking access to DNA evidence and challenging their convictions based on federal constitutional violations and newly discovered evidence of innocence. Prior to the Innocence Project, Saiffee was a legal fellow at the ACLU-PA, where she challenged civil liberties abuses in cases involving

racial justice and national security, and a litigation associate at a New York law firm where she engaged in federal habeas litigation to challenge the indefinite detention of men imprisoned without charge in Guantánamo Bay, Cuba. Saiffee is a former law clerk to the Hon. Dan Aaron Polster, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio. She is a graduate of Fordham Law School and Cornell University.

## **5. Lawyers Taking Leadership**

### Professor Kenneth Townsend

Kenneth Townsend is the Director of Leadership and Character for the Professional Schools and Scholar-in-Residence at the Wake Forest School of Law. A recipient of the Truman Scholarship for Public Service and the Rhodes Scholarship, he earned a B.A. from Millsaps College, an M.Phil. from the University of Oxford, and a J.D. and M.A.R. from Yale University. Prior to joining Wake Forest, he worked at Millsaps College as Special Assistant to the President, Assistant Professor of Political Science, and Founding Executive Director of the Institute for Professional and Civic Engagement and, before Millsaps, as a Fellow in the University of Mississippi's Barksdale Honors College and Lott Leadership Institute. A licensed attorney and frequent commentator on public affairs, he has taught courses in ethics, political theory, public policy, and constitutional law at Millsaps College, University of Mississippi, and Yale University. He teaches "Professional Responsibility" and "Leadership and Character in the Professions" at the Wake Forest School of Law. His research focuses on the relationship between law and morality, the role of religion in a democracy, and the ethical obligations of professionals.

### Judge Carlton Reeves

Carlton W. Reeves is a judge on the United States District Court for the Southern District of Mississippi, appointed in 2010 by President Obama. Previously, Judge Reeves worked in private practice at his own firm, Pigott Reeves Johnson, in Jackson, Mississippi, and was Assistant U.S. Attorney and Chief of the Civil Division at the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Mississippi from 1995 to 2001. A graduate of Jackson State University and the University of Virginia Law School, Judge Reeves clerked for Justice Reuben Anderson of the Supreme Court of Mississippi before beginning his own legal career.

The second African American to serve as a federal judge in Mississippi, Judge Reeves is the author of a number of notable and groundbreaking decisions, including *Campaign for Southern Equality v. Bryant*, which struck down the state's same-sex marriage ban, and *United States v. Butler*, which featured the race-motivated murder of 48-year-old black man James Craig Anderson. In a speech last year at the University of Virginia, where he was awarded the Thomas Jefferson Foundation Medal in Law, Judge Reeves spoke out against present-day attacks on the federal judiciary and called for greater diversity on the federal bench.

### Justice Cheri Beasley

Cheri Beasley was the first African-American woman in the North Carolina Supreme Court's 200-year history to serve as Chief Justice. She served on the state's highest Court since 2012 and was named Chief Justice in March of 2019.

Justice Beasley also served four years as an Associate Judge on the North Carolina Court of Appeals and was a District Court Judge for a decade in the 12th Judicial District in Cumberland County. Before beginning her judicial career in 1999, Beasley was a public defender in Cumberland County.

Cheri Beasley's commitment to fair and accessible courts extends beyond the halls of justice. She has mentored countless students and judges, lectures at area law schools, and travels nationwide and abroad to promote the rule of law, the administration of justice, the importance of an independent judiciary, and fair judicial selection.

A graduate of The University of Tennessee College of Law and Douglass College of Rutgers University, Chief Justice Beasley earned a Master of Laws (L.L.M.) in Judicial Studies from Duke University School of Law. She has held several leadership roles in the American Bar Association and the North Carolina Bar Association and has received a number of awards for her leadership and public service.

### Derrick Johnson

Derrick Johnson serves as President and CEO of the NAACP, a title he has held since October of 2017. He formerly served as vice chairman of the NAACP National Board of Directors, as well as state president for the Mississippi State Conference NAACP. A longstanding member and leader of the NAACP, Mr. Johnson has helped guide the Association through a period of re-envisioning and reinvigoration.

Under his leadership, the NAACP has undertaken such efforts as the *We are Done Dying Campaign*, exposing the inequities embedded into the American healthcare system and the country at large, and the victorious 2020 Supreme Court lawsuit *NAACP vs. Trump*, which prevented the Trump administration from rescinding the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program for millions of young immigrants.

Born in Detroit, Mr. Johnson attended Tougaloo College in Jackson, MS. He then received his JD from the South Texas College of Law in Houston, TX. He has served as an annual guest lecturer at Harvard Law School, lending his expertise to Professor Lani Guinier's course on social movements, and as an adjunct professor at Tougaloo College.

Mr. Johnson is frequently featured on CNN, MSNBC, CBS, and ABC, among other outlets, advocating on behalf of the Black community and all those who are affected by systemic oppression and prejudice.