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## About the Authors

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## About the Authors

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### **NNENNAYA AMUCHIE**

Nnennaya Amuchie graduated from Santa Clara University School of Law with a joint JD/MBA degree. She received a public interest law certificate with a health law concentration. Nnennaya has a strong passion for social justice issues and has demonstrated her commitment throughout law school. Nnennaya served as the President of the BLSA, Community Relations Chair of the Health Law Society, and as the law school liaison for the Northern California Black Women Lawyers. Nnennaya also served as the first social justice editor of Santa Clara Law's newspaper, the Advocate, where she discussed race, social justice, community activism, and law school culture.

While in law school, Nnennaya interned at Santa Clara County DA's Office and Bay Area Legal Aid, working in family/domestic, Catholic Charities of San Jose in immigration, Santa Clara County Counsel in Health/Hospital & Impact Litigation, Stanford Hospital and Clinics, and IHRC researching violence against women in the Inter-American system. She was an Equal Justice America & Justice John Stevens Fellow at the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights in SF working on economic justice and racial justice issues. Lastly, Nnennaya curated a blog and YouTube channel discussing gender oppression as a first generation Black Nigerian immigrant feminist through essays, photos, and poetry. After law school, Nnennaya Amuchie will be the RJ Federal Fellow at Unite for Reproductive & Gender Equity (URGE) in Washington, D.C. Nnennaya hopes her article will push legal scholars, policymakers, and community activists to adopt a more intersectional approach for problem solving.

## **YIFAT BITTON**

Associate professor at the College of Management Law School, Israel. Yifat holds a Ph.D. from the Hebrew University, spent a year researching at Harvard Law School and is a Yale Law School alumnae. Her work reflects dual perspective on law. Her first perspective stems from her analytical work as an academic who is a torts feminist scholar. Her second perspective, a practical one, emanates from her position as the co-founder and chairperson of Tmura, The Israeli Antidiscrimination Legal Center. Using tort litigation to discrimination victims, the Center offers pro-bono representation. For the last decade, the center has been working to entrench the normative stance that tort law can and should serve as a means to fight discrimination.

## **ROBERT C. BORUCHOWITZ**

Robert C. Boruchowitz is Professor from Practice and Director of The Defender Initiative at Seattle University School of Law. Before joining the faculty in 2007, he was Director of The Defender Association in Seattle for 28 years. He founded the Racial Disparity Project at The Defender Association. He has appeared at every level of state and federal court. He was an expert witness in the Hurrell Herring case in New York State and in the Best v. Grant County case in Washington and recently in a motion to stop appointment of cases in New Orleans. He was co-principal investigator on the recently released report, "An Analysis of the Economic Costs of Seeking the Death Penalty in Washington State." He was lead researcher and co-author of "Minor Crimes, Massive Waste--The Terrible Toll of America's Broken Misdemeanor Courts." He is working on a Justice Department funded project with the Sixth Amendment Center to improve public defense in several states. He developed a Right to Counsel Clinic that won a writ of mandamus on right to counsel in Department of Corrections revocation hearings, a decision recently affirmed in the Court of Appeals. He has taught in the Youth Advocacy Clinic where he pursued due process

rights for children in truancy proceedings. He has taught criminal procedure and a seminar on Right to Counsel. He developed and taught a seminar on Law and the Holocaust and the Abuse of Executive Power. He wrote "Diverting and Reclassifying Misdemeanors Could Save \$1 Billion per Year: Reducing the Need For and Cost of Appointed Counsel," published by the American Constitution Society. As the founding president of Washington Defender Association, a member of the Washington State Bar's Council on Public Defense, and a former member of the Executive Committee of the American Council of Chief Defenders, he has been instrumental in developing defender standards in Washington and nationally. He was a Soros Senior Fellow working on access to counsel. He worked on a similar project on a grant from the Foundation to Promote Open Society, working in Kentucky, South Carolina, New Hampshire and Washington. He has received numerous awards including the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers Champion of Indigent Defense Award, the Washington Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers William O. Douglas Award, the Washington State Bar Association Professionalism Award, and the Washington Defender Association Gideon Award.

#### **PETER A. COLLINS**

Dr. Collins received his Ph.D. in criminal justice from Washington State University in 2011 with specializations in corrections, cost-benefit and evaluation research, and criminal justice organizations. His research interests include issues surrounding the death penalty, criminal rehabilitation, criminal law, the intersection of criminological theory and public policy analysis, and criminology within the context of popular culture. His research has been published in *The Journal of Criminal Justice*, *The Journal of Offender Rehabilitation*, *Criminal Justice Studies*, *Western Criminology Review*, *Police Quarterly*, *The Prison Journal*, *Criminal Justice Policy Review*, *The Journal of Crime and Justice*, *ACJS Today*, as well as several edited volumes. He has had four books published since becoming a part of the CJ faculty at SU during the fall of

2011, one focused on criminal justice management and organizations with *Routledge Press* (2013), an anthology entitled *Crime, Justice, and Politics in the City as seen through The Wire*, with *Carolina Academic Press* (2013), one focused on substance abuse treatment and cost-benefit analysis with *LFB Scholarly Publishing* (2014), followed by his most recent text focused on criminal justice statistics with *Oxford University Press* (2015).

### **NORMA GONZALEZ**

Norma González is the daughter of an immigrant father from Nayarit, Mexico and a migrant Tejana mother. Her parents grew up farmworking on opposite sides of the border. Their struggles along with her passion for advocacy fuel her social justice work. Prior to attending law school, she was an advocate for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking in Salem, Oregon. She worked with survivors in rural areas, formed a coalition among social service providers to support labor trafficking victims, ran a women's support group, and provided community education on the dynamics of abuse.

Currently, Norma is a part-time law student and works as the Deportation Defense Coordinator for Colectiva Legal del Pubelo, an immigrant rights activist organization based in Washington State. She works with people detained at the Northwest Detention Center and their families to provide advocacy and support through educational workshops and supports the work of the immigrant Latinx community to organize for immigration reform.

### **MEELAD HANNA**

Meelad Hanna is an attorney at Marr, Malone & Hanna Law Offices in Memphis, Tennessee. His firm is a general practice concentrated primarily in the areas of bankruptcy, estate planning, real estate, and divorce. This article marks his third legal publication by the age of twenty-seven. Meelad graduated law school with honors from the University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law in May, 2015. While in school, he was an

articles editor at the University of Memphis Law Review and was the research assistant for Professor Ralph C. Brashier for two years. Prior to law school, he graduated from the University of Tennessee in May, 2011 with degrees in Sociology and Political Science. Meelad is married to his lovely wife, Brooke, and they have a yellow Labrador Retriever puppy named Millie. Meelad would like to thank the editors at the Seattle Journal for Social Justice for working so diligently with him over the last few months in preparing this article.

#### **MATTHEW J. HICKMAN**

Matthew J. Hickman, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor in the Department of Criminal Justice at Seattle University. His general research interests include policing, quantitative research methods, and social science research on the forensic sciences. His research has been published in numerous peer-reviewed journals including *Criminology*, *Criminology & Public Policy*, *Journal of Quantitative Criminology*, *Sociological Methods and Research*, *Crime & Delinquency*, *Police Quarterly*, and *Policing*. Books include a recent introductory policing textbook, *Policing for the 21st Century: Realizing the Vision of Police in a Free Society* (Kendall/Hunt, 2016), and edited volumes *Forensic Science and the Administration of Justice* (Sage, 2014) and *Police Integrity and Ethics* (Wadsworth/Thomson, 2004).

#### **YOSHINORI H. T. HIMEL**

Yoshinori H. T. Himel received his A.B. in Mathematics from Harvard College; A.M. in Sociology from the University of Michigan; and J.D. from the University of California, Davis. He clerked with the Fourth Circuit's Senior US Circuit Judge Albert V. Bryan. He served as a Trial Attorney in the Civil Rights Division, US Department of Justice, and then, for 35 years, as an Assistant US Attorney, Civil Division, Eastern District of California, in Sacramento. Since 2013 he has taught Pretrial Skills at the UC Davis

School of Law. The US Department of Justice interned his Issei grandfather, a businessman in Seattle.

**SAMIR JUNEJO**

Samir Junejo is a recent graduate of Seattle University School of Law. He served as the president of the Middle Eastern and South Asian Law Student Association and Content Development Editor for the Seattle Journal for Social Justice. He received his Bachelors of Arts in Political Science from Washington State University. He was also a member of the Seattle University's Homeless Rights Advocacy Project where he researched homeless encampments. During law school, he interned for the Office of General Counsel at the Office of the Governor, the Sightline Institute, and the Seattle City Attorney's Office.

**MARK LARRAÑAGA**

Mark Larrañaga is a member of the Washington, Oregon, and California State Bar Association. Mark has practiced criminal defense for more than twenty years, with a focus on capital punishment since 1999. He was the director of Washington State's first Death Penalty Resource Center from 2001 to 2006, where he provided resources, consultation, and training to capital defense attorneys throughout Washington State. Since 2006, he has been a partner at Walsh & Larrañaga in Seattle, Washington.

He has been approved by the Washington State Supreme Court for appointment as lead counsel in death penalty trials, direct appeals, and post-conviction (personal restraint petition). Federal Courts have deemed him as "learned counsel" under 18 U.S.C §3005 for appointment in federal death penalty cases. He has been appointed in state and federal courts to capital trials, direct appeal and post- conviction cases in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Colorado, Nevada, and Alaska.

Mark has coordinated, participated, and presented at national and international seminars on various aspects of capital punishment. He has

studied and written extensively on the administration of Washington's death penalty statute: *Where Are We Heading? – Current Trends of Washington's Death Penalty* (Nov. 2004); *Washington's Death Penalty System: A Review of the Cost, Length, and Results of Capital Cases in Washington State* (2004).

In 2006, Mark was asked to be a member of the Washington State Bar Association's Death Penalty Subcommittee. The Subcommittee was tasked with studying Washington's death penalty and ultimately published its Final Report of the Death Penalty Subcommittee of the Committee on Public Defense (December 2006).

Mark also co-authored Seattle University's Report on the cost of Washington's death penalty, *An Analysis of the Economic Costs of Seeking the Death Penalty in Washington State* (2015).

He has been an adjunct professor at Seattle University School of Law since 2005.

#### **YESSENIA RENEE MEDRANO-VOSSLER**

Yessenia Medrano received her JD from Seattle University School of Law in May 2016, and her BA in Political Science from Seattle University in May 2011. She has always been passionate about advocating for immigrants' rights because of her Salvadoran-American identity and experience growing up in Tucson, Arizona, her father's story escaping El Salvador during its civil war, and her mother's work helping Central American refugees. While in law school, Yessenia worked as a legal intern at the American Civil Liberties Union in Tucson, Arizona, the Florence Immigrant and Refugee Rights Project in Florence, Arizona, and the Northwest Immigrant Rights Project in Seattle, Washington. She also served as the President of the Latinx Law Student Association, the Diversity Representative of the Student Bar Association, as a Staff Editor on the *Seattle Journal for Social Justice*, and as a core member of the Social Justice Coalition at Seattle University School of Law. She is a first-

generation college graduate and the first person in her family to attend a graduate institution. She hopes to continue supporting immigrants in detention, working towards ending all detention, and holding the Border Patrol and local law enforcement accountable to their communities.

Yessenia would like to thank the many inspiring, thoughtful, and supportive people who helped her write and edit this article, especially Becky Fish, James Lyall, Anna Roberts, Steven Bender, and the 2014–15 and 2015–16 *Seattle Journal for Social Justice* staff and editorial board. She dedicates this article to all those affected by and resisting border militarization. In solidarity!