

Faculty Biographies

Judge Lora Livingston is a 1982 graduate of the UCLA School of Law. She began her legal career as a Reginald Heber Smith Community Lawyer Fellow assigned to the Legal Aid Society of Central Texas in Austin, Texas. After completion of the two-year fellowship program, she continued to work in the area of poverty law until 1988 when she entered private practice with the law firm of Joel B. Bennett, P.C. In 1993, she and S. Gail Parr formed a partnership and opened the law firm of Livingston & Parr. She was engaged in a general civil litigation practice with an emphasis on family law. In January, 1995, she was sworn in as an Associate Judge for the District Courts of Travis County, Texas. After her successful election, Judge Livingston was sworn in as Judge of the 261st District Court in January, 1999. She is the first African-American woman to serve on a district court in Travis County, Texas. Judge Livingston currently serves as the Travis County Local Administrative Judge.

An active member of the Austin community, Judge Livingston has served on the boards of the Ann Richards School for Young Women Leaders, Capital Area Food Bank, Austin Symphony Orchestra, Austin Tenants Council, Central East Austin Community Organization, YMCA, Austin Area Urban League, and El Buen Samaritano. Judge Livingston is also a graduate of the 1999-2000 class of Leadership Austin.

Leslye Orloff is President of the National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project (NIWAP) and has a distinguished history using the power of the law to advance women's rights, equality, opportunity, and working to assure that all women reap the benefits of legal protections achieved. Prior to founding NIWAP, she founded and was solely responsible for Legal Momentum's Immigrant Women Program (IWP) for 12 years. NIWAP advocates for laws, policies and practices that enhance the legal rights of immigrant women and immigrant victims of violence against women – domestic violence, sexual assault and human trafficking. IWP focused on improved access to immigration benefits, the justice system, public benefits, social services and health care.

Leslye is a co-founder and co-chair of the former National Network to End Violence Against Immigrant Women and was the Washington, D.C. spokesperson for that organization. In that capacity she was involved in drafting the Protection for Immigrant Victims of Violence Against Women in the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 and again in 2000 and 2005, and in the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 and 2008, legal services access for battered immigrants in 1997 and welfare access for battered immigrants in 1996. She has written local and national training curricula, manuals, and story collections bringing immigrant women's

voices to national policy makers. She is a nationally respected trainer of attorneys, victim advocates, police, judges, women's programs, women executives and health professionals on leadership, public policy advocacy, domestic violence, cultural competency, family law, protection orders, the Violence Against Women's Act's immigration provisions, welfare rights of immigrant women crime victims, the nexus between violence against women and immigration law and the how each of us can become involved locally and/or nationally in making a real difference in the world.

During her 17-year litigation career prior to joining Legal Momentum, Leslye founded and directed the domestic violence program at Ayuda, a legal services agency that served the interrelated legal and social service needs of battered immigrant women and children. She has also published numerous social science journal and law review articles on women's experiences with domestic violence, sexual assault and immigration and immigrant victims' legal rights.

Leslye's work on behalf of immigrant women has received national recognition, including the 2007 Sheila Wellstone Award awarded to the National Network to End Violence Against Immigrant Women, the 2007 Annual Rosalynn B. Bell Award, presented to Leslye by the Women's Law Center of Maryland for her contributions to the field of family law, a Kellogg National Leadership Fellowship in 1994 and a Harvard Law School Wasserstein Public Interest Law Fellowship in 2002.

Leslye received her J.D. from the University of California at Los Angeles, and graduated magna cum laude with a B.A. from Brandeis University.

Amy Cucinella is a senior policy advisor on the Immigration Section at the Department of Homeland Security's Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties. She works on a number of humanitarian policy issues and programs, including human trafficking, UACs, family detention, VAWA and U visas and asylum processing. Amy has also done a considerable amount of work on Section 1367 confidentiality and penned the general Section 1367 Instruction and helped to organize a working group to draft the most recent Instruction on sharing Section 1367 information under the law enforcement exception. Amy has a law degree from the University of California, Berkeley (Boalt Hall) and has been with the Department of Homeland Security for eleven years, nearly nine of which have been with the DHS Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties working as a policy advisor on the Immigration Section. Amy started her career with the Department as a Presidential Management Fellow working with United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) on its asylum and refugee programs.

The Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL) integrates civil rights and civil liberties into the Department's activities by working with the components and Department leadership to promote respect for civil rights and civil liberties in policy creation and implementation. The

office is also responsible for communicating with individuals and communities whose civil rights and civil liberties may be affected by Department activities, informing them about policies and avenues of redress, and the Compliance section investigates and resolves civil rights and civil liberties complaints filed by the public regarding Department policies or activities, or actions taken by Department personnel. The Immigration Section at CRCL, among other duties, works with components to ensure that civil and human rights and civil liberties protections are incorporated into immigration-related programs, policies, procedures, and operations throughout the Department.

Danielle Scott Wiley is currently a Senior Policy Advisor within the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL), Compliance Branch. Within this role, she investigates Civil Rights violations committed by DHS components/agencies and recommends policy enhancements. In her previous role, Danielle served as the Chief of the Intergovernmental Affairs Branch, Public Engagement Division, U. S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). Danielle worked for USCIS (Legacy INS) for 15 years and has had the opportunity to work with a number of other USCIS program offices like the Verification Division, the Office of Transformation and Coordination, and the Refugee Affairs Division. Danielle holds a B.S. in psychology from Towson University and a M.S. in Integrated Homeland Security Management, also from Towson University.