

Samantha Barbas
University of Iowa College of Law
sbarbas@uiowa.edu

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

University of Iowa College of Law

Professor, Aliber Family Chair in Law, 2024-
Teaching: Torts, Legal History, Mass Media Law

University at Buffalo School of Law

Professor, 2016-2024
Director, Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy, 2018-2024
Associate Professor, 2011-2016

University of California, Berkeley

Visiting Assistant Professor, History, 2006

Chapman University

Assistant Professor, History, 2002-2005

Arizona State University

Lecturer, Interdisciplinary Studies, 2000-2001

EDUCATION

Stanford Law School, J.D., 2010

University of California, Berkeley, Ph.D., History, 2000

Williams College, B.A., *magna cum laude*, Political Science, 1994

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Hate Speech: The Legal and Cultural History of An American Dilemma (University of California Press, pub. date Sep. 15, 2026)

Actual Malice: Civil Rights and Freedom of the Press in New York Times v. Sullivan (University of California Press, 2023). Paperback ed. Aug. 2024. Translated into Korean.

Awards and Honors

National Endowment for the Humanities Public Scholar Award
One of the *New Yorker's* "Best Books of 2023"
Green Bag Exemplary Legal Writing honoree for 2023
Finalist, Order of the Coif Book Award
Constitution Day Lecture, Library of Congress, 2023
Aspen Ideas Festival 2025 Reading List

Reviews and mentions (selected)

Jeannie Suk Gersen, "The Dark Side of Defamation Law," *New Yorker*, May 11, 2023
 Jeffrey Toobin, "Keeping Speech Robust and Free," *New York Review of Books*, July 20, 2023
 "Inside Politics with John King," CNN, Feb. 20, 2023
 "Can the Media's Right to Pursue the Powerful Survive Trump's Second Term," *New York Times Magazine*, March 3, 2025
 "Newly Published: From Press Freedom to the History of Ignorance," *New York Times Book Review*, Feb. 22, 2023
 Chris Hammer, "The Case that Revolutionized Libel Law," *Christian Century*, Feb. 2024
 Stephen Rohde, "How Could He Possibly Lose?" *Los Angeles Rev. of Books*, Aug. 13, 2023
 Mark Pulliam, "Inventing Modern Libel Law," *Law & Liberty*, July 23, 2023
 Thomas Healy, "A Democracy Story," *Michigan Law Review*, April 2024
 "Actual Malice- A New Look at NYT v. Sullivan," *First Amendment News*, April 12, 2023
 Cary Federman, "Actual Malice," *Law and Politics Book Review*, January 2024
 Aimee Edmondson in *American Historical Review*, Sept. 2024
 Jerry Edwards in *Law and History Review*, Nov. 25, 2024

The Rise and Fall of Morris Ernst, Free Speech Renegade (University of Chicago Press, 2021)

Reviews (selected)

Brett Gary, "The Rise and Fall of Morris Ernst," *American Historical Review*, Sept. 2022
 Joseph M. Hassett, "The Rise and Fall of Morris Ernst," *James Joyce Quarterly*, August 2023
 Stephen Rohde, "Liberal Icon or Right-Wing Renegade?" *Los Angeles Rev. of Books*, Jan. 2022
 Mary Cronin, "The Rise and Fall of Morris Ernst," *Journal of American History*, Dec. 2022
 Donald Grier Stephenson, "The Judicial Bookshelf," *Journal of Supreme Court History*, 2022

Confidential Confidential: The Inside Story of Hollywood's Notorious Scandal Magazine (Chicago Review Press, 2018). Audiobook version, 2018.

Reviews (selected)

Tom Nolan, "All the Sleaze Fit to Print," *Wall Street Journal*, Oct. 25, 2018
Kirkus Reviews, Sept. 4, 2018
 Dave Pitt, *Confidential Confidential*, *Booklist*, Aug. 2018
 Nick Pinkerton, Review of *Confidential Confidential*, *Film Comment*, Sept. 2018
 Donna Marie Smith, *Confidential Confidential*, *Library Journal*, Sept. 1, 2018

Newsworthy: The Supreme Court Battle Over Privacy and Press Freedom (Stanford University Press, 2017)

Award

Independent Publisher Book Award for U.S. History, Silver Medal

Reviews (selected)

Scott McLemee, "Newsworthy?" *Inside Higher Ed*, Aug. 29, 2017
 Rachel Bridgewater, *Library Journal*, March 1, 2017
 Tim Gleason, "Newsworthy," *Journal of American History*, March 2019
 Stephen Rohde, "Press Versus Privacy," *Los Angeles Review of Books*, Jan. 15, 2018
 Patrick File, "Newsworthy," *Journalism & Mass Comm. Quarterly*, March 22, 2018

Ronald Collins, "Summer Reading for Court Watchers," *SCOTUS Blog*, June 30, 2017

Laws of Image: Privacy and Publicity in America (Stanford University Press, 2015)

Reviews (selected)

Tim Gleason, "Laws of Image," *Journal of American History*, Sept. 2016

Lyrisa Lidsky, "You as a Brand: A Legal History," *Jotwell*, July 20, 2016

Patrick C. File, "Laws of Image," *Journalism & Mass Comm. Quarterly*, June 2016

The First Lady of Hollywood: A Biography of Louella Parsons (Univ. of California Press, 2005)

Reviews (selected)

Publishers' Weekly (Starred Review)

Library Journal Reviews

"Carl Rollyson on his Favorite Hollywood Biographies," *Wall Street Journal*, April 12, 2013

Cathy Seipp, *Wall Street Journal*, Oct. 18, 2005

New York Times Book Review, Nov. 20, 2005

Judith Moore, *San Diego Reader*, Dec. 8, 2005

"The Rumor Moll: The Life of Louella Parsons, Hollywood's First Official Blabbermouth,"

Los Angeles Magazine, Nov. 2005

"The First Lady of Hollywood," *Variety*, Sept. 27, 2005

Movie Crazy: Fans, Stars and the Cult of Celebrity (Palgrave Macmillan, 2001)

Books in Progress

Into the Vortex: Public Figures, Libel Law, and the Making of the Free Press (University of California Press, under contract)

Free Speech Ascendant: A History of Freedom of Expression in America

Articles and Book Chapters

Originalist Arguments in Free Speech History, *Texas A&M Law Review* (symposium, Jan. 2026)

How American Civil Rights Groups Defeated Hate Speech Laws, *Journal of Free Speech Law*, June 2025

--Discussed and quoted in "Who Has Free Speech," *Foreign Affairs*, Nov. 2025.

The Enduring Significance of *New York Times v. Sullivan*, in the *Future of Press Freedom* (Sonja West and RonNell Andersen Jones, eds., Cambridge University Press, 2025)

How the Civil Rights Movement Rewrote Freedom of the Press, *Humanities: The Magazine of the National Endowment for the Humanities* (Fall 2024)

New York Times v. Sullivan: A Civil Rights Story, *Texas A&M Law Review* 12 (2024): 1-41

The Story of New York Times v. Sullivan, *ConLaw NOW* (2024) (published remarks from Constitution Day Lecture, Library of Congress, 2023)

The Story of Beauharnais v. Illinois, *Journal of Free Speech Law* (2023)
--Mentioned in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, Aug. 25, 2025

New York Times v. Sullivan: Perspectives From History, *George Mason Law Review Forum* 30 (2023)
--Cited by the Eleventh Circuit in *Dershowitz v. CNN* (2025)

The Rise and Fall of Group Libel: The Forgotten Campaign for Hate Speech Laws, *Loyola University Law Review* 54 (2023): 297-340.
--Discussed in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, Aug. 25, 2025

The Press and Libel Before New York Times v. Sullivan, *Columbia Journal of Law and the Arts* 44 (2021): 511-544.

The Esquire Case: A Lost Free Speech Landmark, *William and Mary Bill of Rights Journal* 27 (2019): 287-360

The Known Citizen: A History of Privacy in Modern America by Sarah Igo (book review), *Journal of Social History* 53 (2019): 580-82.

Privacy and the Right to One's Image: A Cultural and Legal History, in *Injury and Injustice: The Cultural Politics of Harm and Redress* (Cambridge Univ. Press, 2018)

The Most Loved, Most Hated Magazine in America: The Rise and Demise of *Confidential* Magazine, *William and Mary Bill of Rights Journal* 25 (2016): 121-193

When Privacy Almost Won: Time, Inc. v. Hill (1967), *University of Pennsylvania Journal of Constitutional Law* 18 (2015): 1-86

The Social Origins of the Personality Torts, *Rutgers Law Review* 67 (2015): 393-440

Gossip Law, in *When Private Talk Goes Public: Gossip in United States History*, Kathleen Feeley and Jennifer Frost, eds. (Palgrave Macmillan, 2014), 123-137

From Privacy to Publicity: The Tort of Appropriation in the Age of Mass Consumption, *Buffalo Law Review* 61 (2013): 1119-1190

The Laws of Image, *New England Law Review* 47 (2012): 23-92

The Sidis Case and the Origins of Modern Privacy Law, *Columbia Journal of Law and the Arts* 36 (2012): 21-70

Saving Privacy From History, *DePaul Law Review* 61 (2012): 973-1048

How the Movies Became Speech, *Rutgers Law Review* 64 (2012): 665-746

Creating the Public Forum, *Akron Law Review* 44 (2011): 809-866

The Death of the Public Disclosure Tort: A Historical Perspective, *Yale Journal of Law and the Humanities* 22 (2010): 171-216

Dorothy Kenyon and the Making of Modern Legal Feminism, *Stanford Journal of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties* 5 (2009): 423-446.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Featured lectures and presentations

“New York Times v. Sullivan,” Amicus Curiae Lecture, Marshall University, Oct. 28, 2025

[“The State of the Fourth Estate,”](#) Aspen Ideas Festival, June 30, 2025

“New York Times v. Sullivan,” Kirwan Lecture, University of Nebraska, Omaha, May 20, 2024

“New York Times v. Sullivan at 60,” University of Illinois College of Law, April 8, 2024 (keynote lecture)

“Civil Rights and Freedom of the Press in New York Times v. Sullivan,” New York Historical Society, March 13, 2024, with Randall Kennedy.

[“Actual Malice: Civil Rights and Freedom of the Press in New York Times v. Sullivan,”](#) Constitution Day Lecture, Law Library of Congress, Sept. 14, 2023

“Civil Rights and Freedom of the Press in New York Times v. Sullivan,” Kormendy Lecture, Ohio Northern University, March 23, 2022

“Privacy and Freedom of the Press,” Allegheny College, March 2018 (keynote lecture)

Other lectures, talks, and presentations

“Hate Speech Laws in America,” Constitutional Law Workshop, University of Chicago, March 30, 2026

“Was Gorsuch Wrong?” Vanderbilt University/Future of Free Speech, Feb. 28, 2026 (panelist)

“Power, Opinion, and Containment: New Looks at Race and the Law in the 20th Century,” American Society for Legal History, Nov. 14, 2025 (panelist)

“New York Times v. Sullivan,” Global Free Speech Summit, Vanderbilt University, Oct. 4, 2025, with Rod Smolla (panelist)

[“Protecting Free Speech: From the Campus to the Newsroom,”](#) WGBH Media Summit 2025, Boston, May 1, 2025 (panelist)

“The History of Hate Speech Laws in America,” Public Law Workshop, University of Chicago, April 15, 2025

“The Emergence of First Amendment Originalism,” symposium on “History and Memory in Constitutional Interpretation,” Texas A&M Law School, Feb. 28, 2025 (panelist)

“New York Times v. Sullivan,” symposium on “Journalism at a Crossroads,” Villanova Law School, Feb. 21, 2025 (panelist)

“Actual Malice,” Flaschner Judicial Institute, December 4, 2023 (invited lecture, judicial education program)

“Hate Speech Laws in America,” Constitutional Law Colloquium, Loyola Law School, Nov. 2023 (presenter)

“The War on *New York Times v. Sullivan*,” Beverly Hills Bar Association, with Eugene Volokh and Rod Smolla, Oct. 21, 2023

“Freedom of the Press in *New York Times v. Sullivan*,” Global Seminar on the Freedom to Speak, Columbia University, Sept. 21, 2023 (panelist)

AALS New Books in Constitutional Law, July 20, 2023 (presenter)

“The Newly Told Story of the Life and Legacy of *New York Times v. Sullivan*,” First Amendment Salon, June 12, 2023 (book talk)

Freedom of Expression Scholars Conference, Yale Law School, April 28, 2023 (commentator)

“When The News Broke,” Washington History Seminar, Feb. 13, 2023 (commentator)

“Personal Identity in the Modern World,” celebration of Professor Lawrence Friedman, Stanford Law School, Jan. 13, 2023 (panelist)

Freedom of Expression Scholars Conference, Yale Law School, May 1, 2021 (commentator)

Freedom of Expression Scholars Conference, Yale Law School, October 24, 2020 (commentator)

“How the Movies Became Speech,” Film Theory and Visual Culture Seminar, Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities, Vanderbilt University, January 25, 2019 (invited presenter)

“Morris Ernst and the Freeing of *Ulysses*,” UCLA Faculty Colloquium, August 24, 2018

“Free Expression & The Scope of the First Amendment: A Conversation with Floyd Abrams,” Robert H. Jackson Center, Jamestown, NY, October 11, 2017 (introductory remarks)

[“Histories of Privacy in Modern America,”](#) Organization of American Historians Conference, New Orleans, April 7, 2017 (panelist). Broadcast on CSPAN, May 2017.

Freedom of Expression Scholars Conference, Yale Law School, May 1, 2016 (commentator)

“Time v. Hill and the Transformation of American Privacy Law,” American Society for Legal History Conference, Toronto, October 30, 2016 (panelist)

“Laws of Image: Privacy and Publicity in America,” Boston College Legal History Roundtable, October 15, 2015 (invited presenter)

“Privacy and the Right to One’s Image: A Cultural and Legal History,” Privacy Law Scholars Conference, Berkeley, June 4, 2015 (panelist)

“The Laws of Image: Privacy, Publicity, and Visions of Self in American Law and History,” Law and Society Association Conference, Seattle, May 29, 2015 (panelist)

“Libel, Privacy, and the Right to One’s Image,” Injury as Cultural Practice Symposium, Loyola Law School, Los Angeles, September 5, 2014 (panelist)

“The Laws of Image,” Injury as Cultural Practice Symposium, McGeorge School of Law, March 7, 2014 (panelist)

“The Construction of Intellectual Property Law and Privacy Law,” American Society for Legal History Conference, Miami, November 9, 2013 (commentator)

“Law, Image, and Concepts of Self,” West Coast Law and Society Retreat, Seattle, Sept. 20, 2013 (panelist)

“Privacy in an Image Society,” American Society for Legal History Conference, St. Louis, November 10, 2012 (panelist)

“The Origins of Media Gossip and the Cult of Celebrity,” Stanford Law School, October 28, 2008 (speaker)

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Director, Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy, University at Buffalo (2018-2024)

Directed independent institute at the University at Buffalo Law School dedicated to law and social policy research. Responsible for overseeing financial and academic aspects of the institute, including administering research grants and postdoctoral fellowships, programming events, supervising staff, and maintaining an international presence for the center through strategic publicity and outreach.

Elected Member, American Law Institute (December 2025)

Distinguished Lecturer, Organization of American Historians (appointed Sept. 2023)

Adviser to the American Law Institute for its *Restatement (Third) of Torts: Defamation and Privacy*

Editorial Board, *Journal of American Constitutional History*

Courtesy appointment, Department of History, University of Iowa

Manuscript Review

Harvard University Press; Oxford University Press; University of Chicago Press; Stanford University Press; Duke University Press; University of California Press; University of Kansas Press; Cornell University Press; Supreme Court Historical Society; Cambridge University Press; Bloomsbury; *Yale Law Review*; *Law and Society Review*; *Journal of American Constitutional History*; *Journal of American History*; *American Journal of Legal History*; *American Historical Review*

SELECTED MEDIA MENTIONS AND APPEARANCES

Adam Liptak, “A Press Freedom Case in Peril, From a Lawyer Who Helped Write It,” *New York Times*, Feb 19, 2026

Trump’s lawsuit against the BBC, BBC Radio 5 Live, Dec. 16, 2025

Trump’s threatened lawsuit against the BBC, BBC Radio 5 Live, Nov. 15, 2025

“Free Speech Is Not for Everyone,” NPR Code Switch Podcast, Nov. 4, 2025

“Is there Censorship in America?,” featured guest, “Oppenheimer Presenta” show, *CNN en Espanol*, Sept. 28, 2025

“Trump vs. Jimmy Kimmel: Is Free Speech on the Ropes,” *Miami Herald*, Sept. 27, 2025

“History Explains Why the U.S. Doesn’t Ban Hate Speech,” TIME, Sept. 29, 2025 (essay)

“Civil Rights, Hate Speech, and the First Amendment,” So To Speak podcast, Aug. 26, 2025

“Trump’s Crusade Against the Press Escalates,” *News Hour* (Netherlands), July 27, 2025

“Hulk Hogan’s Sex Tape Lawsuit Had a Lasting Effect on Cases Involving Celebrity Privacy,” Associated Press, July 24, 2025

Trump’s lawsuit against the Wall Street Journal, BBC News, July 18, 2025

“News Leaders Talk Attacks on Press Freedom,” *Aspen Daily News*, July 3, 2025

“On the New York Times Beating Sarah Palin Again,” *Columbia Journalism Review*, April 23, 2025

“Palin Loses Libel Retrial Against New York Times,” *New York Times*, April 22, 2025

“Media Freedom in a Changing World,” Center for International Media Law & Policy Studies, Indiana University, April 2025

“Sarah Palin Loses Suit & Harvard Sues,” Bloomberg Law Podcast, April 2025

“Powerful Forces Want to Dismantle Libel Protections,” *Poynter*, March 11, 2025

“What if the Press Couldn’t Tell the Truth,” Civics 101 Podcast, New Hampshire Public Radio, March 2025

“The Right is Hell-Bent on Weaponizing Libel Law,” *The New Republic*, March 4, 2025

“Trump is on a Winning Streak Against the Press,” *Variety*, Feb. 6, 2025

“With Drake Lawsuit Looming, Can Kendrick Lamar Play ‘Not Like Us’ at the Super Bowl?,” *Billboard*, Feb. 2, 2025

“Iowa Lawmaker Continues to Push Legislation to Limit Lawsuits Targeting Free Speech,” Iowa Public Radio, Jan. 22, 2025

“Legal Scholar Samantha Barbas on Press Freedom Under Trump,” *First Amendment Watch*, Jan. 15, 2025

“Trump Steps Up His Attacks on a Weakened Press,” *El Pais*, Dec. 28, 2024

“Trump’s Use of Consumer Fraud Law to Sue Des Moines Register Unlikely to Succeed,” *Des Moines Register/ USA Today*, Dec. 24, 2024

“Trump is Waging a Legal War Against Press Freedom,” *The Hill*, Dec. 24, 2024

“How Might Trump’s Second Term Affect the Free Press,” *The Week*, Dec. 23, 2024

“Law professor analyzes Trump lawsuit over 2024 Iowa Poll,” We Are Iowa (ABC), Dec. 20, 2024

“Trump’s Media Lawsuits Could Do Serious Damage to America’s Free Press,” *Vox*, Dec. 18, 2024

“Trump Sues the Des Moines Register, Escalating Threats Against the Media,” *New York Times*, Dec. 17, 2024

“Trump Sues Iowa Pollster,” Cedar Rapids *Gazette*, Dec. 17, 2024

“Libel Warfare: ABC’s Payout to Donald Trump Sends a Chill Across U.S. Media,” *Financial Times*, Dec. 17, 2024

“Conversation with University of Iowa Professor Samantha Barbas,” KCRG, Dec. 17, 2024

“Donald Trump files lawsuit against pollster behind 2024 Iowa poll,” KCCI, Dec. 17, 2024

“Notable Reads of 2024,” *Boston Business Journal*, Dec. 16, 2024

“Whither Sullivan?” *Law and Liberty*, Nov. 20, 2024

“Legal Expert Explains Threats to Landmark Decision,” Iowa Public Radio, Nov. 21, 2024

“Will the Supreme Court Revisit New York Times v. Sullivan,” *National Law Journal*, May 22, 2023

“Legal Scholars Weigh in on the Lasting Significance of Dominion v. Fox,” *First Amendment Watch*, April 20, 2023

“As Fox News case heads to trial, St. Louis site faces its own defamation suit,” *Missouri Independent*, April 17, 2023

“Targeting the Press,” *The Week*, March 26, 2023

“Actual Malice,” ABA Journal’s Modern Law Library Podcast, March 2023

“Actual Malice,” Letters and Politics Show, KPFA radio, March 14, 2023

“What Happens if NYT v. Sullivan Falls,” interview for *Poynter*, March 14, 2023, reprinted in *Seattle Times*, March 19, 2023

“Actual Malice,” Leonard Lopate Show, WBAI radio, Feb. 24, 2023

“Free Press Advocates Alarmed by Buffalo Judge’s Ruling,” *Buffalo News*, Oct. 31, 2022

“Suing Carlsen and Others for 1 Billion. But Can He Win?” *Aftenposten* (Norway), Oct. 21, 2022

“Palin’s New York Times Spat Tees Up Wider Press Freedom Face-Off,” *Bloomberg Law*, Feb. 14, 2022

“Sarah Palin Casts Herself as Goliath Against New York Times,” *Huffington Post*, Feb. 10, 2022

“The Rise and Fall of Morris Ernst,” Talking Legal History Podcast, November 2021

“The Rise and Fall of Morris Ernst,” New Books Network Podcast, August 2021

“The Rise and Fall of Morris Ernst, Free Speech Renegade,” So to Speak Podcast, July 2021

“A Major Supreme Court First Amendment Decision Could Be At Risk,” *Washington Post*, July 13, 2021 (op-ed)

“Forgotten Hollywood: Confidential Magazine,” *Golden Globes*, Feb 11, 2021

“Lenny Dykstra’s Loss Portends the Future of Defamation Cases,” *Bloomberg Law*, Jun. 4, 2020

“Morris Ernst, Bennett Cerf, and Ulysses,” *New York Review of Books*, Oct. 24, 2019

“Catch and Kill: Can Tabloids Hide Behind the First Amendment,” *ABA Journal*, April 1, 2019

“If You Love Old Hollywood Gossip,” *Vanity Fair*, August 1, 2018

“It’s a Tense Environment: Media Braced for Further Hostility Fueled by Trump,” *The Guardian*, June 29, 2017

“Richard Simmons Says Tabloids Defamed Him by Saying He Had a Sex Change,” *New York Times*, May 8, 2017

“Richard Nixon at the Supreme Court,” Organization of American Historians Process blog, March 14, 2017

“Rolling Stone’s Rape Story Highlights a Hardening Attitude Towards the Media,” *The Guardian*, Nov. 5, 2016

“Why There’s Never Been a Better Time to Sue a Journalist,” *Washington Post*, Nov. 5, 2016

“For Rolling Stone, Worst Nightmare Continues,” Associated Press, Nov. 5, 2016

“A Trump Libel Suit Against the Times? Don’t Count on It,” *Washington Post*, Oct. 13, 2016

“Could the Hulk Hogan Case Change Journalism?” History News Network, April 9, 2016

“Laws of Image,” Talking Legal History Podcast, August 2016

“Gawker Files for Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Protection,” *Washington Post*, June 10, 2016

“Gawker Files Bankruptcy After Hogan Lawsuit,” *USA Today*, June 10, 2016

“Billionaire Says He Helped Finance Hulk Hogan Lawsuit,” *Wall Street Journal*, May 26, 2016

“Hulk Hogan’s \$140.1 Million KO in Courtroom Could Have Chilling Effect on the Media,” *Washington Post*, March 21, 2016

“Could Hulk Hogan’s \$115m Win Against Gawker Destroy the Gossip Site Forever,” *The Guardian*, March 19, 2016

“Next in Hulk Hogan Sex Tape Suit: Punitive Damages, Appeals,” Associated Press, March 2016

“Gawker to pay \$115 million in Hulk Hogan Case,” *Financial Times*, March 18, 2016

“Hulk Hogan Awarded \$115 Million in Libel Suit Against Gawker,” *New York Times*, March 2016

“Jury Awards Hulk Hogan \$115 Million in Gawker Sex Tape Suit,” Associated Press, March 2016

CLERKSHIP

Law Clerk to Judge Richard Clifton, United States Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit, 2010-11

AWARDS

Arts and Humanities Initiative Award, University of Iowa, 2026

Finalist, Order of the Coif Book Award, 2024

Public Scholar Award, National Endowment for the Humanities, 2020

Harry Ransom Research Fellowship, University of Texas, 2019

American Philosophical Society Franklin Research Grant, 2019

Independent Publisher Book Award for U.S. History, Silver Medal, 2017

University at Buffalo Exceptional Scholar Award, 2016

Samuel I. Golieb Fellowship in Legal History, NYU, 2011 (declined)

Steven Block Civil Liberties Essay Prize, Stanford Law School, 2009

Chapman University Faculty Award for Excellence in Scholarly Activity, 2005

Updated June 9, 2026.