

RYAN T. SAKODA

University of Iowa College of Law
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of Iowa College of Law

8/2021 – Present

Associate Professor of Law

Courses: Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure: Investigation, Empirical Analysis of Crime and Criminal Justice Policy, Quantitative Reasoning for Lawyers

University of Chicago Law School

7/2019 – 6/2021

Harry A. Bigelow Teaching Fellow & Lecturer in Law

Courses: Legal Research and Writing, Lawyering, Empirical Analysis of Crime and Criminal Justice Policy

EDUCATION

Harvard University

Ph.D. in Economics, 2017

Dissertation: “Essays on Law, Economics, and Punishment”

Committee: Lawrence Katz, Claudia Goldin, and Roland Fryer

Yale Law School

J.D., 2012

Yale Law Journal, Editor

Prison Legal Services/Complex Federal Litigation Clinic

The London School of Economics

M.Sc. in Economics, 2007

Fulbright Scholar

Graduated with Distinction

University of California, Berkeley

B.A. in Economics and B.S. in Business, 2003

Highest Honors, Phi Beta Kappa, Claudius & James White Finance Award, Golden Key

PUBLICATIONS

Theorizing Legal Vulnerability to Enhance Rural Access to Justice, 69 S.D. L. REV. 3, (Symposium Issue on Rural Lawyers 2024) (with Brian Farrell & Daria Fisher Page), <https://ssrn.com/abstract=4884565>.

The Architecture of Discretion: Implications of the Structure of Sanctions for Racial Disparities, Severity, and Net Widening, 117 NW. U. L. REV. 1213 (2023), <https://scholarlycommons.law.northwestern.edu/nulr/vol117/iss5/1/>.

Solitary Confinement and the U.S. Prison Boom, 32 CRIM. JUST. POL’Y REV. 66. (2021) (with Jessica T. Simes), <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/0887403419895315>.

WORKING PAPERS

Abolish or Reform? An Analysis of Post-Release Supervision, <https://ssrn.com/abstract=4670939>

How Does the Elimination of State Aid to For-Profit Colleges Affect Enrollment? Evidence from California's Reforms (with Oded Gurantz and Shayak Sarkar),
https://research.upjohn.org/up_workingpapers/356/.

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Committee for Public Counsel Services, Boston, MA

Trial Attorney, Public Defender Division

9/2016 – 6/2019

Represented indigent criminal defendants facing felony and misdemeanor charges from arrest through final disposition. Counseled clients, made bail arguments, investigated cases, argued motions, negotiated pleas, litigated at trial, collaborated with staff social service advocates and investigators.

Liman Public Interest Fellow, Public Defender Division

9/2015 – 8/2017

Represented indigent clients in court proceedings and administrative hearings related to housing matters arising from an arrest, charge, or criminal conviction. Provided legal advice and training sessions to public defenders with clients who faced housing issues related to current or past criminal cases.

Prison Legal Services/Complex Federal Litigation Clinic, New Haven, CT

Student Attorney

2/2009 - 8/2009

Handled the files of several clients who had complaints against the Connecticut Department of Corrections or the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

NAACP Legal Defense Fund, Washington, D.C.

Intern

Summer 2008

OTHER TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Harvard University, Economics Department (Teaching Fellow)

Microeconomic Theory, Economics of Crime and Criminal Justice

OTHER ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, Professors Claudia Goldin and Lawrence Katz

Research Assistant, Professor John Donohue

Referee for *American Law and Economics Review*, *Criminal Justice Policy Review*, *Justice Quarterly*, *International Review of Law & Economics*, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*

BAR ADMISSION

Massachusetts State Bar

6/2015 – Present (currently inactive)

TALKS & PRESENTATIONS

Empirical Criminal Law Roundtable, “Solitary Confinement and Discretion,” Duke University School of Law, 12/2024

Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, “Abolish or Reform? An Analysis of Post-Release Supervision,” Emory University School of Law, 11/2024

International Access to Justice Forum, “A Legal Vulnerability Index to Guide Access to Justice Interventions,” Toronto, Canada (with Brian Farrell and Daria Fisher Page), 10/2024

MacArthur Justice Center National Parole Transformation Project convening, “Abolish or Reform? An Analysis of Post-Release Supervision,” 9/2024

National Association of Sentencing Commissions Annual Conference, “The Architecture of Discretion and Effectiveness of Community Supervision,” 8/2024

CrimFest Conference (Cardozo School of Law), “Solitary Confinement and Discretion,” 7/2024

Decarceration Law Professor Works-in-Progress Workshop, “Abolish or Reform? An Analysis of Post-Release Supervision,” 6/2024

Law & Society Association Annual Meeting, “The Impact of Federal Defenders on Criminal Case Outcomes,” 6/2024

Law & Society Association Annual Meeting, “Everyday Legality in Rural Contexts: A Legal Vulnerability Index to Guide Access to Justice Interventions,” (with Brian Farrell and Daria Fisher Page) 6/2024

Probable Causation Podcast, “Abolish or Reform? An Analysis of Post-Release Supervision,” 6/2024 (<https://www.probablecausation.com/podcasts/episode-106-ryan-sakoda>)

The Virtual Crime Economics Seminar, “Abolish or Reform? An Analysis of Post-Release Supervision,” 5/2024

American Law and Economics Annual Meeting, “Abolish or Reform? An Analysis of Post-Release Supervision,” 5/2024

University of Missouri School of Law Faculty Workshop, “Abolish or Reform? An Analysis of Post-Release Supervision,” 4/2024

Law & Rurality Workshop, “Theorizing Legal Vulnerability to Enhance Rural Access to Justice,” (with Brian Farrell and Daria Fisher Page) 11/2023

CrimFest Conference (Brooklyn Law School), “The Impact of Federal Defender Offices on Criminal Case Outcomes,” 7/2023

University of Iowa Sociology and Criminology Departmental Colloquium, “Solitary Confinement and Discretion,” 4/2023

Global Meeting on Law & Society, “Administrative Discretion and Disparities in the Use of Solitary Confinement,” 7/2022

Consumer Law Scholars Conference, “Can the Elimination of Aid Toward For-Profit Colleges Shift Student Enrollment? Evidence from California’s Reforms,” 3/2022

Quinnipiac-Yale Dispute Resolution Workshop, “Probation to Prison: Race and the Structure of Sanctions in Probation Supervision,” 4/2021

Larry Ribstein Law & Economics Workshop, George Mason University Law School, “Probation to Prison: Race and the Structure of Sanctions in Probation Supervision,” 2/2021

University of Chicago Crime Lab, “Solitary Confinement and the U.S. Prison Boom,” 5/2020

Junior Scholars Colloquium, University of Chicago Law School, “Translating Policy: The Disconnect Between Legislation and Application in Criminal Justice Reform,” 4/2020

“Privilege and Punishment: How Race and Class Matter in Criminal Court” Book Workshop for Matthew Clair, Invited Panelist, 4/2019

The Arthur Liman Center for Public Interest Law, Yale Law School, “Policing, Poverty, & Communities of Color” Invited Panelist, 11/2017

“Housing for All? Crime and Mental Illness” Invited Panelist, Harvard Law School, 4/2017

Kansas Sentencing Commission Meeting, 8/2014

National Bureau of Economic Research Summer Institute, Economics of Crime Working Group, 7/2014

American Law and Economics Association Annual Meeting, 5/2014

Harvard Law School Law and Economics Seminar, 2/2014

AWARDS & HONORS

University of Iowa Provost's Investment in Strategic Priorities Grant, 2024
Arnold Ventures Grant for *Providing Holistic Legal Defense in Communities: An RCT of the Lawndale Christian Legal Center Model*, co-Investigator (with the University of Chicago Inclusive Economy Lab) in the amount of \$771,450 over 4.5 years, 2023
Becker Friedman Institute Data Acquisition Grant, 2020
Coase-Sandor Institute for Law and Economics Data Acquisition Grant, 2019
Liman Public Interest Fellowship, 2015-2017
Washington Center for Equitable Growth, Young Scholar Grant (with Shayak Sarkar), 2014-2015
Terence M. Considine Fellow in Law and Economics, 2013-2014
Warburg Research Funds, 2013
Inequality & Criminal Justice Doctoral Fellow, Multidisciplinary Program in Inequality & Social Policy, Harvard University, awarded 2010
F. Robert & Patricia N. Naka Fellowship, 2009
NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program Honorable Mention, 2009
Fulbright Scholarship, US-UK Fulbright Commission, 2006-2007