

MANEKA SINHA

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of Maryland, Francis King Carey School of Law, Baltimore, Maryland
Professor of Law, July 2024 – present

Associate Professor of Law, July 2022 – June 2024

Assistant Professor of Law, July 2019 – June 2022

Director, Criminal Defense Clinic, July 2019 – present

Founding Director, Forensic Defense Clinic, July 2024 – present

Courses: Advanced Evidence: Forensic Science; Comparative Surveillance, Technology, and Forensic Evidence in Criminal Cases; Criminal Defense Clinic; Forensic Defense Clinic

EDUCATION

New York University School of Law, New York, NY

J.D., May 2009

Honors: Vanderbilt Medal

Dean's Scholarship

Activities: Developments Editor, Senior Editorial Board, *Journal of International Law and Politics*
Teacher's Assistant, Constitutional Law, Professor Derrick Bell (Spring 2009)

University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, CA

B.S. in Mechanical Engineering, *with Honors*, Minor in Business Administration, May 2004

Honors: Chancellor's Scholar

PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia (PDS), Washington, DC

Special Counsel to the Director (Forensic Science), June 2015 – June 2019

Supervising Attorney, July 2013 – June 2015

Staff Attorney, October 2009 – July 2013

- Served as senior advisor to PDS's director on forensic science issues.
- Directed PDS's forensic evidence litigation program and headed PDS's Forensic Practice Group (FPG), which conducts internal and external training on forensic science.
- Trained and supervised agency lawyers in all aspects of criminal defense practice.
- Cross-examined or direct examined experts in psychology, medicine, and forensic science.
- Litigated numerous issues related to complex forensic science and mental health evidence.
- Represented indigent clients charged with serious felonies from arrest through sentencing.

The International Legal Foundation (ILF)

International Fellow, Kathmandu, Nepal, December 2017

- Developed supervision and training plan for eight-office defender agency.

Brian Roberts International Fellow, West Bank, Palestine, March 2015 – June 2015

- Trained lawyers on fundamental criminal defense skills.

PUBLICATIONS

LAW REVIEW ARTICLES

Challenging Automated Suspicion (in progress)

- Co-recipient, Joel R. Reidenberg Scholarship Award, Privacy Law Scholars Conference, 2024
- Selected for the Privacy Law Scholars Conference, 2024

The Automated Fourth Amendment, 73 EMORY L.J. 589 (2024)

The Dangers of Automated Gunshot Detection, 5 U. PA. J. L. & INNOVATION 63 (2023) (invited symposium contribution)

Radically Reimagining Forensic Evidence, 73 ALA. L REV. 879 (2022)

- Cited in *Ingersoll v. State*, 262 Md. App. 60 (2024) (Friedman, J. concurring)
- Featured in TCR Staff, *What's Wrong with Forensic Science? Everything, Says Paper*, [THE CRIME REPORT](#) (Aug. 11, 2021)

Junk Science at Sentencing, 89 GEO. WASH. L. REV. 52 (2021)

- Cited in:
 - *Ingersoll v. State*, 262 Md. App. 60 (2024) (Friedman, J. concurring)
 - DAVID L. FAIGMAN ET AL., MODERN SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE: THE LAW AND SCIENCE OF EXPERT TESTIMONY (2023 – 2024)
 - WAYNE R. LAFAVE, JEROLD H. ISRAEL, NANCY J. KING & ORIN S. KERR, CRIMINAL PROCEDURE (4th ed. 2022)
 - NORA DEMLEITNER ET AL., SENTENCING LAW AND POLICY: CASES, STATUTES, AND GUIDELINES (2022)
- Featured on *Excited Utterance*, [Episode 107](#) (Sept. 6, 2021)

SHORTER WORKS

Signal Detection Theory Fails to Account for Real-World Consequences of Inconclusive Decisions, 21 L., PROBABILITY & RISK 131 (2023), with Richard E. Gutierrez

Book Review, *When Innocence Is Not Enough: Hidden Evidence and the Failed Promise of the Brady Rule*, by Thomas L. Dybdahl, *The New Press* (2023), [CHAMPION](#), December 2022, at 61

Perspective: Clamping Down on Faulty Forensics, [MD. CAREY L. MAG.](#) (Fall 2021)

The Entrenched Carceralism of Forensics, [INQUEST](#) (July 26, 2021)

AMICUS CURIAE BRIEF

Brief of 42 Scholars of Forensic Science as *Amici Curiae* in Support of Defendant-Appellee, *United States v. Gissantaner*, No. 19-2305, 2020 WL 3316839 (6th Cir., June 8, 2020), with M. Katherine Philpott

POPULAR MEDIA & MISCELLANEOUS

The Trump DOJ Snuck in One Last Effort to Push Junk Science in Court, [SLATE](#) (Feb. 4, 2021)

More Prosecutions Won't Make Baltimore Safer, [BALT. SUN](#) (Nov. 5, 2019)

I Saw Firsthand How West Bank Palestinians Are Treated Like Prisoners. Who Will Fix This?, [USA TODAY](#) (May 25, 2018)

The Effects of In Vivo Damage on UHMWPE Glenoid Components. Trans. 7th World Biomaterials Congress, Sydney, Australia, May 17–21, 2004, p. 1866, with Pruitt, L.A.; Sinha, M; Zeltser, D; Gunther, S.B. Published in the proceedings of the 7th World Biomaterials Congress.

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

Faculty Advisor, Asian Pacific-American Law Student Association (APALSA) (2020 – present)
Member, Appointments Committee (2024 – 2025)
Member, Mentorship Committee (2024 – 2025)
Member, Admissions Committee (2019 – 2024)
Member, Dean Search Committee (2021 – 2022)

SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

Challenging Automated Suspicion (in progress)

GW Center for Law & Technology (Oct. 2024)
Bellow Scholars' Workshop (Oct. 2024)
AAPI/MENA Women in the Legal Academy Workshop (Oct. 2024)
Tsai Center Summit on Science, Technology, and the Law (June 2024)
Decarceration Law Professor Works-in-Progress Workshop (June 2024)
Privacy Law Scholars Conference (May 2024)
AALS Conference on Clinical Legal Education (May 2024)
Criminal Justice Ethics Schmooze (Apr. 2024)
AAPI/MENA Women in the Legal Academy Workshop (Oct. 2023)
Clinical Law Review Writers' Workshop (Oct. 2023)
Bellow Scholars' Workshop (Oct. 2023)
CrimFest! (July 2023)
Mid-Atlantic Clinical Writers' Summer Writing Workshop (June 2023)

The Automated Fourth Amendment

AAPI/MENA Women in the Legal Academy Workshop (Oct. 2023)
Richmond Law Junior Faculty Forum (May 2023)
AALS Conference on Clinical Legal Education (Apr. 2023)
Faculty Workshop, Temple Law School (Apr. 2023)
Mid-Atlantic Regional Clinical Conference (Jan. 2023)
Mid-Atlantic Clinical Writers' Workshop (Dec. 2022)
ABA-AALS Criminal Justice Section, Academic Roundtables (Dec. 2022)
Decarceration Law Professors: Virtual Works-in-Progress Workshop (June 2022)

The Dangers of Automated Gunshot Detection

Fifth Annual University of Pennsylvania Law School *Journal of Law & Innovation* Symposium, *Innovation and Criminal Justice* (Jan. 2022)

Radically Reimagining Forensic Evidence

Clinical Law Review Writers' Workshop (Oct. 2021)
Virtual Criminal Law Workshop (June 2021)
Junior Faculty Workshop, Maryland Carey School of Law (Apr. 2021)
ABA-AALS Criminal Justice Section, Academic Roundtables (Nov. 2020)
Clinical Law Review Writers' Workshop (Oct. 2020)

Junk Science at Sentencing

Faculty Workshop, University of Pittsburgh Law School, Pittsburgh, PA (Feb. 2020)
Junior Faculty Workshop, Maryland Carey School of Law (Jan. 2020)

ABA-AALS Criminal Justice Section, Academic Roundtables (Nov. 2019)
Clinical Law Review Writers' Workshop (Sept. 2019)

OTHER ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS AND TRAINING EXPERIENCE

Challenging Automated Suspicion, Artificial Justice: AI, Tech, and Criminal Defense, National Association of Criminal Defense Attorneys (NACDL) and Georgetown Center on Privacy and Technology Conference, Washington, DC, Oct. 7, 2024

Litigation Strategies Using the Fourth Amendment, Eleventh Annual National Forensic College, New York, NY, with Celeste Addyman, June 14, 2024

Navigating the Legal Academy: The Path to Promotion, Tenure, and Beyond, Clinicians of Color Workshop, invited panelist, Association of American Law Schools (AALS) Conference on Clinical Legal Education, St. Louis, MO, May 3, 2024

Privilege, Self-Care, and Criminal Clinics, AALS Conference on Clinical Legal Education, St. Louis, MO, with others, May 3, 2024

Litigating Against Algorithms, Hidden Technology, and the Machine Witness, New York State Defender Association Forensic Webinar, with Christopher Lau, Mar. 11, 2024

Privilege, Self-Care, and Criminal Clinics, Second Annual Mid-Atlantic Regional Clinical Conference, Baltimore, MD, with others, Feb. 24, 2024

Reform Efforts and Implementation, invited panelist, Connecticut Public Interest Law Journal Symposium: Evidence Through a Critical Lens, Hartford, CT, Jan. 26, 2024

An Abolitionist Perspective on Daubert, panelist, AALS Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, Jan. 5, 2024 (selected from call for presentations for program, "Daubert at 30")

The Trump Indictments, moderator, Maryland Carey Law Anchor Event, Baltimore, MD, Oct. 2, 2023

Critical Evidence Concerns, Southeastern Association of Law Schools Annual Meeting, Boca Raton, FL, with others, July 29, 2023

Overview of Cognitive Bias in Forensic Decision-Making, Tenth Annual National Forensic College, New York, NY, with others, June 11, 2023

Bellow Scholars Program Report on Projects, AALS Conference on Clinical Legal Education, San Francisco, CA, Apr. 30, 2023

Structural Change and Individual Representation: Teaching Students to Thrive Within Systems They Seek to Dismantle, panelist, AALS Conference on Clinical Legal Education, San Francisco, CA, Apr. 29, 2023

Justice Denied: Unreliable Evidence and Accountability, invited panelist, Institute for Contemporary Art and Virginia Public Media, Richmond, VA, Apr. 19, 2023

Decarceration Reforms and Legal Representation in Federal Release Proceedings, moderator, Maryland Carey Law Clinical Law Program and Journal of Race, Religion, Gender, and Class Symposium, Decarceration: The Role of Law School Clinics, Baltimore, MD, Mar. 31, 2023

Trial Themes and Cross-Examination, DNA Bootcamp, Los Angeles, CA, Mar. 19, 2023

Introduction to DNA, Georgia Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers Forensics Seminar, Atlanta, GA, Mar. 10, 2023

Supporting Criminal Defense Clinic Students in Seeking to Both Provide High-Quality Individual Representation and to Radically Transform the Carceral Justice System, First Annual Mid-Atlantic Regional Clinical Conference, Washington, DC, with others, Feb. 4, 2023

Butterfly in COVID: Structural Racism and Baltimore's Pretrial Legal System, invited panelist, Maryland Law Review Article Release Event, Baltimore, MD, Jan. 18, 2023

Faulty Forensics, competitively selected faculty speaker, University of Maryland, Baltimore Faculty Convocation, Baltimore, MD, Sept. 8, 2022

Firearms Litigation Lessons from the Real World, moderator, Ninth Annual National Forensic College, New York, NY, June 12, 2022

Racism and Forensics, Ninth Annual National Forensic College, New York, NY, with others, June 12, 2022

Course Design, invited speaker, AALS Workshop for New Law Teachers, Washington, DC, with Zina Makar, June 3, 2022

Leveraging the History of Racism in Written and Oral Advocacy, AALS Conference on Clinical Legal Education, virtual conference, May 10, 2022

Junk Science and the American Criminal Justice System, panelist, Center for Criminal Justice Reform, University of Baltimore Law School, Baltimore, MD, Apr. 20, 2022

Radically Reimagining Forensic Evidence, invited keynote speaker, Questioning Forensics, The Legal Aid Society of New York, virtual conference, Mar. 30, 2022

A Case Example – United States v. Tibbs: Working with an Expert to Challenge Firearms Evidence in Your Case, invited speaker, Eighth Annual Whiskey in the Courtroom: Evolving Trends in Forensic Science, Duke Law School, Durham, NC, with Nicholas Scurich, Mar. 4, 2022

702 Challenges Based on Unsupported Scientific Methods, invited speaker, Eighth Annual Whiskey in the Courtroom: Evolving Trends in Forensic Science, Duke Law School, Durham, NC, Mar. 4, 2022

Immigration, Race, and Criminal Law: Immigrant Rights in an Era of Mass Incarceration, moderator, Maryland Journal of International Law Symposium: Race, Sovereignty, and Immigrant Rights, virtual conference, Feb. 4, 2022

Advanced Issues in DNA Analysis, invited speaker, Forensic Justice Institute, State Bar of Wisconsin, virtual conference, Jan. 20, 2022

Teaching Abolition Across Systems and Institutions, invited panelist, AALS 2022 Annual Meeting, virtual conference, Jan. 9, 2022

Policing and Social Justice, University of Maryland School of Medicine – Practice of Medicine, University of Maryland School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD, with Michael Pinard, Dec. 13, 2021

The AFTE Theory Exposed – Subjective, Circular, and Without Standards?, Eighth Annual National Forensic College, virtual conference, with Molly Ryan, July 15, 2021

Because I Say I am: Expert Testimony in the Courtroom, invited presenter, Judicial College of Maryland, virtual presentation, with Hon. Robert Taylor and Hon. Andre Davis, May 11, 2021

Autopsy of a Crime Lab: Exposing the Flaws in Forensics, invited panelist, Quattrone Center for the Fair Administration of Justice, University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School, virtual panel, Apr. 14, 2021

- Reprinted in the *Wrongful Conviction Law Review* as Brandon L. Garrett et al., *Autopsy of a Crime Lab: Exposing the Flaws in Forensics* Brandon L. Garrett with Edward K. Cheng, Erin Murphy, Dean Jennifer Mnookin, Paul Heaton, Itiel Dror, Maneka Sinha, 2 *WRONGFUL CONVICTION* L. REV. 121 (2021)

Pattern Evidence: Bitemarks, Fingerprints, Firearms, National Association for Public Defense, We the Defenders: Rise. Resist. Represent., virtual conference, with Mark Loudon-Brown, Mar. 19, 2021

Intersection of South Asian and Black Lives: A Historical & Contemporary Perspective, invited panelist, South Asian Bar Association of Washington, D.C., virtual presentation, Feb. 23, 2021

Criminalization as a Control Method: The Evolution of a Racialized System of Criminal Law Enforcement, invited speaker, Big 10 Law School Speaker Series: Perspectives on Race, Law, and Equality, virtual speaker series, Nov. 10, 2020

DNA 101: Basic Principles of Forensic DNA Analysis, Intensive Science & Surveillance School, Brooklyn Defender Services, virtual training, with Kate Philpott, Oct. 19, 2020

The Legal Lens of Social Justice: Breonna Taylor and Beyond, invited panelist, Virtual Face to Face with Dr. Bruce Jarrell, virtual panel, Oct. 1, 2020

Access to Justice in a Time of Uncertainty, panelist, Maryland Law Faculty Webinar Series, virtual panel, Aug. 12, 2020

Firearms and Toolmarks Litigation Strategy Roundtable, Seventh Annual National Forensic College, virtual conference, July 28, 2020

Defending Reports from Common Government Critiques, invited speaker, Seventh Annual National Forensic College, virtual conference, July 9, 2020

Firearms and Toolmarks Examination 101: Litigation Basics, invited speaker, Deep Dive Defense, 2019 Georgia Public Defender Council Conference, Savannah, GA, July 23, 2019

Probabilistic Genotyping and Other Forensic Science Disciplines: What It Is and How to Challenge It, invited speaker, Fortieth Annual NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund, Inc. Capital Punishment Training Conference, Tarrytown, New York, with Mark Loudon-Brown, July 14, 2019

Understanding a STRmix case file, Fifteenth Annual Public Defender Service Forensic Science Conference, Washington, D.C., with Kate Philpott, July 13, 2019

Is the Government Searching My Mobile Phone? The Collection of Cell-Site Location Information and other Mobile Phone Data in a Post-Carpenter World, invited panelist, South Asian Bar Association of Washington, D.C., Washington, D.C., Feb. 13, 2019

Litigating an As-Applied Challenge to Pattern Evidence, Fifth Annual National Forensic College, New York, NY, with Patricia Richman, June 6, 2018

Fingerprint Evidence 101: Basic Principles of Fingerprint Analysis, Deborah T. Creek Criminal Practice Institute, Washington, DC, with Kate Philpott, Mar. 29, 2018

DNA 101: Basic Principles of Forensic DNA Analysis, Deborah T. Creek Criminal Practice Institute, Washington, DC, July 11, 2017

Cross-Examining Pattern Matching Experts, Fourth Annual National Forensic College, New York, NY, June 7, 2017

Forensic DNA Issue Spotting, invited speaker, 2017 DNA Bootcamp, Orlando, FL, Feb. 24, 2017

What to do When You Get a DNA Case, invited speaker, Deborah T. Creek Criminal Practice Institute, Washington, DC, Feb. 16, 2017

Defense Perspectives on Experts in Criminal Cases, invited panelist, Evaluating Expert Witnesses: The New Daubert Standard in D.C. Superior Court, Washington, DC, Jan. 10, 2017

DNA 101: Basic Principles of Forensic DNA Analysis, Deborah T. Creek Criminal Practice Institute, Washington, DC, Oct. 11, 2016

Introduction to DNA, Third Annual National Forensic College, New York, NY, June 8, 2016

DNA Consumption Litigation, invited presenter, Eleventh Annual Public Defender Service Forensic Science Conference, Washington, DC, with Kate Philpott, June 21, 2014

Litigating DNA Threshold and Consumption Issues, invited presenter, Forensic DNA for Trial Attorneys, Law Office of the Cook County Public Defender, Chicago, IL, with Julie Burrill, May 30, 2014

MEDIA APPEARANCES & INTERVIEWS

TELEVISION AND STREAMING

Ted Oberg, *Maryland Supreme Court Ruling Places Limits on Ballistics Testimony*, [NEWS4 WASHINGTON](#) (July 5, 2023)

[CSI on Trial](#) (Biscuit Productions 2022) (multiple episodes)

RADIO AND PODCASTS

CSI On Trial, [IHEARTPODCASTS](#) (Spring 2023) (multiple episodes)

Something of This Magnitude, Admissible: Shreds of Evidence, [VA. PUB. MEDIA](#) (Apr. 25, 2023)

This Isn't 'CSI': Not All Forensic Evidence Is Bulletproof, [UMB PULSE](#) (Nov. 4, 2022)

Top News from WTOP, [WTOP NEWS](#) (Oct. 11, 2022)

Jay Learns that Forensic Science Isn't Very Scientific, The Untold Story: Criminal Injustice, [LEMONADA MEDIA](#) (Feb. 2022)

PRINT AND ONLINE NEWS MEDIA

Rachel Konieczny, *Maryland Carey Law Launches First-in-the-Nation Clinic on 'Always Changing' Forensic Defense*, [DAILY RECORD](#) (Sept. 23, 2024)

Brian Witte, *Maryland's Highest Court Limits Use of Ballistics Evidence at Trials*, [AP NEWS](#) (June 21, 2023)

Alex Mann, *Maryland Supreme Court Imposes Limits on Ballistics Evidence Used to Link Guns to Crimes*, [BALT. SUN](#) (June 21, 2023)

Alex Mann, *Under the Microscope: Maryland High Court Considers Limiting Ballistics Evidence Used to Link Guns to Shootings*, [BALT. SUN](#) (Dec. 2, 2022)

Meredith Cohn, *'Touch DNA' Instrumental in Syed's Exoneration*, [WASH. POST](#) (Oct. 20, 2022)

Alex Mann & Lee O. Sanderlin, *Adnan Syed Was Exonerated in 'Serial' Killing, But Questions Remain for Hae Min Lee's Family*, [BALT. SUN](#) (Oct. 14, 2022)

Omari Daniels & Emily Davies, *Adnan Syed is Free. Will Maryland Prosecutors Attempt to Retry Him?*, [WASH. POST](#). (Sept. 23, 2022)

Alex Mann, *New DNA Testing Requested in 'Serial' Case*, [WASH. POST](#) (Mar. 13, 2022)

Ron Cassie, *Keith Davis Jr.'s Defense Alleges Vindictive Prosecution; Files Motion to Dismiss*, [BALT. MAG.](#) (Mar. 10, 2022)

Greg Moran, *Trouble in the Crime Lab: Questions Arise Amid 'Mean Girls,' Atmosphere*, [SAN DIEGO TRIB.](#) (Oct. 17, 2021)

Jordan Smith, *Advocates Challenge Mysterious Justice Department Statement That Undercuts Forensic Science Reform*, [THE INTERCEPT](#) (Aug. 8, 2021)

TCR Staff, *When Forensic Evidence Convicts the Innocent*, [THE CRIME REP.](#) (May 3, 2021)

Crystal Hill, *Lawyers for Accused Capitol Rioters Outline a Defense: The President Made Them Do It*, [YAHOO! NEWS](#) (Jan. 22, 2021)

Kevin Penton, *True Police Reform Lies In Rooting Out Bad Laws, Experts Say*, [LAW360](#) (Oct. 4, 2020)

PRO BONO REPRESENTATION

State of Maryland v. Keith Davis, Jr., case nos.: 116090001; 121159010, spring – summer 2022

- Assisted in briefing of novel Motion to Dismiss for Vindictive Prosecution. Argued motion on behalf of Mr. Davis before the Honorable John S. Nugent in Baltimore City Circuit Court.
- Argument resulted in finding a presumption of vindictiveness and granting discovery on the issue of vindictiveness, a result believed to be unprecedented in Maryland.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND APPOINTMENTS

Law Enforcement Policies & Practices Workgroup, Maryland Equitable Justice Collaborative Member, 2023 – present

Steering Committee, Perlmutter Center for Legal Justice and NACDL National Forensic College
Member, 2021 – present

Center for Integrity in Forensic Science
Member, Board of Directors, 2023 – present
Member, Advisory Board, 2021 – 2023

Legal Resources Committee, Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC), National Institute of Standards and Technology, U.S. Department of Commerce
Appointed Member, 2020 – present

Firearms and Toolmark Subcommittee, Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC), National Institute of Standards and Technology, U.S. Department of Commerce
Appointed Member, 2020 – present

Association of American Law Schools Section on Criminal Procedure
Member, Executive Committee, 2022 – 2023

Legal Subcommittee, 2022 Firearms and Toolmark Policy and Practice Forum, National Institute of Justice and Forensic Technology Center of Excellence
Member, Steering Committee, 2021 – 2022

AWARDS & DISTINCTIONS

Bellow Scholar (2023 – 2024), recognized by Association of American Law Schools as a clinical professor engaged in empirical research that seeks to increase access to justice

South Asian Bar Association of D.C. Public Service Trailblazer Award (2021)

BAR ADMISSIONS

District of Maryland
Maryland
Washington, D.C.