

MICHAL BUCHHANDLER–RAPHAEL (she/her/hers)
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW
WIDENER UNIVERSITY COMMONWEALTH LAW SCHOOL

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Michigan State University College of Law

Visiting Professor of Law

July 2026-December 2026

Widener Commonwealth Law School

Professor of Law

Effective July 2026

Tenured Associate Professor of Law

July 2024-June 2026

Associate Professor of Law

July 2022-June 2024

Assistant Professor of Law

July 2020-June 2022

Courses: Evidence, Family Law, Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure: Investigations

Washington and Lee School of Law

Visiting Assistant Professor of Law

January 2012-May 2020

Courses: Criminal Law, Family Law, The Criminal Regulation of Vice, First Amendment: Free
Speech, Legal Writing

EDUCATION

University of Virginia School of Law

Doctor of Judicial Science

May 2010

Scholarship: McClure Human Rights Scholarship (merit-based).

Doctoral Dissertation: *Criminalizing Sexual Abuses of Power, Authority, Trust, Dominance and Influence*.

Committee Members: Chair: Anne M. Coughlin, Kim Forde-Mazrui, George Rutherglen.

Master of Laws (LL.M)

May 2007

Hebrew University, Faculty of Law, Jerusalem Israel

Master of Laws (LL.M)

2000

Bachelor of Arts (B.A) Cum Laude

1995

JUDICIAL CLERKSHIP

HON. YEHUDIT TZUR, ISRAEL DISTRICT COURT FOR THE JERUSALEM DISTRICT

Law Clerk

1995-1996

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Primary: Family Law, Criminal Law & Procedure, Evidence, Domestic Violence, Children and the Law. Scholarship focuses on the intersection between Criminal law and Family Law, gender-based violence, particularly intimate partner violence, family violence, and sexual violence

Secondary: Mental Health Law, Public Health Law, Sexual Harassment, Gender and Sexuality, First Amendment: Free Speech Clause, The Criminal Regulation of Vice (Victimless Crimes)

PUBLICATIONS

LAW REVIEW ARTICLES

- [Excusing Abused Parents](#), 87 OHIO ST. L. J. (forthcoming 2027)
- [Compassionate Charge Reduction](#), 59 UC DAVIS L. REV. (forthcoming May 2026)

- [Legal Moralism in Disguise in Child Custody Cases](#), 59 **FAMILY LAW QUARTERLY** 53 (2025-2026)
- [Police Minimalism in Domestic Violence](#), 57 **ARIZONA ST. L. J.** 97 (2025)
- [Survival Homicide](#), 44 **CARDOZO L. REV.** 1673 (2023)
 - Cited and linked in a New York Times piece: Rachel Louise Snyder, Who Gets to Kill in Self-Defense? September 4, 2024
<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2024/09/04/opinion/women-kill-self-defense.html>
 - Invited guest speaker at “Homicide and Gender-Based Violence” seminar at Stanford Law School
 - Invited guest speaker at Race, Gender, and Crime Seminar at Fordham Law School
- [Overmedicalization of Domestic Violence in the Noncarceral State](#), 94 **TEMPLE L. REV.** 589 (2022)
- [Underprosecution Too](#), 56 **U. OF RICHMOND L. REV.** 409 (2022)
 - Interview with Chloe Nordquist, Experts Explain What Can be Learned From Ghislaine Maxwell Trial, Scirpps National Media
<https://www.thedenverchannel.com/news/national/experts-explain-what-can-be-learned-from-ghislaine-maxwell-trial>
- [Compassionate Homicide](#), 98 **WASH. U. L. REV.** 189 (2020)
 - Cited in Kadish, Schulhofer, Barkow, **CRIMINAL LAW AND ITS PROCESSES**, Cases and Materials, p. 486 (2022)
 - Cited in Joshua Dressler, Treatise, **UNDERSTANDING CRIMINAL LAW**, 9th ed. p. 517
- [Loss of Self-Control, Dual-Process Theories and Provocation](#), 88 **FORDHAM L. REV.** 1815 (2020).

- Cited in *Alcindor v. State*, Court of Special Appeals of Maryland (July 28, 2020), 2020 Md. App. LEXIS 750
- Extensively excerpted in Kevin McMunigal and Daniel Medwood, *Criminal Law casebook*, p. 375-379 (2021, 2nd edition)
- Cited in Kadish, Schulhofer, Barkow, *CRIMINAL LAW AND ITS PROCESSES, Cases and Materials*, p. 486 (2022)
- Cited in Joshua Dressler, *Treatise, UNDERSTANDING CRIMINAL LAW*, 9th ed. p. 516

- [Fear-Based Provocation](#), 67 *AMERICAN U. L. REV.* 1719 (2018)
 - Cited in *Alcindor v. State*, Court of Special Appeals of Maryland (July 28, 2020), 2020 Md. App. LEXIS 750
 - Cited in Wayne R. LaFave, *Substantive Criminal Law, State of Mind*, § 15.2 (a) (October 2025)
 - Cited in Kadish, Schulhofer, Barkow, *CRIMINAL LAW AND ITS PROCESSES, Cases and Materials*, p. 485 (2022)
 - Cited in Joshua Dressler, *Treatise, UNDERSTANDING CRIMINAL LAW*, 9th ed. p. 517

- [The Conundrum of Voluntary Intoxication and Sex](#), 82 *BROOKLYN L. REV.* 1031 (2017).
 - Cited in *People v. Hosei*, 2023 WL 8902870 (Supreme Court of the Territory of Guam).
 - Cited in *State v. Khalil*, Court of Appeals of Minnesota (July 27, 2020), 2020 Minn. App. LEXIS 214
 - Cited in Wayne R. LaFave, *Treatise Substantive Criminal Law*, § 17.3(d) Coercion (October 2025)
 - Cited in Joshua Dressler and Stephen Garvey, *Cases and Materials on Criminal Law*. P. 478 (8th Edition)
 - Cited in Kadish, Schulhofer, Barkow, *CRIMINAL LAW AND ITS PROCESSES, Cases and Materials*, p. 427 (2022)
 - Cited in Joshua Dressler, *Treatise, UNDERSTANDING CRIMINAL LAW*, 9th ed. p. 578

- Cited in Model Penal Code - Sex. Assault & Related Offenses Section 213.3 TD No 4 (2020)
- Live interview on Television in NewsNation WGN America on 3/27, 2021 on the Minnesota Supreme Court decision in Khalil v. State, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mip16HahzBE>
- Cited in Christina Morales, Court Overturns Sex Crime Conviction Because Victim Was ‘Voluntarily Intoxicated,’ New York Times, March 30, 2021, <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/03/31/us/minnesota-supreme-court-rape-ruling.html>
- Cited in Lauren Giella, Blurred Lines Consent Laws Leave Many Sexual Assault Victims Unprotected, Newsweek 3/31/2021 <https://www.newsweek.com/blurred-lines-consent-laws-leave-many-sexual-assault-victims-unprotected-1580175>
- Cited in Marisa Iati, A Minnesota Man Can’t Be Charged With Felony Rape Because the Woman Chose to Drink Beforehand, Court Rules, Washington Post’s Post Justice section on 3/26/2021 <https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/2021/03/26/minnesota-rape-alcohol/>
- Cited in Sarah Elbeshbishi, USA TODAY, Majority of states’ laws treat sexual assault perpetrators differently if victims drank, <https://news.yahoo.com/majority-states-laws-treat-sexual-100026060.html>
- Cited in Caroline Cummings, New Minnesota Law is Significant Victory For Survivors of Sexual Assaults While Intoxicated, CBS Minnesota September 2021, <https://minnesota.cbslocal.com/2021/09/14/new-minnesota-law-is-significant-victory-for-survivors-of-sexual-assaults-while-intoxicated/#.YUJD3q8DRGc>
- [Overcriminalizing Speech](#), 36 **CARDOZO L. REV.** 1667 (2015)
 - Cited in Kadish, Schulhofer and Barkow, Criminal Law and Its Processes: Cases and Materials p. 633 (2022)

- [Drugs, Dignity and Danger: Human Dignity as a Constitutional Constraint to Limit Overcriminalization](#), 80 **TENNESSEE L. REV.** 291 (2013)
 - Interview with Jenna Wise, Can Pennsylvanians buy weed in New Jersey and smoke it at home? Legal expert weighs in PENNLIVE, November 6, 2020
<https://www.pennlive.com/crime/2020/11/can-pennsylvanians-buy-weed-in-new-jersey-and-smoke-it-at-home-legal-expert-weighs-in.html>
- [What's Terrorism Got to Do with It? The Perils of Prosecutorial Misuse of Terrorism Offenses](#), 39 **FLA. ST. L. REV.** 807 (2012)
- [The Failure of Consent: Re-Conceptualizing Rape as Sexual Abuse of Power](#), 18 **MICH. J. GENDER & L.** 147 (2011)
 - Cited in *State v. Haltom*, 366 Ore. 791 (2020), Supreme Court of Oregon, August 28, 2020
 - Cited in Kadish, Schulhofer and Barkow, *Criminal Law and Its Processes: Cases and Materials* p. 406 (11th ed. 2022)
 - Cited in Joshua Dressler, *Treatise, UNDERSTANDING CRIMINAL LAW*, 9th ed. p. 563
 - Cited in Wayne R. LaFave, *Substantive Criminal Law*, § 17.3(d) Coercion (3d. ed. 2018)
- [Criminalizing Coerced Submission in the Workplace and in the Academy](#), 19 **COLUM. J. GENDER & L.** 409 (2010)
 - Cited in Kadish, Schulhofer and Barkow, *Criminal Law and Its Processes: Cases and Materials* p. 406 (11th 2022)
- [Sexual Abuse of Power](#), 21 **U. FLA. J. L. & PUB. POL'Y** 77 (2010)
 - Cited in Wayne R. LaFave, *Substantive Criminal Law*, § 17.3(d) Coercion (October 2025)

BOOK REVIEWS

- Review article Sexual citizens: Sex, Power, and Assault on Campus. By Jennifer S. Hirsch and Shamus Khan. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2020. 422 pp, *Law & Society Review*, Volume 55, Issue 2: pp. 360-363 (June 2021)
- Review Essay: The Scope and Limits of the Criminal Regulation of Sexuality, review of Stuart A. Green. *Criminalizing Sex: A Unified Liberal Theory*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2020, in *Criminal Justice Ethics*. Volume 40, Issue 2 (2021)

SHORTER WORKS

- Mapping Alternative First Responders to Domestic Violence (*Invited Contribution to Symposium 30 VA J. SOC. POL'Y & L.* 15 (2023))
- Breaking the Chain of Command Culture: A Call For An Independent Investigative Body to Curb Sexual Assaults in the Military, 29 *WIS. J. L. GENDER & SOC'Y* 341 (2015) (*invited contribution to symposium on Sexual Assault in the Military*)

WORKS-IN-PROGRESS

- Reducing Responsibility for Abused-Induced Crimes. Participatory Law Scholarship project, co-authored with David Garlock
- Traumatic Brain Injuries in Domestic Violence Victims Who Commit Crimes

AWARDS AND HONORS

Recipient of Douglas E. Ray Excellence in Faculty Scholarship Award for 2021

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS**Compassionate Charge Reduction**

Invited presentation at Iowa Law School	2025
Invited presentation at Seton Hall Law School	2025
Widener Commonwealth Law School Law Review Symposium	2025

Invited participant: Criminal Justice Ethics Schmooze at Fordham Law School 2024
 2024 CrimFest! Annual Criminal Law Conference at Cardozo Law School 2024

Excusing Abused Parents

2025 CrimFest! Annual Criminal Law Conference at University of Pennsylvania Law School 2025
 Family Law Scholars and Teachers Conferences 2025
 Seventh Non-Marriage Roundtable (invited speaker) 2025

Traumatic Brain Injuries in Domestic Violence Survivors Who Commit Crimes

Annual Health Law Professors Conference 2024

Legal Moralism in Child Custody Cases

6th Nonmarriage Roundtable at UVA Law School (Invited participant) 2024

Police Minimalism in Domestic Violence

Invited presentation at Cleveland State Law School 2024
 Law and Society, Feminist Legal Theory CRN 2023
 6th Annual Health Law Professors Conference, University of Maryland, Baltimore 2023
 CrimFest! Annual Criminal Law Conference, Brooklyn Law School 2023

Mapping Alternative First Responders to Domestic Violence

Invited participation in a Roundtable at the University of Virginia School of Law 2023
 Law & Society Association Annual Meeting 2023

Expanding Civil Protective Orders to Cover Dating Relationships

Nonmarriage Roundtable, Rutgers Law School (Newark) 2023

Survival Homicide

Invited presentation at the University of Florida Levin College of Law 2023
 Invited presentation at Duquesne Law School 2023
 Invited presentation at New York Law School 2022
 Guest Speaker at Professor Bennett Capers Fordham Law Seminar Race, Gender and the Law 2022

Law & Society Association Annual Meeting	2022
CrimFest! Annual Meeting Cardozo Law School	2022
Fifth Health Law Professors Conference, Arizona State Law School	2022
CrimWip Workshop, AALS Criminal Justice Section	2021

Overmedicalization of Domestic Violence in the Non-Carceral State

Seton Hall's 6 th Annual Health Law Scholars Retreat	2022
Temple Law Review Symposium, Temple Beasley Law School	2021
Capital Family Law Scholars Workshop	2021
AALS 2021 Criminal Justice Work-in-Progress	2021
Law and Society Association Annual Meeting	2021

Underprosecution Too

Law and Society Association Annual Meeting (virtual)	2020
Northern Illinois College of Law, Virtual Work-in-Progress Series	2020

Compassionate Homicide

CrimFest!, Annual Meeting Brooklyn Law School.	2019
Law and Society Association Annual Meeting	2019
Junior Faculty Forum, University of Richmond School of Law	2019

Loss of Self-Control, Dual-Process Theories and Provocation.

Mid-Atlantic Faculty Forum, University of Richmond School of Law	2018
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Fear-Based Provocation

Washington and Lee Faculty Workshop Series	2017
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Breaking the Chain of Command Culture: A Call For An Independent Investigative Body to Curb Sexual Assaults in the Military

Invited speaker, Symposium on Sexual Assault in the Military	2014
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Drugs, Dignity and Danger: Human Dignity as a Constitutional Constraint to Limit Overcriminalization.

Law and Society Association Annual Meeting 2013

Overcriminalizing Speech

Faculty Workshop Series, Washington and Lee School of Law 2013

The Failure of Consent: Re-Conceptualizing Rape as Sexual Abuse of Power

Law and Society Association Annual Meeting 2011

ACADEMIC SERVICE

- Member of Widener Commonwealth Law Belonging Committee 2026
- Member of WCL Promotion and Tenure Committee 2026
- Member of Virtual Teaching Committee WCL 2026
- Faculty Advisor to Student Organization Criminal Law Society 2026
- Chair of Widener Commonwealth Curriculum Committee 2025
- Chair of Widener Commonwealth Legal Education Committee 2024
- *Drafted a self-assessment compliance report for the ABA on satisfying the law school's learning outcomes*
- Chair of a junior faculty member retention review committee 2025
- Member in three junior faculty retention review committees 2025
- Committee on Tenure and Promotion Guidelines 2025
- Committee on guidelines for remote learning, member. 2025
- Law School Admission Committee Member 2024
- Promotion to Associate Clinical Professor Committee Member 2023
- Widener Commonwealth Dean Search Committee Member 2022
- Faculty Advisor to Student Organization Spirit of Service 2023-2026
- Campus Intellectual Life Committee Member 2022
- Chair of Faculty Development Workshops 2021

- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee Member 2021
 - Faculty Advisor to Widener Commonwealth BLSA Chapter 2021
 - Supervising Faculty for Students' Directed Research projects 2020-2023
 - Faculty Supervisor, Students' Law Review Notes 2020-2023
 - Legal Education Committee Member 2021
 - Library Committee Member 2021
 - Judge, the NBLSA Thurgood Marshall Moot Court Competition 2022
 - Judge, Trial Advocacy Competition 2021
 - Judge, Moot Court Oral Arguments Honor Society Internal Competition 2021
 - Faculty Advisor to National Lawyers Guild (NLG) 2021
 - Academic advisor to 1L students 2020-2022
 - Moderator, Widener Commonwealth Law School Symposium 2021
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PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

Legal Counsel with the Israel National Police, Criminal Investigations Division 1996- 2005

BAR

Member of the Israeli Bar Association 1996-present

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Hebrew (native speaker)

PERSONAL

Dual Citizen: U.S. and Israel