

MICHAL BUCHHANDLER-RAPHAEL

Professor of Law

Widener Commonwealth Law School
3800 Vartan Way, Harrisburg, PA 17110
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Michigan State University College of Law

Visiting Professor of Law

July 2026-December 2026

Courses: Family Law, The Victim-Offender Overlap in Familial Settings

Widener Commonwealth Law School

Professor of Law

July 2026-present

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

Washington and Lee School of Law

Visiting Assistant Professor of Law

January 2012-May 2020

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

EDUCATION

University of Virginia School of Law

Doctor of Judicial Science

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)

2007

Hebrew University, Faculty of Law, Jerusalem Israel

Master of Laws (LL.M)

2000

Bachelor of Arts (B.A) Cum Laude

1999

JUDICIAL CLERKSHIP

The Honorable Yehudit Tzur, Israel District Court for the Jerusalem District
Law Clerk

1995-1996

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Primary: Family Law, Children and the Law, Family Violence, Child Abuse and Neglect, Parenthood, Evidence, Criminal Law & Procedure. Scholarship focuses on the intersection between Family Law and Criminal law, gender-based violence, family violence, child custody, and sexual violence

Secondary: Mental Health Law, Public Health Law, Sexual Harassment, Gender and Sexuality, The Regulation of Vice

PUBLICATIONS

LAW REVIEW ARTICLES

- [Excusing Abused Parents](#), 87 OHIO ST. L. J. (forthcoming 2027)
- [Compassionate Charge Reduction](#), 59 UC DAVIS L. REV. 2107 (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
- Distinguishing Parental Alienation from Realistic Child Estrangement
- Traumatic Brain Injuries in Domestic Violence Victims

AWARDS AND HONORS

Douglas E. Ray Excellence in Faculty Scholarship Award for 2026

Douglas E. Ray Excellence in Faculty Scholarship Award for 2021

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Reduced Responsibility for Abuse-Induced Crimes:

Family Law Scholars and Teachers Conference	2026
8 th Nonmarriage and the Law Roundtable at Boston U. Law School (invited speaker)	2026
CrimFest, Annual Criminal Law Conference at Fordham Law School	2026

Excusing Abused Parents

Family Law Scholars and Teachers Conference	2025
7 th Nonmarriage and the Law Roundtable at Cardozo Law School (invited speaker)	2025
CrimFest, Annual Criminal Law Conference at U. of Pennsylvania Law School	2025

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
Criminal Justice Ethics Schmooze at Fordham Law School (invited speaker)	2024
CrimFest, Annual Criminal Law Conference at Cardozo Law School	2024
Traumatic Brain Injuries in Domestic Violence Survivors Who Commit Crimes	
Annual Health Law Professors Conference	2024
Legal Moralism in Child Custody Cases	
6 th Nonmarriage and the Law Roundtable at UVA Law School (invited speaker)	2024
Police Minimalism in Domestic Violence	
Invited presentation at Cleveland State Law School	2024
Law and Society, Feminist Legal Theory CRN	2023
Sixth Annual Health Law Professors Conference, University of Maryland, Baltimore	2023
CrimFest, Annual Criminal Law Conference at Brooklyn Law School	2023
Mapping Alternative First Responders to Domestic Violence	
Roundtable on Centering Family Violence at the University of Virginia School of Law	2023
Law & Society Association Annual Meeting	2023
Expanding Civil Protective Orders to Cover Dating Relationships	
5 th Nonmarriage and the Law Roundtable at 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 Prof. Bennett Capers Fordham Law Seminar Race, Gender and the Law	2022
Law & Society Association Annual Meeting	2022
CrimFest, Annual Criminal Law Conference at 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 Criminal Law Conference at Brooklyn Law School	2019
Law and Society Association Annual Meeting	2019
Junior Faculty Forum, University of Richmond School of Law	2019

sLoss of Self-Control, Dual-Process Theories and Provocation.	2018
Junior Faculty Forum, University of Richmond School of Law	
Fear-Based Provocation	2017
Washington and Lee Faculty Workshop Series	
Breaking the Chain of Command Culture: A Call For An Independent Investigative Body to Curb Sexual Assaults in the Military	2014
Invited speaker, Symposium on Sexual Assault in the Military	
Drugs, Dignity and Danger: Human Dignity as a Constitutional Constraint to Limit Overcriminalization.	2013
Law and Society Association Annual Meeting	
Overcriminalizing Speech	2013
Faculty Workshop Series, Washington and Lee School of Law	
The Failure of Consent: Re-Conceptualizing Rape as Sexual Abuse of Power	2011
Law and Society Association Annual Meeting	

ACADEMIC SERVICE

• Promotion and Tenure Committee Member	2026
• Belonging Committee Member	2026
• Remote Learning Committee Member	2026
• Faculty Advisor to Student Organization Criminal Law Society	2026
• Chair of Curriculum Committee	2025
• Chair of a Junior Faculty Member Retention Review Committee	2025
• Member in three Junior Faculty Retention Review Committees	2025
• Tenure and Promotion Guidelines Committee Member	2025
• Chair of Legal Education Committee, Widener Commonwealth Law	2024
<i>Drafted a self-assessment compliance report for the ABA on satisfying the law school's learning outcomes</i>	
• Law School Admission Committee Member	2024
• Promotion to Associate Clinical Professor Committee Member	2023
• Widener Commonwealth Law 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
 - The NBLSA Thurgood Marshall Moot Court Competition, Judge 2022
 - Trial Advocacy Competition, Judge 2021
 - Moot Court Oral Arguments Honor Society Internal Competition, Judge 2021
 - Faculty Advisor to National Lawyers Guild (NLG) 2021
 - Academic Advisor to 1L students 2020-2025
 - 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

Triple Citizen: U.S, Poland, Israel