

NICOLE A. GORDON

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PROFILE

Graduate School Faculty Director and Instructor and manager and lawyer at highest government and non-profit levels with extensive experience in government management, program and policy development, teaching, inter-governmental relations and politics, campaign finance, and criminal justice.

EMPLOYMENT

**Austin W. Marxe School of Public and International Affairs,
Baruch College, CUNY**

Distinguished Lecturer in Public Affairs
Faculty Director of Executive MPA Program

2018-present
2016-present

CONSULTANCIES AND TEACHING (Partial List)

Wagner Graduate School of Public Service
(Adjunct Professor, Law and Public Policy)

2009-present

Fordham School of Law

(Adjunct Professor, co-taught Presidential Succession with Dean John Feerick)

NYU Heyman Center for Philanthropy and Fundraising

(Guest Lecturer on Campaign Finance)

New York City Department of Investigation

John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Mississippi News and Information Corporation (Andy Lack project)

Office of the Counsel to New York State Governor Patterson

PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT

The Marshall Project

Executive Director

Apr. 1-Sept. 30, 2014

The Marshall Project is a non-partisan news organization covering America's criminal justice system. Led start-up management structure and contributed to content development.

New York State Office of Public Safety

Chair, Public Safety Accountability Task Force

May 2011-May 2012

Directed integration of evidence-based policies and practices for New York State's eight public safety agencies:

- Established collaboration between New York State and the Pew Charitable Trusts to evaluate effectiveness of criminal justice policies and practices;
- Worked with staff developing strategies for specific new criminal justice initiatives

JEHT Foundation

Vice President

2006–2009

Served as the first Vice President with this foundation that focused on innovative public policy projects, primarily with state governments. With an annual budget of up to \$40 million and a staff of 24, JEHT pursued a range of interventions, including providing grants, technical assistance, and strategic planning, to drive advances in the fields of juvenile justice, fair elections, and criminal and international justice:

- Developed program goals and strategies and oversaw all program areas;
- Collaborated with grantees, government officials, academics, and others to set goals and strategies for individual projects;
- With the President, approved all grant recommendations to the Board and staff-level grants; and
- Coordinated with other foundations on strategic initiatives and cooperative ventures.

(The JEHT Foundation closed in 2009 because its sole funder had significant assets invested with Bernard Madoff.)

New York City Campaign Finance Board

Executive Director

1988-2006

Reporting to a non-partisan Board as its first Executive Director, established and staffed a new City agency with an annual budget of up to \$77 million (including public funds for candidates) and up to 70 employees. Responsible for:

- Effective enforcement of the New York City Campaign Finance Act and Charter (and related federal and state laws) through administrative procedures and civil and criminal cases, often working in tandem with NYC enforcement agencies;
- Disbursing and accounting for tens of millions of dollars in public funding to candidates for New York City elective offices, including maintaining extensive audit and accounting functions;
- Periodic evaluation of the impact of the Campaign Finance Program, including making recommendations for change in policy and practice and working with the City Council, the Mayor's Office, and New York City Charter Commissions to effectuate change;
- All press and public relations, including extensive contact with editorial boards and appearances in television, radio, and print media.

New York State Commission on Government Integrity

Counsel to the Chairman

1987-1988

A temporary Moreland Act Commission appointed by Governor Mario Cuomo, established to address ethics reform in state government. Assisted Chairman in evaluating policy direction of the Commission. Prepared substantive legal reports on topics such as the New York State Ethics in Government Act and state ballot access laws.

**Law Department of the City of New York,
General Litigation Division**

Assistant Chief 1986-1987
Deputy Assistant Chief 1984-1986
Assistant Corporation Counsel 1983-1984

Represented the City of New York and its agencies before federal and state courts and administrative agencies in a wide variety of matters, including cases brought under federal civil rights laws representing police officers and the City of New York. Also responsible for oversight and training of staff attorneys.

**Debevoise & Plimpton,
Litigation Department**

Associate 1978-1983

Conducted a range of functions in federal and state litigation, including discovery and court appearances.

**The Honorable Harold R. Medina
United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit**

Law Clerk 1977-1978

EDUCATION

Columbia University School of Law

J.D. 1977; Convers Prize for best original writing on a legal subject;
Stone Scholar; Teaching Fellow in Civil Procedure and Property

Barnard College

A.B. 1974 *cum laude* with Honors in Classical Greek

University of Sussex, England

1972-1973

Fieldston School

PROFESSIONAL
ACTIVITIES
(Partial List)

The Marshall Project, Board member, Sept. 30, 2014-present

NYC Municipal Archive Society, Board member, 2017-present

We Be Us Now, Board member of organization working on issues of children with incarcerated parents, 2017-present

New York City Bar Association Task Force on a Constitutional Convention, Member of Task Force to study and recommend whether New York

should consider convening a Constitutional Convention, August 2015-present

Fund for New York City Voter Assistance Corporation, Chair of entity to collect private donations for the City's non-partisan voter education programs, September 2014-present

Advisory Board for the OSF/DF Experimental Initiative, Member of Board advising on experimental field research projects in campaign finance for the Open Society Foundation and the Democracy Fund in campaign finance, 2013-2016

American Law Institute, Adviser, projects to draft Principles of the Law on Government Ethics and Election Law, 2010-present

Citizens United Foundation, Member, Board of Directors, 2009-present

New York State Commission to Promote Public Confidence in Judicial Elections, Member, appointed by Chief Judge Judith Kaye, 2003-2006

IFES (U.S. government-funded organization that assists emerging democracies), Panelist and adviser overseas and in the U.S. on enforcement of campaign finance laws, 2005

Campaign Finance Institute, Member, Task Force on Disclosure (published two reports on defects in federal disclosure), 2001-2002

Council on Governmental Ethics Laws ("COGEL"), umbrella organization of campaign finance and ethics agencies in the U.S. and Canada), President, 1996

New York City Bar Association, Chair of the Government Ethics Committee, 1998-2001; member, Special Commission on Campaign Finance Reform, 1998-2000; member, Executive Committee, 1994-1998; member, Committee on the Judiciary, 1988-1992

Harvard University School of Law, Wasserstein Public Interest Fellow, 1998-1999

The Constitution Works (education program on Constitution for high school students), Board Chair, 1998-2001; member, 1993-2012

"An Empire of Reason" (New York Emmy award-winning, nationally broadcast film on New York State's ratification of the Federal Constitution), Executive Producer, 1988

Cardozo Law School (Instructor in Writing and Moot Court), 1977-79

Appearances as speaker and resource for news and editorial outlets, including network news, cable news, NPR, and the *New York Times*, and for nonprofit and governmental groups, including the OECD, the Carnegie Corporation, the Open Society Institute, the League of Women Voters, and British Prime Minister Tony Blair's Committee on Standards in Public Life as well as educational institutions, including Harvard, Columbia, and NYU; profiled in *New York Times* "Public Lives" column and several *New York Times* editorials.

HONORS

COGEL, Outstanding Service Award, 2003; Special Recognition Award to Campaign Finance Board "for Extraordinary Service after September 11, 2001," 2002

Columbia University School of Law, Wien Prize for Social Responsibility, 1999

New York State Common Cause, “I Love an Ethical New York Award” for “nationally recognized achievement in the administration of public financing”, co-recipient with members of Campaign Finance Board, 1992

ADMITTED TO PRACTICE United States District Court for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York; New York State Court of Appeals; United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit; New York State Court of Appeals; and the United States Supreme Court

PUBLICATIONS

“**Options for Continued Campaign Finance Reform: Citizens United is not the End**”, 80 Alb. L. Review 83 (2017), <http://www.albanylawreview.org/issues/Pages/article-information.aspx?volume=80&issue=1&page=083> and in earlier form at <http://ssrn.com/abstract=2775452> (May 9, 2016)

“**Avenues for Policy Change in Juvenile Justice**” Op-Ed, JUVENILE JUSTICE INFORMATION EXCHANGE, <http://jjiie.org/op-ed-avenues-for-policy-change-in-juvenile-justice-and-elsewhere/> (March 26, 2015)

“**Ensuring Good Government: The New York City Campaign Finance Board**,” chapter in ETHICS IN GOVERNMENT, THE PUBLIC TRUST: A TWO WAY STREET (New York State Bar Association 2002)

“**Campaign Financing in New York City: A Decade of Reform**,” chapter of GOVERNMENT ETHICS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT: TOWARD GLOBAL GUIDELINES (Praeger 2000)

“**From the Ground Up: Local Lessons for National Reform**,” participant in transcribed proceedings of conference co-sponsored by the Campaign Finance Board and The Association of the Bar of the City of New York, 27 FORDHAM URBAN LAW JOURNAL 1 (1999)

“**The New York City Model: Essentials for Effective Campaign Finance Regulation**,” 6 JOURNAL OF LAW AND POLICY 79 (1997)

“**Returning Majesty to the Law and Politics: A Modern Approach**,” with the Hon. Sonia Sotomayor, 30 SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY LAW REVIEW 35 (1996)

“**Symposium on Campaign Finance Enforcement: A Comparative View**,” participant in transcribed proceedings of the American Bar Association, Administrative Law Section, 11 JOURNAL OF LAW & POLITICS 1 (1995)

“**The New York City Campaign Finance Program: A Reform That is Working**,” with Hyla Wagner, 19 FORDHAM URBAN LAW JOURNAL 605 (1992)

“**Justiciability of Federal Claims in State Court**,” with Douglas Gross, 59 NOTRE DAME LAW REVIEW 1145 (1984)

“**The Constitutional Right to Candidacy**,” 91 POLITICAL SCIENCE QUARTERLY 471 (1976) and 25 Kansas Law Review 545 (1977)

“**Political Finance Laws: Possibilities and Practicalities of Enforcement**,” chapter of planned publication by the International Political Science Association

