



## **Faculty Profiles**

**Travis Alley.** As the appointed Veterans Outreach Specialist for the Washington State Attorney General's Office, Assistant Attorney General Travis Alley focuses on policy issues related to

**Jonathan Groux** is the Attorney-in-Charge of the Financial Fraud and Consumer Protection section of the Oregon Department of Justice. Mr. Groux holds a BA from Goddard College, an MA from Boston University, and a JD from Willamette University. He is licensed to practice law in both Massachusetts and Oregon and his legal experience spans 16 years. He has practiced law in both the private and public sector. In the private sector, he has represented numerous business entities and individuals as a litigant and in an advisory capacity on commercial issues in the banking, creditor, construction, and mortgage related industry. In the public sector, he has represented the State of Oregon's interests as an employer in the Oregon Department of Justice, General Counsel Division, Labor and Employment section; as litigation counsel within the Business Activities section; and by prosecuting financial crimes and commercial violations in the Criminal Justice Division. He served as a Deputy District Attorney I in Klamath County and a Deputy District Attorney II in Coos County. His prosecution of financial crimes included representing the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Attorney General's Office Business and Labor Bureau. He currently represents the State of Oregon in the civil prosecution of financial fraud, false claims, and consumer protection violations.

**Charles Harwood** is the Director of the U.S. Federal Trade Commission's Northwest Regional Office in Seattle. This is Mr. Harwood's second tour as the Northwest Region Director. He also held the position from 1989 to 2009. Between 2009 and December 2014, Mr. Harwood was in Washington, D.C., as Deputy Director of the Federal Trade Commission's Bureau of Consumer Protection. From January to June 2013, Mr. Harwood served as the Acting Director of the Bureau of Consumer Protection. Before joining the FTC, Mr. Harwood was a counsel to the U.S. Senate's Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Mr. Harwood is a member of the Oregon and District of Columbia Bars.

**Cheryl Hiemstra** is an Assistant Attorney General at the Oregon Department of Justice. Ms. Hiemstra has worked in DOJ's Financial Fraud/Consumer Protection Section on various consumer protection issues. Her current position is with the Legislative Director's office, focusing on the Attorney General's priority to protect the online privacy and security of Oregonians. Ms. Hiemstra is a Certified Information Privacy Professional/U.S. by the International Association of Privacy Professionals.

**Jane Hochberg** is a Deputy Attorney General in the Consumer Protection Division at the Idaho Attorney General's Office. She has been with the Consumer Protection Division for ten years. Prior to this position, she worked in the Contracts and Administrative Law Division at the Idaho Attorney General's Office, was in private practice at Hawley Troxell Ennis & Hawley in Boise, Idaho, and clerked at the Idaho Supreme Court. Ms. Hochberg is a graduate of Brandeis University and the University of Oregon School of Law.

**Julia Kellison** is a consumer attorney in the Seattle office of Northwest Justice Project, a statewide organization that provides free civil legal services to low-income clients. Her consumer practice includes representing victims of debt collection abuses and predatory lending (fraud in auto sales & financing, student loans), among other areas. Ms. Kellison is on the Executive Committee of the Washington State Bar Association's Antitrust, Consumer Protection

and Unfair Business Practice Section and serves on the board of Wayfind. She received her J.D. in 1998 from Temple University School of Law and her B.A. from Brown University in 1990.

**Tina Kondo** became the Assistant Director of the Northwest Regional Office of the Federal Trade Commission in July 2014. Prior to joining the FTC, Ms. Kondo was a Deputy Attorney General for the Washington State Attorney General's Office, where she oversaw the Seattle Office, Research Center, Consumer Protection, Antitrust, Revenue, University of Washington and Washington State University Divisions, and the Public Counsel Unit. Ms. Kondo has specialized in consumer protection and antitrust law for over 30 years and is a frequent speaker at conferences and CLEs. She is a past King County Bar Association Board member and past President of the Asian Bar Association. She also serves on the Northwest Minority Job Fair Board.

**Alan Lai** is the Crime Victim Service Director of CISC (Chinese Information and Service Center). Fluent in Cantonese and Mandarin, he is trained in Advanced Simultaneous interpreting. He is a Certified Court Interpreter in the State of Washington. He received his B. S. Sc. from the Chinese University of Hong Kong and the Human Services Management Certificate from the University of Washington. Mr. Lai has been a Victim Advocate and community leader in the greater Seattle area for more than 25 years. Locally, he has received numerous awards from different law enforcement as well as social service agencies. He was appointed by three Governors of Washington to advise the State government as the Commissioner of Asian American Affairs. He is nationally known for his outstanding victim advocacy work, particularly on human trafficking cases and scam cases targeting minority communities. The mission of his program, "We Speak Your Language. Your Voice Will Be Heard," won the National Slogan Competition. He has also been awarded the National Crime Victim Service Award by the US Department of Justice. He has assisted with cultural exchanges, sponsored by the US State Department, involving delegates from over 100 foreign countries.

**Anthony Leahy** is the executive director of Consumer Education and Training Services ("CENTS"), a Seattle-based 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization co-founded by a federal bankruptcy judge and consumer attorneys to help people make informed financial decisions. He graduated from the University of Southern California and the University of Washington School of Law. Mr. Leahy has designed several financial education curricula for diverse populations, including high school students, prisoners, military members, and working adults. *Senior Money*, CENTS' latest offering, was designed to teach senior citizens how to avoid the scams and bad deals aimed at them. This free project is the culmination of teamwork between Western Washington financial professionals and attorneys, including representatives from the Northwest Justice Project, Federal Trade Commission, and the United States Bankruptcy Court. It features Washington State Attorney General Bob Ferguson and is utilized at senior service centers, retirement homes, and senior-oriented social service and housing providers.

**Julie Mayer** is a consumer protection attorney with the Northwest Regional Office of the Federal Trade Commission, where she works on law enforcement and outreach activities. She has handled cases involving debt collection, consumer lending, deceptive advertising, and data



She also works on topics that cross industries, such as privacy issues and scams. Additionally, she assists the department with its consumer protection legislative agenda.

**Lisa Rosenthal** is an enforcement attorney at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. She has been with the Bureau for two years and works in their West Region office, in San Francisco. Her work covers various aspects of consumer financial protection issues, including unfair, deceptive, and abusive practices; lending; debt collection; and credit cards. Prior to joining the Bureau, Ms. Rosenthal worked as a consumer protection attorney at the Federal Trade Commission for over 15 years.

**Nadine S. Samter** is an attorney in the Northwest Region of the FTC, where she has enforced federal consumer protection laws since 1990. She graduated with honors from Georgetown University Law Center in 1987, after which she entered private practice as an associate at Hogan & Hartson (now Hogan Lovells) in Washington, D.C., where she focused on antitrust and general litigation. Ms. Samter has devoted her career to protecting and educating consumers. She has litigated numerous cases for the FTC involving telemarketing fraud, predatory lending and mortgage fraud, credit reporting and debt collection, deceptive advertising, and fraudulent business opportunities and investments.

**Doug Shadel** is the state Director for AARP in Washington State. He is a former fraud investigator and assistant attorney general with the Washington State Attorney General's office and he spent several years as the regional Consumer Affairs Director for AARP. Mr. Shadel is a nationally known expert on investment fraud and has co-authored several books including *Weapons of Fraud and Schemes and Scams*. He has also led several national studies funded by the FINRA Foundation and the AARP Foundation that revealed how victims of fraud differ from the general public.

**Shannon Smith** is Senior Counsel and Chief of the Consumer Protection Division of the Washington State Attorney General's Office. Ms. Smith's responsibilities include managing the Consumer Protection Division's litigation, enforcement, consumer services, and consumer outreach. Ms. Smith also oversees the State's Lemon Law Administration and Manufactured Housing Dispute Resolution Program. Prior to joining the Consumer Protection Division in 2005, Ms. Smith represented the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission in telecommunications and energy regulatory matters. She has been with the Attorney General's Office since 1989.

**Clyde "Ed" Sniffen, Jr.** is a Senior Assistant Attorney General in the Commercial and Fair Business Section of the Alaska Department of Law. Mr. Sniffen received his J.D. from Willamette University College of Law in 1988 and was in private practice for 11 years before joining the Alaska Attorney General's Office in 2000. For over 14 years, he has focused exclusively on antitrust and consumer protection matters, and has considerable experience in complex civil litigation involving a variety of antitrust, oil and gas, pharmaceutical, utility, and consumer issues. Mr. Sniffen is the lead attorney within the Department that advises state agencies on antitrust matters, and data breach issues under Alaska's Personal Information Protection Act. He has led three major state fuel pricing investigations, and has investigated and

litigated several merger transactions. Mr. Sniffen has worked extensively with the Alaska Legislature to enact and amend a number of consumer protection and antitrust statutes, including the addition of Alaska's Illinois Brick repealer, and a \$50 million civil penalties provision to Alaska's antitrust statute. He is the most recent reviser of the Alaska section of the ABA State Antitrust Practice and Statutes (Fourth).

**Laura Solis** is a Consumer Protection attorney in the Federal Trade Commission's Northwest Regional Office in Seattle. Prior to joining the Federal Trade Commission, Ms. Solis was a Labor and Employment associate at Perkins Coie, LLP. She is a 2004 graduate of the University of Washington School of Law and received her B.A. in Political Science and American Ethnic Studies cum laude from the University of Washington.

**Ariel Speser** is a Staff Attorney with the Northwest Justice Project's Foreclosure Prevention Unit. She has also served two years as an Equal Justice Works AmeriCorps Legal Fellow with the Northwest Justice Project's Foreclosure Prevention Unit. Ms. Speser graduated from Hamline University School of Law in 2011 and attended Seattle University School of Law as a visiting student during her 3L year. She is a Minnesota certified mediator and has a certificate in Advocacy and Problem Solving from Hamline University's Dispute Resolution Institution. Ms. Speser is an experienced advocate for low income families and has clerked for the Legal Aid Society of Minneapolis, Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services, and Jefferson County Public Defender's Office.

**Aravind Swaminathan** is the Chair of the Seattle Litigation practice at DLA Piper. He represents companies and individuals in government and internal investigations, cybersecurity incidents and data breaches and matters relating to privacy. A former federal prosecutor, Mr. Swaminathan draws on extensive experience in investigating a broad array of both cyber and white collar crimes, including cases involving hacking, phishing, th

