

TYSON-LORD “T.L.” GRAY

Harold A. Stevens Assistant Professor of Law

Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Cardozo School of Law, *Harold A. Stevens Visiting Asst. Professor*, 2024 – present

Boston University School of Law, *Visiting Asst. Professor – Acad. Enrichment*, 2023 – 2024

NYU Stern School of Business, *Adjunct Professor*, 2020 – present

NYU College of Arts & Sciences, *Adjunct Professor*, 2016 – 2020

COURSES TAUGHT

Administrative Law

Professional Responsibility (School of Law)

Food Law and Policy

Cannabis Law and Policy

Professional Responsibility (School of Business)

TEACHING & RESEARCH INTERESTS

Primary: Torts, Business Associations, Environmental Law, Administrative Law

Secondary: Professional Responsibility, Sustainable Business Law, Food Law, Contracts

EDUCATION

Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University, J.D. 2017

Concentration: Advanced Certificate in Environmental Law

Honors: The Louis V. Fasulo First Year Moot Court Competition (Ranked 2/162); NYSBA Minority Fellowship in Environmental Law 2015; Merit Scholarship (2014); Law Trustee Scholarship (2014-2015); Diversity Scholarship (2014-2015)

Vanderbilt University, Ph.D. 2014 / M.A. 2013

Dissertation Title: Mercy, Mercy, Me (The Ecology): Black Culture, Aesthetics & the Search for a Green Community

Concentration: 1. Law & Public Policy 2. Ethics & Society

Boston University, Boston, MA – Master of Sacred Theology (*with honors*) 2008
Master's Thesis: A Comparison of the Trichotomy of Ontology in Peirce's Universes of Experience and in Neville's Theory of Creation

Morehouse School of Religion, Atlanta, GA – Master of Divinity (*with honors*) 2007

Trinity International University, Deerfield, IL – B.A. 2002

PUBLICATIONS

Law Review Articles

Food Waste and Virtue Ethics: A Critical Analysis of Corporate Food Waste Jurisprudence (job talk paper, submitted for publication Aug. 2025)

This paper provides a comprehensive theoretical review of federal corporate food waste legislation, arguing that five decades of virtue-based regulation has failed because virtue ethics is fundamentally incompatible with profit-driven corporate entities. It proposes replacing voluntary compliance mechanisms with a consequentialist-based federal framework that would establish definitive corporate food waste donation metrics, challenging foundational assumptions about corporate virtue in environmental law.

From Seed to (RE)sale: How Cannabis Waste Policies Can Build a Circular Economy (work in progress)

This paper extends waste lifecycle analysis to cannabis, arguing that current state-by-state "Seed-to-Sale" tracking requirements exhibit "moral myopia" by mandating cannabis waste be rendered "unusable and unrecognizable," which prevents environmentally beneficial composting or recycling. It proposes a "Seed-to-(RE)sale" framework based on circular economy principles that would require production responsibility for the complete cannabis lifecycles, arguing that federal environmental standards for cannabis are constitutionally permissible under commerce power despite its Schedule I status.

Other Academic Articles

African American Religious Naturalism in the Novel Sula by Toni Morrison, in **Bloomsbury Religion in North America** (2021), <http://dx.doi.org/10.5040/9781350970694.0004>

Staring at the Sun: Tragedy, Trauma, and Ecological Harmony, **Dialog: A Journal of Theology** (2020), <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/dial.12622>.

Beauty or Bane: Advancing an Aesthetic Appreciation of Wind Turbine Farms, 10 **Contemp. Aesthetics** art. 11 (2012), https://digitalcommons.risd.edu/liberalarts_contempaesthetics/vol10/iss1/11.

Book Chapters

African American Religious Naturalism in the Novel Sula by Toni Morrison, in **Religion and Nature in North America** (Laurel D. Kearns & Whitney A. Bauman eds., Bloomsbury Academic 2024).

Beauty or Bane: Advancing an Aesthetic Appreciation of Wind Turbine Farms, in **Environmental Aesthetics** (Martin Drenthen & Jozef Keulartz eds., Fordham Press 2014).

Eco-Protest Music and the U.S. Environmental Movement, in **Sounds of Resistance: The Role of Music in Multicultural Activism** (Lindsay Michie & Eunice Rojas eds., Praeger Publishers 2013).

Consider This, in **Holy Ground: A Gathering of Voices on Caring for Creation** (Lyndsay Moseley ed., Sierra Club Books 2008).

HONORS/RECOGNITIONS

Morehouse College Martin Luther King Jr. 'Collegium of Scholars' Inductee 2025

- academics and scholars, who are "committed to research, writing, teaching and mentoring in a wide variety of disciplines and contexts that promote and give support to the work of peace through moral cosmopolitan social responsibility."

NYU Big Ideas Course Series – “The Emerging Cannabis Industry” Spring, 2022

- selected as one of ten professors across all NYU schools to teach a University-wide online course that explores current and controversial topics.

SELECTED PAPER/PANEL PRESENTATIONS

Food Waste and Virtue Ethics: A Critical Analysis of Corporate Food Waste Jurisprudence – Southeastern Association of Law Schools (SEALS); 2025

“Emergency-Meals-to-You: Preparing for Climate Change Impacts on Hunger and Poverty” – Thirteenth International Conference on Climate Change: Impacts & Responses; 2021

Am I My Brother's Keeper? Environmental Ethics in the 21st Century – New York University; 2019

Second Food Law Student Summit (panelist) – The Food Law Student Leadership Summit hosted by Drake's Agricultural Law Center & Harvard's Food Law and Policy Clinic at Drake Law School; 2016

Animal Lives Matter – The Spirit of Sustainable Agriculture Conference at Harvard Divinity School; 2016

OTHER TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Univ. of Arkansas School of Law – Visiting Lecturer, 2022-2023

- Legal Research and Writing
- Cannabis Law and Policy

UALR William H. Bowen School of Law – Visiting Lecturer, 2021-2022

- Legal Research and Writing

Pace University – Adjunct Professor, 2015-2018

- Nature and Culture
- Social Movements and Environmental Justice
- Environmental Policy and Sustainable Governance

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Richman Law Group, Manhattan, NY

Of Counsel – Environmental Law/Food Law, 2017 – 2019

Pace/NRDC, Manhattan, NY

Inaugural Food Law Initiative Extern, Fall 2016

NRG Energy, Princeton, NJ

Legal Intern – Asset Management, Summer 2016

Natural Resources Defense Council, New York, NY

Legal Extern, Spring 2016

EPA Region 2, New York, NY

Legal Intern, Superfund Branch Office, Summer 2015

BAR ADMISSIONS

New York State Bar, 2017 - present

District of Columbia Bar, 2025 - present

REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST