

MICHAEL C. POLLACK
PROFESSOR OF LAW
BENJAMIN N. CARDOZO SCHOOL OF LAW
55 Fifth Avenue, Room 515
New York, NY 10003
michael.pollack@yu.edu

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2017–present	BENJAMIN N. CARDOZO SCHOOL OF LAW Professor of Law (2022–present) Associate Dean for Faculty Development (2022–present) Associate Professor of Law (2020–2022) Assistant Professor of Law (2017–2020) Graduation Award for Best First-Year Professor (Classes of 2026, 2024, 2022, 2021, 2020) E. Nathaniel Gates Distinguished Professor Award (2025) Co-Director, Floersheimer Center for Constitutional Democracy (2019–2025)
2025–present	NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW Adjunct Professor of Law
2015–2017	UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO LAW SCHOOL Harry A. Bigelow Teaching Fellow & Lecturer in Law

EDUCATION

2011	NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW , J.D., <i>summa cum laude</i> Law Review Alumni Association Award – Prize for second-highest GPA Order of the Coif Robert B. McKay Prize – Prize for excellence in constitutional law Furman Academic Scholar – Awarded for promise in legal academia Butler Scholar – Top ten students after four semesters Pomeroy Scholar – Top ten students after two semesters NEW YORK UNIVERSITY LAW REVIEW, Articles Editor
2008	SWARTHMORE COLLEGE , B.A. in Political Science, <i>Highest Honors</i> <i>Phi Beta Kappa</i> Joshua Lippincott Fellowship – Awarded for promise in law school

CLERKSHIPS

2014–2015	SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES The Honorable Sonia Sotomayor
2011–2012	UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE D.C. CIRCUIT The Honorable Janice Rogers Brown

BOOKS

- 2026 *SIDEWALK NATION: THE LIFE AND LAW OF AMERICA'S MOST OVERLOOKED RESOURCE* (Harvard University Press)
 Reviewed in: Timothy Farrington, '*Sidewalk Nation*' Review: *Cracks in the Pavement*, WALL STREET JOURNAL, June 18, 2026; Linda Poon, *For Urban Walkers, a Patchy Dilemma: Who Owns the Sidewalk?*, BLOOMBERG CITYLAB, June 30, 2026; Jeremy Conrad, *Sidewalk Nation: The Life and Law of America's Most Overlooked Resource*, WASHINGTON LAWYER, July/August 2026

ACADEMIC ARTICLES AND ESSAYS

- 2026 *Sidewalk Living*, 67 WILLIAM & MARY LAW REVIEW 1091 (invited symposium contribution)
- 2025 *Decentering Property in Fourth Amendment Law*, 92 UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO LAW REVIEW 705 (with Matthew Tokson)
- 2024 *Sidewalk Government*, 122 MICHIGAN LAW REVIEW 613
 Reviewed in: Sarah Schindler, *Who Controls the Sidewalks?*, JOTWELL, Nov. 23, 2022
 Reprinted in: ZONING & PLANNING LAW HANDBOOK (Patricia E. Salkin, ed., 2025)
- 2024 *Legislating Courts*, 92 UMKC LAW REVIEW 613 (invited symposium contribution)
- 2022 *Judges, Judging and Otherwise*, 106 JUDICATURE 27 (invited essay)
- 2021 *Property Law for the Ages*, 63 WILLIAM & MARY LAW REVIEW 561 (with Lior Jacob Strahilevitz)
 Referenced in: GREGORY S. ALEXANDER, ET AL., DUKEMINIER & KRIER'S PROPERTY (11th ed. 2026)
- 2021 *Reallocating Redevelopment Risk*, 73 FLORIDA LAW REVIEW 1081
- 2021 *Courts Beyond Judging*, 46 BYU LAW REVIEW 719
 Excerpted in: JESSICA BULMAN-POZEN & MIRIAM SEIFTER, STATE CONSTITUTIONAL LAW: CASES AND PRINCIPLES (1st ed. 2025)
- 2020 *Lumping, Fairness, and Single People*, 2020 UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO LAW REVIEW ONLINE 27 (invited symposium essay)
- 2020 *A Knock on Knick's Revival of Federal Takings Litigation*, 72 FLORIDA LAW REVIEW 419 (with Stewart E. Sterk)
 Referenced in: GREGORY S. ALEXANDER, ET AL., DUKEMINIER & KRIER'S PROPERTY (11th ed. 2026)
 Reprinted in: ZONING & PLANNING LAW HANDBOOK (Patricia E. Salkin, ed., 2021)

- 2019 *Taking Data*, 86 UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO LAW REVIEW 77
 Referenced in: GREGORY S. ALEXANDER, ET AL., DUKEMINIER & KRIER'S
 PROPERTY (11th ed. 2026)
- 2017 *Land Use Federalism's False Choice*, 68 ALABAMA LAW REVIEW 707
- 2016 *Courts, Constituencies, and the Enforcement of Fiduciary Duties in the Nonprofit Sector*, 77
 UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH LAW REVIEW 281 (with Joseph Mead)
- 2013 *Judicial Deference and Institutional Character: Homeowners Associations and The Puzzle of
 Private Governance*, 81 UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI LAW REVIEW 839
- 2011 *Chevron's Regrets: The Persistent Vitality of the Nondelegation Doctrine*, 86 NEW YORK
 UNIVERSITY LAW REVIEW 316

SELECTED OP-EDS AND MEDIA

- 2026 *Let's Get Serious About Fixing Our Sidewalks*, GOVERNING, May 13, 2026
- 2026 *What Future for Dining Sheds?: Permanent Outdoor Dining Must Be Done Right*, NEW
 YORK DAILY NEWS, March 1, 2026
- 2024 *The Crisis in the Courts*, Panelist, THE NEW REPUBLIC, January 17, 2024
- 2023 *NYC Sidewalk Obligations Must Go Beyond Construction*, LAW360, August 7, 2023
- 2023 *We Need a Department of Sidewalks*, SLATE, July 12, 2023

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Denominators and Property's Clarity Myth

Millennial Property

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

BENJAMIN N. CARDOZO SCHOOL OF LAW

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| Spring 2018–present | Property Law |
| Fall 2018–present | State & Local Government Law |
| Fall 2025–present | Critical Perspectives on Land Use (Seminar) |
| Winter 2019–present | Lawyering in DC |
| Fall 2019–Fall 2022 | Elements of Law |

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

Fall 2025–present	Property Law
-------------------	--------------

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO LAW SCHOOL

2015–2017	Legal Research and Writing
Spring 2017	Land Use & Social Policy (Seminar)

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

SIDEWALK NATION	SwatTalk Alumni Lecture Series (Winter 2026) Cities@Tufts Colloquium (Fall 2026) Maryland DOT Walktober Webinar (October 2026) Seattle Nondrivers Alliance (October 2026) DC DOT Lunch & Learn (September 2026) Cardozo Law School – Book Launch Event (September 2026) Fordham Urban Law Center (August 2026) New York City DOT “Transportation Talks” (August 2026) Preservation Maryland “PreserveCast” Podcast (August 2026) Downtown Houston+ Quarterly Breakfast (August 2026) American Planning Association, Houston Chapter (August 2026) Harris County Precinct One Lunch & Learn (August 2026) Booked on Planning Podcast (August 2026) NPR Park City: Mountain Money (August 2026) NYU Furman Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy (July 2026) Amazing Cities Podcast (July 2026) WCLO Janesville Your Talk Show (July 2026) Something You Should Know Podcast (July 2026) America Walks Webinar (July 2026) The War on Cars Podcast (July 2026) Exasperated Infrastructures Podcast (June 2026) Boston Government “City University” Lunch & Learn (June 2026) Chicago DOT Lunch & Learn (June 2026) Business Scholarship Podcast (June 2026) Association for Law, Property, and Society Annual Meeting (June 2026) The Brake: A Streetsblog Podcast (June 2026) Houston Public Media: Houston Matters (May 2026) Talking Headways: The Overhead Wire Podcast (May 2026) Active Towns Podcast (May 2026) OpenPlans Lunch & Learn (May 2026) State & Local Government Works-in-Progress Conference at ASU Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law (November 2024) Property Works-in-Progress Conference at Boston University Law School (November 2024) Association for Law, Property, and Society Annual Meeting (June 2024)
-----------------	---

<i>Sidewalk Living</i>	William & Mary Law Review Volume 66 Symposium (February 2025)
<i>Decentering Property in Fourth Amendment Law</i>	Brigham-Kanner Property Rights Conference at William & Mary Law School (September 2024)
<i>Sidewalk Government</i>	New York City Bar Association Transportation Committee (April 2023) International and Comparative Urban Law Conference at UBC School of Law (July 2022) Cardozo School of Law Faculty Brown Bag Workshop (July 2022)
<i>Property Law for the Ages</i>	Association for Law, Property, and Society Annual Meeting (May 2021) University of Chicago Law School Works-in-Progress Workshop (April 2021) Cardozo School of Law Faculty Brown Bag Workshop (August 2020)
<i>Reallocating Redevelopment Risk</i>	Local Government Works-in-Progress Workshop at Cardozo Law School (November 2020) Cardozo School of Law Junior Faculty Workshop (October 2020)
<i>A Knock on Knick</i>	ABA Section on Real Property, Trust, and Estate Law Professors' Corner (February 2020)
<i>Lumping, Fairness, and Single People</i>	Coase-Sandor Institute for Law and Economics at the University of Chicago (November 2019)
<i>Courts Beyond Judging</i>	University of Wisconsin Law School Public Law in the States Conference (June 2021) University of Richmond School of Law Junior Faculty Forum (May 2019) NYU School of Law Furman Scholars Workshop (February 2019) Property Works-in-Progress Conference at Boston University Law School (October 2018) State & Local Government Works-in-Progress Conference at Fordham Law School (September 2018) Cardozo School of Law Junior Faculty Workshop (April 2018)
<i>Taking Data</i>	Southeastern Association of Law Schools New Scholars Workshop (August 2018) Law & Society Association Annual Meeting (June 2018) University of Richmond School of Law Junior Faculty Forum (May 2018) AALS New Voices in Property Law Panel (January 2018) Cardozo School of Law Junior Faculty Workshop (September 2017)

WORK EXPERIENCE

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 2012–2014 | UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, CIVIL DIVISION
Trial Attorney, Federal Programs Branch
Special Commendation for Outstanding Service (2014) |
| 2011 | UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR GENERAL
Summer Law Intern |
| 2010 | JENNER & BLOCK
Summer Associate, Washington D.C. |
| 2010 | UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, CIVIL DIVISION
Summer Law Intern, Appellate Staff |
| 2009 | NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL, OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL
Legal Intern |

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 2026–present | Mentor, Association for Law, Property, and Society |
| 2021–present | Member, Association of Urban Law Scholars |
| 2020–present | Mentor, Law Clerks for Diversity |
| 2023, 2019 | Examiner, Constitutional Law in the American Polity, Swarthmore College |
| 2019 | Member, New York City Charter Revision Task Force, NYC Bar Association |

BAR ADMISSIONS

- | | |
|------|----------------|
| 2013 | New York State |
|------|----------------|