R. A. "Beck" Boorstein

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

University of Michigan Law School, Ann Arbor, Michigan, Ph.D. Faculty Fellow, 2026-2028

EDUCATION

Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut, Ph.D. Candidate in History, 2020-present

The University of Chicago Law School, Chicago, Illinois, J.D. with honors, June 2020
- *Honors:* Edmund A. Spencer Scholarship, Ruth Wyatt Rosen Scholarship
- *Journal: The University of Chicago Legal Forum*, 2L Staff Member & 3L Symposium Editor
- *Activities:* Disability Rights, Advocacy and Community Group, Co-founder; Mark Heyrman Mental Health Advocacy Project Student Organization, Co-founder and 3L Board Member; National Lawyers Guild, 1L Representative & 2L President; Student Animal Legal Defense Fund, 1L Representative & 2L Events Coordinator; Lawyering for Reproductive Justice, 1L Treasurer; Domestic and Sexual Violence Project, 1L Representative

Amherst College, Amherst, Massachusetts, B.A., *magna cum laude*, in History and English, May 2015
- *Honors:* Phi Beta Kappa, Gregory S. Call Research Fellowship, Honors Thesis in History
- *Activities: Thoughts of Amherst* Literary Magazine, Editor-in-Chief; Equestrian Team, Co-Captain; *La Causa* Spoken Word Concert, Co-coordinator; *The Amherst Student* Newspaper, Copy Editor

New York University, at University College of London, London, England, TISCH
- Business Strategy and Producing for Film and Theater Program, Summer Study Abroad 2014

EXPERIENCE

The Police Accountability Project at the Mandel Legal Aid Clinic, Chicago, Illinois, School Year 2019-20
- Assisted with civil rights litigation and legislative advocacy projects
- Helped to draft police training procedures, to draft briefs for legislators on topics of reform, to collect data about police interactions with individuals with disabilities, and to compile case materials for victims of police violence

Chicago Public Schools, Chicago, Illinois, School Year 2019-20
- Researched and prepared lectures about the constitutional rights of minors
- Taught weekly "Know Your Rights" sessions to high school students at Hyde Park Academy

The Invisible Institute, Chicago, Illinois, *Summer Associate,* Summer 2019
- Assisted in preparing for state and federal litigation to further the aim of accountability in public institutions
- Answered legal inquires posed by journalists for use in both national and local news stories, including a piece published by *Forensic Architecture*

The Mental Health Advocacy Project at the Mandel Legal Aid Clinic, Chicago, Illinois, School Year 2018-19
- Drafted legal memoranda on legislative advocacy topics and amendments to the Illinois Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Code; worked on Freedom of Information Act projects
- Assisted in litigation seeking the release of individuals found not guilty by reason of insanity

The University of Chicago Law School, Chicago, Illinois, *Research Assistant*, Summer 2018
- Performed research for Professor Alison LaCroix; analyzed primary and secondary sources, including cases, journal articles, and archival materials relevant to her forthcoming book
- Authored frequent memoranda, completed substantive writing assignments, and presented findings

Steigmann Law, Savoy, Illinois, *Paralegal*, June 2015 - August 2017

- Performed legal research and drafted memoranda on legal issues in a diverse range of practice areas
- Participated in document and trial exhibit review; drafted template pleadings and communicated with clients
- Provided research, drafting, and editorial assistance for trial law journal articles

Amherst College History Department, Amherst, Massachusetts, *Research Assistant*, 2012 - 2015
- Conducted research on multiple projects for various professors in the department

AWARDS AND GRANTS

- *Awards:* Winner of the 2022 Stanford Center for Law & History Graduate Student Annual Conference Paper Prize
- *Grants:* 2021 Oscar M. Ruebhausen Grant Recipient; 2022 Richard Strassberg Travel Grant Recipient; 2022 American Society for Legal History's Student Research Colloquium Fellowship Grant Recipient; 2022 Yale History Research Travel Grant Recipient; 2023 OAH Presidents' Travel Fund Grant Recipient; 2023 Isa and Avi Mehta Graduate Student Research Fund Award Recipient; 2023 Elias E. Manuelidis Memorial Fund Research Grant Recipient; 2024 John F. Enders Research Grand Recipient; 2024 John Morton Blum Fellowship for Graduate Research Recipient; 2024 Yale Institute for Social and Policy Studies Democratic Innovations Fund Research Grant Recipient; 2024 American Society for Legal History William Nelson Cromwell Early Career Research Grant Award
- *Fellowships:* 2023-2024 Yale University Workshop in Modern U.S. History Fellow, 2024 Yale Law School Legal History Fellow (co-coordinating the Yale Legal History Forum), 2023-2024 Yale Institution for Social and Policy Studies Graduate Policy Fellow
- *Activities:* Yale Disability Studies Working Group & Speaker Series co-coordinator 2023-present; Annual Symposium for Disability and Accessibility at Yale, co-coordinator, 2022-present

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

- "Calling the Shots: Civil Liberties and Anti-Vaccination Lawsuits in the Progressive Era United States, 1900-1920," Paper presented to the 2021 Annual Meeting of the American Society for Legal History, New Orleans, 5 November 2021
- Panelist, "Interdisciplinary Work at the Intersections of Disability," 2022 Symposium on Accessibility and Disability, Yale University, 4 April 2022
- "Calling the Shots: Civil Liberties and Anti-Vaccination Lawsuits in the Progressive Era United States, 1900-1920," Paper presented to the Fourth Annual Conference of the Stanford Center for Law and History, Stanford University, 29 April 2022
- "Revisiting *Bragdon v. Abbott*: The Intersection of Sexual Orientation and Disability in Federal HIV/AIDS Litigation," Paper presented to the SRC Colloquium at the 2022 Annual Meeting of the American Society for Legal History, Chicago, 9 November 2022
- "The Accommodating State: Imagining Infrastructures of Care in the United States Progressive Era Anti-Vaccine Litigation and Legislation, 1900-1920," Paper presented to the 2023 Annual Meeting of the Organization of American Historians, Los Angeles, 31 March 2023
- "Bargains and Bandages: Healthcare Workers and the Regulation of Occupational Safety in the U.S., 1970-Present," Paper presented to the 2025 Annual Meeting of the Organization of American Historians, Chicago, 3 April 2025
- "Bargains & Bandages: Administrative Regulation of Occupational Safety and Care Labor During the HIV/AIDS Epidemic," Paper presented to the ASLH/Notre Dame Graduate Legal History Colloquium, Chicago, 5 April 2025

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Teaching Fellow, Cultures of Western Medicine, Yale University, Fall 2022
- Teaching Fellow, Bioethics and Law, Yale University, Spring 2023
- Teaching Fellow, Public Health in America, 1793-Present, Yale University, Fall 2023
- Teaching Fellow, The American Century, Yale University, Spring 2024
- Teaching Fellow, America at 250, Yale University, Fall 2025
- Teaching Fellow, The UnAmerican Century, Yale University, Spring 2026

BAR MEMBERSHIP

- Admitted to the Illinois Bar in 2020

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Co-Recipient of the University of Chicago Law School's Student Organization Pro Bono Award
- National Lawyers Guild Legal Observer, *Volunteer,* September 2018-present
- NCLR Pro Bono Prison Letter Writing Initiative, *Project Co-Coordinator*, October 2017-June 2020
- LAF Woodlawn Legal Aid Clinic, *Volunteer*, November 2017-June 2020
- Interscholastic Equestrian Association Team Instructor, June 2015-present

ACADEMIC REFERENCES

Professor John Fabian Witt
Dissertation Co-Advisor
Yale Law School/Yale University
John.witt@yale.edu

Professor Laura Weinrib
Law School Advisor
Harvard Law School/Harvard University
Lweinrib@law.harvard.edu

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