

# Maybell Romero

Tulane Law School  
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## Appointments

### **Tulane Law School**, New Orleans, Louisiana

*McGlinchey Stafford Associate Professor, June 2023 – present* (tenure effective July 1, 2023)

*Associate Dean of Faculty Research & Programs, November 2025 – present*

*Felder-Fayard Associate Professor, July 2021 – June 2023*

*Gordon Gamm Faculty Scholar, July 2021 – May 2023*

*Affiliated Faculty, Newcomb Institute, November 2024 - present*

*Awards:* Tulane University Research Innovation Award (2022)(recognizing a scholar who “develops novel ideas, approaches, and insights through interdisciplinary scholarship”); 2024-2025 Lavin Bernick Grant supporting research and travel, 2024-2025 Newman Grant supporting research and travel.

*Courses:* Criminal Law (Spring 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025), Criminal Procedure: Adjudication (Fall 2021, Spring 2023, Spring 2024, Fall 2024, Fall 2025), Criminal Justice Seminar (Ethics in Criminal Law Advocacy)(Spring 2022, Fall 2022, Fall 2023, Fall 2024); Children and the Law (Spring 2025); Sex Crimes Seminar (Fall 2025)

### **Northern Illinois University College of Law**, DeKalb, Illinois

*Associate Professor, July 2020 – May 2021*

*Assistant Professor, August 2017 – July 2020*

*Courses:* Criminal Law (Fall 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020), Criminal Procedure: Adjudication (Fall 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020; Summer 2020), Constitutional Law I (Spring 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021), Children in the Legal System (Spring 2018, 2021), Criminal Justice Ethics Seminar (Spring 2020)

### **J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University**, Provo, Utah

*Visiting Assistant Professor, 2015 – 2017*

*Distinguished Practitioner in Residence, Fall 2014*

*Courses:* Criminal Law (Spring 2016, 2017), Criminal Procedure: Adjudication (Fall 2014, 2016), Children and the Law (Fall 2014, 2015)

## Teaching and Research Interests

**Primary Interests:** Criminal Law & Procedure, Professional Responsibility, Rurality and the Law, Sex Crimes, Juvenile Law, Family Law

## Articles, Essays, and Book Chapters

“Gossip,” 115 *Geo. L.J.* \_\_\_ (forthcoming 2027)(reviewed by Leah Litman in *JOTWELL*, “Lady

Whistledown...and the Legal Academy?,” Apr. 6, 2026,

[https://legalpro.jotwell.com/lady-whistledownand-the-legal-academy/?\\_gl=1\\*m4hkar\\*\\_ga\\*MzEzOTUzMTAuMTc3NDg5NTYzNw..\\*\\_ga\\_BXXRV43J3Z\\*\\_czE3NzU2NTI5NDgkbzYkZzEkdDE3NzU2NTI5NTgkajUwJGwwwJGgw](https://legalpro.jotwell.com/lady-whistledownand-the-legal-academy/?_gl=1*m4hkar*_ga*MzEzOTUzMTAuMTc3NDg5NTYzNw..*_ga_BXXRV43J3Z*_czE3NzU2NTI5NDgkbzYkZzEkdDE3NzU2NTI5NTgkajUwJGwwwJGgw)).

“Garbage In, Garbage Out? GIGO Criminal Justice,” (work in progress with Brian L. Frye).

“Shame, Ruin, and Revival: American Rape Law Through Art and Autoethnography,” (book project work in progress, currently in the preliminary research phase).

“Victims’ Rights as Limitation on Prosecutorial Independence,” (work in progress).

“Unlikely Criminals: Inside the IVF Drug Grey Market,” 75 *EMORY L.J.* \_\_\_ (forthcoming 2026).

“Rural Judges in Criminal Adjudication,” (work in progress)(selected for Northwestern Law’s 2024 State Courts Roundtable).

*Shamed*, 111 *VA. L. REV.* 325 (2025).

“An Escape to Rurality,” in *Whose Rural? Global Reflections on Positionality and Place in Rural Access to Justice Scholarship* (Daniel Newman & Michele Statz, eds., Bloomsbury, forthcoming 2026).

*Preface: New Directions in Prosecutorial Reform*, 60 *AM. CRIM. L. REV.* 1369 (2023)(with Justin Murray & Miriam Krinsky).

*Prosecutorial Mutiny*, 60 *AM. CRIM. L. REV.* 1403 (2023)(with Cynthia Godsoe).

“Ruined”, 111 *GEO. L.J.* 237 (2023)(featured as Download of the Week and one of the Downloads of the Year 2022 on *Legal Theory Blog*:  
<https://lsolum.typepad.com/legaltheory/2022/03/download-of-the-week-ruined-by-romero.html> and  
<https://lsolum.typepad.com/legaltheory/2023/01/downloads-of-the-year-2022.html>); reviewed by I. India Thusi in JOTWELL, “Un-Marking Rape Victims,” Sep. 13, 2023,  
<https://equality.jotwell.com/un-marking-rape-victims/>).

*Progressive Prosecution Without a Foil*, 69 *WASH. U. J. OF L. & POLICY* 275 (2022).

*Lowball Rural Defense*, 99 *WASH. U. L. REV.* 1081 (2021).

*Elections and Pro-Prosecution Culture*, 19 *OHIO ST. J. Crim. L.* 119 (2021).

*Law Enforcement as Disease Vector*, *U. CHI. L. REV. ONLINE* (Nov. 16, 2020)(available at  
<https://lawreviewblog.uchicago.edu/2020/11/16/covid-romero/>)

*The Right to Unmarry: A Proposal*, 69 *CLEV. ST. L. REV.* 89 (2020)(with Brian L. Frye).

*Rural Spaces, Communities of Color, and the ‘Progressive Prosecutor’*, 110 *J. CRIM. L. CRIMINOLOGY* 803 (2020).

*Prosecutors and Police: An Unholy Union*, 54 *U. RICH. L. REV.* 101 (2020).

*Access to Justice for Rural Mainers of Color Through a Prosecution Lens*, 71 *ME. L. REV.* 2 (2019)(reviewed in JOTWELL,  
<https://equality.jotwell.com/whitewashing-the-rural-how-cultural-views-influence-access-to-the-justice-system-for-communities-of-color/>).

*Educational Environments and the Federal Right to Education in the Wake of Parkland*,  
 73 *U. MIAMI L. REV.* 731 (2019).

*Profit-Driven Prosecution and the Competitive Bidding Process*, 107 *J. CRIM. L. & CRIMINOLOGY* 161 (2017).

## Other Publications and Works

*Geographies of Mass Incarceration*, JOTWELL, April 7, 2023 (reviewing Jessica T. Simes’s *Punishing Places: The Geography of Mass Imprisonment*).

Maybell Romero, Jon Tunheim, & Chantelle Williams, *Guidelines for Prosecution Intimate Partner Violence in Smaller Jurisdictions*, March 17, 2022, at [https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\\_id=4047368](https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=4047368).

Brian L. Frye & Maybell Romero, *TVTV’s America*, BAM/PFA, August 14, 2020, at  
[https://guerrillatv.bampfa.berkeley.edu/essays/2020-08-10\\_brian-frye-and-maybell-romero-tv-tvs-america.html](https://guerrillatv.bampfa.berkeley.edu/essays/2020-08-10_brian-frye-and-maybell-romero-tv-tvs-america.html).

*Tiger King and Corpus Delicti: How to Get Away With Murder...Or Not*, Docalogue, May 2020  
 at <https://docalogue.com/tiger-king-murder-mayhem-and-madness/>.

## Selected Presentations, Conferences, and Speaking Engagements

- Co-speaker with Brian L. Frye, "Garbage In, Garbage Out? GIGO Criminal Justice," Challenges and Opportunities of Artificial Intelligence in Criminal Justice, Hanoi Law University (co-sponsored by the University of Washington School of Law and the People's Police Academy), December 11, 2025.
- Commentator, Southeastern Law Schools Junior/Senior Conference, Wake Forest Law School, November 20-21, 2025.
- Speaker, "Unlikely Criminals: Inside the IVF Drug Grey Market," University of Colorado School of Law Faculty Workshop, September 15, 2025.
- Convenor and Panelist, CrimWIP (Criminal Law Works in Progress online series), Summer 2025.
- Panelist, CrimFest 2025, "Rural Impunity, A Case Study," University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School, Philadelphia, July 14, 2025.
- Speaker, "Unlikely Criminals: Inside the IVF Drug Grey Market," Villanova Charles Widger School of Law Faculty Workshop, February 19, 2025.
- Speaker, "Unlikely Criminals: Inside the IVF Drug Grey Market," University of Pittsburgh School of Law Faculty Workshop, January 14, 2025.
- Panelist, Criminal Law Section, "Applied Legal Storytelling, Critical Theory, and Epistemology in the Classroom," AALS Annual Meeting, San Francisco, January 9, 2025.
- Panelist, Women in Legal Education Pedagogy Program, AALS Annual Meeting, January 8, 2025.
- Speaker, "Shamed," University of Kansas School of Law Faculty Workshop, October 29, 2024.
- Speaker, "Shamed" and "Unlikely Criminals," Cornell Law School Faculty Workshop Series, October 25, 2024.
- Speaker, Cardozo Law School Colloquium on Criminal Legal System Abolition, September 24, 2024.
- Keynote Speaker, Utah Annual Judicial Conference, "Judicial Language in Sentencing," September 13, 2024.
- Speaker, "Shamed," University of Maryland Carey School of Law Legal Theory Workshop, September 12, 2024.
- Speaker, "Shamed," University of Georgia School of Law Faculty Workshop, September 3, 2024.
- Panelist, Aspiring Law Teachers Workshop: The Art of Self-Promotion, SEALS, July 24, 2024.
- Panelist and Mentor, Law and Technology New Scholars Workshop, SEALS, July 23, 2024.
- Moderator, Criminal Law New Scholars Workshop, SEALS, July 22, 2024.
- Convenor and Panelist, CrimWIP (Criminal Law Works in Progress series), Summer 2024.
- Speaker, "Rural Judges in Criminal Adjudication," State Courts Roundtable, Northwestern Pritzker Law School, April 19, 2024.
- Speaker, "Shamed," Southwestern Law School Faculty Workshop, January 29, 2024.
- Panelist, "The Role of Self-Narrative in Legal Scholarship," AALS, Washington, DC, January 4, 2024.
- Panelist, "How Other States and Industries Draw Talent to Rural Areas," and Moderator "Rural Prosecution Panel," South Dakota Law Review Symposium on Rural Lawyers, University of South Dakota Knudson School of Law, September 21-22, 2023.
- Speaker, UC Irvine Initiative to End Family Violence, UC Irvine School of Law, September 18, 2023.
- Panelist, "Balancing Prosecutorial Accountability and Discretion," Burge Conference on Law and Ethics, Georgia State University College of Law, August 18, 2023.
- Speaker, "Rural Lay Judges in the United States," XVII World Congress of the International Association of Procedural Law, Pontifical Catholic University of Peru, Lima, Peru, September 7, 2023.
- Speaker, "Police as Predators," 2023 Law of Policing Conference, University of Chicago Law School, June 8, 2023.
- Moderator and Commentator, 2023 GO LILA Workshop, Stanford Law School, May 31, 2023.

Convenor, Moderator, and Speaker, Faculty Scholarship Symposium, "Shamed," Tulane Law School, May 15, 2023.

Speaker, Faculty Workshop Series, "Shamed," The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law, April 11, 2023.

Convenor and Moderator, Gordon Gamm Comparative Law and Justice Symposium, Tulane Law School, March 31, 2023.

Convenor and Moderator, Bayou Scholars Workshop, Tulane Law School, March 18, 2023.

Speaker, Faculty Workshop Series, "*Ruined*," Arizona State University Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, February 27, 2023.

Panelist, The Criminal Legal System and Justice: For Survivors of Violence and Survivors of a Violent Prison System, at Innocent Behind Bars: A Symposium on Overcriminalization, Arizona State University Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, February 24, 2023.

Convenor, Moderator, and Panelist, American Criminal Law Review Symposium, "Reform-Minded Prosecution," Georgetown University Law Center, October 28, 2022.

Speaker, Criminal Justice Forum Lecture, Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, September 29, 2022.

Speaker, Colloquium for J.S.D. and LL.M. Students, Georgetown University Law Center, September 19, 2022.

Panelist, "Lawyers in Asian Syariah Courts: Ethical and Regulatory Issues," International Legal Ethics Conference, UCLA School of Law, August 14, 2022.

Panelist, "Prosecution Amid Political Contestation and Polarization," International Legal Ethics Conference, UCLA School of Law, August 13, 2022.

Panelist, "Amending the Model Rules of Professional Conduct to Clarify the Duties of Government Lawyers," SEALS, July 31, 2022.

Panelist, "Aspiring Law Teachers Workshop: Crafting Your Scholarship Goals," SEALS, July 30, 2022.

Commentator, Justin Simard, "Slavery and Self-Help," AALS Professional Responsibility Section Workshop, June 29, 2022.

Speaker, Faculty Workshop Series, University of Illinois School of Law (Champaign-Urbana), April 26, 2022.

Speaker, "An Introduction to Police Unions," American Bar Ass'n Legal Education Police Practices Consortium, April 8, 2022.

Speaker, Faculty Workshop Series, Tulane Law School, April 5, 2022.

Speaker, Faculty Workshop Series, Drexel University, Thomas R. Kline School of Law, March 10, 2022.

Speaker, Faculty Workshop Series, Pace University, Elizabeth Haub School of Law, February 9, 2022.

Panelist, "Mass Incarceration as Oppression," Oklahoma Law Review Symposium—Ending Mass Incarceration: Philosophy, Practice, and Policy, February 4, 2022.

Panelist, Institute for Innovation in Prosecution, "Beyond Big Cities," January 19, 2022.

Panelist, AALS Criminal Justice Section, "Rethinking Criminal Law Language," January 14, 2022.

Panelist, Washington University Journal of Law and Policy Symposium, November 12, 2021.

Discussant, Law and Rurality Workshop, University of Nebraska, October 29, 2021.

Speaker, University of Virginia Virtual Criminal Law Workshop, October 13, 2021.

Speaker, "Lowball Rural Defense," University of Richmond Law School Junior Faculty Forum, September 25, 2021.

Panelist, "Crafting Your Scholarship Goals," SEALS, July 30, 2021.

Panelist, "The Art of Self-Promotion," SEALS, July 29, 2021.

Panelist, "Say Her Name: Breonna Taylor—Perspectives on the Breonna Taylor Case," SEALS, July 27, 2021.

Panelist, "Access to Justice, Legal Institutions, and Everyday People: What's Different about the Rural US?," Law and Society, May 28, 2021.

Speaker, "Lowball Rural Defense," University of Utah S.J. Quinney College of Law Faculty Workshop Series, March 2021.

Panelist, Northern Illinois University College of Law Racial Justice Roundtable, February 28, 2021.

Panelist, "Prosecutor 2.0," *Ohio State Journal of Criminal Law* Symposium, February 19, 2021.

Speaker, "Lowball Rural Defense," University of Kentucky Rosenberg College of Law Faculty Speaker Series, January 28, 2021.

Panelist, Arc of the Career Program, "A Session for First Time Meeting Attendees, January 14, 2021, AALS Annual Meeting.

Speaker, "Lowball Rural Defense," SMU Deason Criminal Justice Reform Center, Criminal Justice Reform Workshop Series, December 2, 2020.

Speaker, Charles H. Gershenson Faculty Workshop Series, Wayne State University Law School, November 2020.

Panelist and Host, "COVID-19 Criminal Justice," *University of Chicago Law Review Online* Symposium, November 18, 2020.

Speaker, "Lowball Rural Defense," Law and Rurality Workshop, co-sponsored by University of Nebraska and University of South Dakota Law Schools, October 30, 2020.

Panelist, "Inequity Within the Criminal Justice System," Washington and Lee Journal of Civil Rights and Social Justice, October 30, 2020.

Guest, DIY Democracy Podcast, "Choosing Rural Prosecutors," August 12, 2020.

Guest, University of Richmond Law Review Podcast, "Prosecutors and Police: An Unholy Union," August 7, 2020.

Organizer and Moderator, Criminal Law & Procedure Workshop, "Differing Visions of State and Local Prosecution: Implications of the Progressive Prosecution Movement," SEALS, August 2, 2020.

Panelist, "Low-Ball Criminal Defense," in Criminal Law & Procedure Workshop, "The Private Role in Criminal Justice," SEALS, July 31, 2020.

Panelist, Work-Life Balance and the Demands of Scholarship, AALS Faculty Focus, June 9, 2020.

Panelist and Organizer, "Law Enforcement As Disease Vector," NIU CrimWIP (Criminal Law Works in Progress series), June 4, 2020.

Panelist, Criminal Justice Ethics Discussion Series (organized by Fordham Law School for distribution to law schools this upcoming semester), Summer 2020.

Discussant, "Women's Rights in the Shadow of the Constitution," Law & Society Annual Meeting, May 29, 2020.

Speaker, "Progressive Prosecution in the Rural United States," Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology Symposium, Northwestern University School of Law, February 28, 2020.

Moderator, Creighton Law Review Symposium, Creighton University School of Law, February 21, 2020.

Panelist, "When They Call You A Terrorist – A Black Lives Matter Memoir," Northern Illinois University College of Law, February 6, 2020.

Moderator, AALS New Law Professors Section panel on scholarship, Washington D.C., January 3, 2020.

Speaker, "Prosecutors and Police: An Unholy Union," Marquette University Junior Faculty Works in Progress Workshop, Marquette University Law School, October 4, 2019.

Speaker and Organizer, "Prosecutors and Police: An Unholy Union," Chicagoland Junior Scholars Conference, Northern Illinois University College of Law, hosted by Loyola Law School, September 27, 2019.

Guest, "Maybell Romero on Prosecutor Unions & Justice Reform," *Ipse Dixit* podcast, September 3, 2019.

Speaker, "Prosecutors and Police: An Unholy Union," Criminal Justice Ethics Schmooze, Cardozo Law School, June 3, 2019.

Panelist, "People of Color in the Rural United States," National People of Color Legal Scholarship Conference: People of Color and the Future of Democracy, American University Washington College of Law, March 22, 2019.

Guest, "Maybell Romero on Profit-Driven Prosecution," *Ipse Dixit* podcast, February 28, 2019.

Speaker, "Rural Prosecutors and Communities of Color," Law and Rurality Workshop, UC Davis School of Law, February 15, 2019.

Panelist, "Rurality & Criminal Practice: Preparing Students for the Challenges Ahead," Society of American Law Teachers 2018 Teaching Conference, Penn State Law School, October 6, 2018.

Speaker, "Low-Bid Rural Criminal Justice Systems & Spatial Inequities," Crim Fest, Cardozo Law School, July 16, 2018.

Speaker, "Low-Bid Rural Criminal Justice Systems & Spatial Inequities," Criminal Justice Ethics Schmooze, Brooklyn Law School, June 12, 2018.

Speaker, "Educational Environments and the Federal Right to Education in the Wake of Parkland," Law & Society Association Junior Scholar Workshop, Toronto, June 6, 2018.

Speaker, "Disrupting Prosecutorial Culture," Faculty Workshop, Northern Kentucky University Chase College of Law, October 12, 2017.

## Education

### **University of California, Berkeley, School of Law**, Berkeley, California

*J.D.*, 2006

*Activities*: Editor in Chief (2005-2006), Managing Editor (2004-2005), [Berkeley Journal of Criminal Law](#); Associate Editor (2004 – 2005), [Berkeley Journal of International Law](#); Board Member (2004 – 2005), Boalt Criminal Law Association; McBaine Honors Moot Court Competition Participant (2005).

### **Cornell University**, Ithaca, New York

*B.A. in English, B.A. in Government, minor in Law and Society*, 2003

*Activities*: Undergraduate Representative, Codes and Judicial Committee (2001 – 2003); Research assistant to Professor Edgar Rosenberg (Departments of English and Comparative Literature); Student Library Assistant, Cornell Law Library. Worked approximately 15 – 20 hours a week to finance undergraduate education.

## Selected Professional Affiliations and Service

Chair, Intellectual Life Committee, Tulane Law School, (July 2025 – present)

Member, University Academic Freedom Committee, Tulane University (July 2025 – present)

Member, Non-JD Online Programs, Tulane Law School, (July 2025 – present)

Member, Planning Committee for the 2027 Workshop for Pretenured Law School Faculty for AALS 2027 (December 2025 – present)

Lead Curriculum Reviewer, American Medical Women's Association Physicians Against the Trafficking of Humans (AMWA-PATH) (December 2025 – Present)

Mentorship Secretary, AALS Criminal Procedure Section, (January 2025 – November 2025)

Tulane Research, Innovation, and Creativity Summit (TRICS) Planning Committee (January 2025 – present)

Chair, AALS Criminal Law Section (January 2023 – January 2024)

*Executive Board Member (January 2020-January 2025)*

Chair, Admissions Committee, Tulane Law School (August 2024 – present)

Member, Dean Search Committee, Tulane Law School (August 2023 – July 2024)

Member, Appointments Committee, Tulane Law School (August 2022 – July 2023)

Chair, Intellectual Life/Faculty Colloquium Committee, Tulane Law School (August 2022 – July 2024)

*Member (August 2021 – August 2022)*

Member, Planning Committee, Graciela Olivárez Latinas in the Legal Academy (GO LILA) Workshop  
(August 2022 – January 2024, Workshop held at Stanford Law School, May 30-31, 2023)

Advisory Board Member, Beyond Big Cities Initiative, sponsored by the Institute for Innovation in Prosecution at  
John Jay College (July 2021 – April 2023)

Convenor, CrimWIP Summer Workshop Series (2025, 2024, 2022, 2021)

Chair, AALS Section on New Law Professors (2020)

Member, Northern Illinois University College of Law Admissions Committee (2020 – 2021)

Member, Northern Illinois University College of Law Appointments Committee (2020 – 2021)

NIU College of Law Representative, AALS House of Representatives (August 2018 – 2021)

Member, SMU Deason Criminal Justice Reform Center Rural Justice Summit Steering Committee  
(February 2019 – present)

Co-Host, *Ipse Dixit* podcast (April 2019 – present)

Member, Northern Illinois University College of Law Dean Search Committee (2018 – 2019)

Member, Northern Illinois University College of Law Professional Identity Formation Committee  
(May 2018 – August 2018)

Member, Northern Illinois University General Counsel Search Committee (2018)

Member, Advisory Committee on the Rules of Juvenile Procedure (2013 – 2017)

Member, Utah State Bar Commission on the Future of Legal Services in Utah (2014 – 2015)

Board Member, Utah State Board of Mandatory Continuing Legal Education (2013 – 2017)

Board Member, Friends of the First Judicial District Drug Court (2013 – 2017)

Member, Utah State Bar Examiner Committee (2007 – 2012)

## Additional Professional Experience

### **Harris, Preston & Chambers**, Logan, Utah

*Partner, 2009 – 2015*

General practice focused on civil litigation, criminal defense, family and domestic law, bankruptcy, and employment law both in state and federal courts. Worked at all stages of litigation, including discovery, motions, hearings, mediation, depositions, trials, and appellate briefs. Assigned as Public Defender in First District Juvenile Mental Health Court and Alternate Public Defender in First District Court. Also certified Private Guardian ad Litem.

### **Rich County Attorney's Office**, Randolph, Utah

*Deputy County Attorney, 2010 – 2014*

Criminal prosecutor representing the state of Utah. Prosecution of cases ranging from infractions to felonies in state juvenile, justice, and district courts including screening and filing charges, arraignments and pretrial matters, motion practice, trials, sentencing, and advising law enforcement on investigations and procedural issues. Also provided advice to different county offices regarding civil matters, such as drafting of ordinances and reviewing contracts.

**Cache County Attorney's Office, Logan, Utah**

*Deputy County Attorney, 2006 – 2009*

Criminal prosecutor representing the state of Utah. Prosecution of cases ranging from infractions to felonies in state juvenile, justice, and district courts including screening and filing charges, arraignments and pretrial matters, motion practice, trials, and sentencing and advising law enforcement on investigations and procedural issues.