

## DEUEL ROSS

### PROFESSIONAL LEGAL EXPERIENCE

**NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund, Inc.** • Senior Counsel • New York, NY Jan. 2014 – Present  
Represent Black voters and organizations in litigation under the Voting Rights Act (VRA) and in public advocacy to challenge racially discriminatory laws and election systems in Alabama, Texas, and elsewhere. Cases include:

- Lead counsel in *Greater Birmingham Ministries v. Merrill* (250 F.Supp.3d 1238; 284 F.Supp.3d 1253), an ongoing challenge to Alabama's voter ID law; deposed experts, legislators, and election officials; lead author of trial and appellate briefs; and argued in the Eleventh Circuit for reversal of summary judgment;
- Member of trial team and co-authored the appellate briefs (2016 WL 2735718; 2015 WL 1156634) in *Veasey v. Abbott* (830 F. 3d 216), the successful VRA challenge to Texas's discriminatory voter ID law;
- Lead counsel in VRA vote dilution case against Pleasant Grove, Alabama (372 F. Supp. 3d 1333);
- Authored an amicus brief (2014 WL 4950020) filed on behalf of 16 local civil rights groups in *Martin v. Kholts*, 444 S.W.3d 844 (Ark. 2014), a successful challenge to Arkansas's voter ID law in state court;

Represent Black students in school desegregation cases by negotiating and monitoring settlements, deposing witnesses, writing briefs, and presenting arguments at state and federal trial and appellate proceedings. Cases include:

- Lead counsel in *Banks v. St. James Par. Sch. Bd., La.*, which has involved writing the appellate briefs and presenting oral argument in the Fifth Circuit about the impact of a newly opened one-race charter school (757 F. App'x. 326); as well as, the negotiation of consent orders (2019 WL 2051644; 2017 WL 2554472)
- Lead counsel in *Thomas v. St. Martin Par. Sch. Bd., La.*, which has involved the direct examination of an expert at a hearing, dozens of depositions, and monitoring of consent orders (2016 U.S. Dist. Lexis 8580).
- Lead LDF attorney for plaintiffs in *Sheff v. O'Neill*, an ongoing state case against Connecticut to expand an inter-district desegregation program in the Hartford region, and for the intervenors in *Robinson v. Witzel*, an ongoing federal case in which intervenors are defending the constitutionality of that same program.

**Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP** • Associate • New York, NY Dec. 2011 – Dec. 2013  
Co-authored three amicus briefs in the U.S. Supreme Court for *Shelby County v. Holder* (2013 WL 432972), *Arizona v. Inter-Tribal Commission* (2013 WL 267031) and *Magner v. Gallagher* (2012 WL 313355). Supported intervenors in challenges under Section 5 of the VRA to voter photo ID laws in Texas and South Carolina. Represented clients *pro bono* at oral arguments in the state appellate court. Worked on briefs and discovery projects.

**Hon. Roger L. Gregory, U.S. Court of Appeals** • Law Clerk • Richmond, VA Aug. 2010 – Sept. 2011  
Assisted with the researching of opinions and with preparation for oral arguments by writing bench memoranda.

**American Civil Liberties Union** • Karpatkin Fellow / Attorney • New York, NY Aug. 2009 – Aug. 2010  
Represented students of color in two First Amendment suits in DeSoto County, MS and in a class action challenging the New York Police Department's illegal search and seizure policies by drafting pleadings and briefs and taking depositions. Assisted in settling cases to reform alternative schools in California and Georgia, litigating a police misconduct case in California and developing a Fair Housing Act case to address the 2008 housing crisis.

### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

**University of Pennsylvania Law School** • Adjunct Law Professor • Philadelphia, PA Jan. 2016 – Dec. 2017  
Taught semester long seminar courses on the Voting Rights Act and the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments.

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### EDUCATION

**University of Pennsylvania Law School** • J.D. • Philadelphia, PA May 2009  
Honors: *Journal of Law and Social Change*, Exec. Editor • Certificate, Business and Public Policy, Wharton School • Dean's Merit Scholar • Public Service Award • Vice President, Black Law Students Assoc. • Director, Penn Law for Obama • Exec. Chair, United Law Students of Color Council

**University of Southern California** • B.A., *cum laude*, English and Political Science • LA, CA May 2005  
American University semester in Washington, DC, Mozambique, and South Africa

### SELECT PUBLICATIONS

Op-Ed, "Voting Rights Success? Not So Fast," N.Y. TIMES, Aug. 18, 2016, *available at* <http://www.nytimes.com/2016/08/18/opinion/voting-rights-success-not-so-fast.html>.

*Alabama's Shame: Driver's License Office Closings Are the Foreseeable Consequence of Shelby County*, ACS BLOG, Oct. 9, 2015, <https://www.acslaw.org/acsblog/alabama%E2%80%99s-shame-driver%E2%80%99s-license-office-closings-are-the-foreseeable-consequence-of-shelby>.

Op-Ed, "Governor Ignores Facts to Support Voter ID Laws," ALABAMA MEDIA GROUP, February 4, 2015, *available at* [http://www.al.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/02/governor\\_ignores\\_facts\\_to\\_supp.html](http://www.al.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/02/governor_ignores_facts_to_supp.html).

*Pouring Old Poison into New Bottles: How Discretion and the Discriminatory Administration of Voter ID Laws Recreate Literacy Tests*, 45 COLUM. HUM. RTS. L. REV. 362 (2014).

*Voter ID: 1890 Redux*, PRO BONO & PUB. INT. LITIG. NEWSL. (A.B.A., Chicago, IL), Apr. 9, 2013, *available at* <http://apps.americanbar.org/litigation/committees/probono/articles/spring2013-0413-voter-id-1890-redux.html>.

*Georgia*, in IN FOR A PENNY: THE RISE OF AMERICA'S NEW DEBTORS' PRISONS 55-64 (2010), *available at* [http://www.aclu.org/files/assets/InForAPenny\\_web.pdf](http://www.aclu.org/files/assets/InForAPenny_web.pdf).

Note, *Mending the Potholes and Expanding Avenues of Enforcement: Home Mortgage Litigation Reform*, 13 U. PA. J. L. & SOC. CHANGE 107 (2009).

### SELECT PRESENTATIONS AND MEDIA APPEARANCES

Making Elections Work in the Sunshine State and Beyond, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, August 2016.

To the Point, "The Voting Rights Act 50 Years Later: Race and the Ballot Box," October 2015.

American Constitution Society, Racial Gerrymandering After Alabama Legislative Black Caucus, Rutgers School of Law, Newark, NJ, April 2015.

29th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Event, The Voting Rights Act: Historical and Contemporary Developments, University of Wisconsin Whitewater, Whitewater, WI, January 2015.

ADMISSIONS: New York (state and federal); M.D. Tenn.; U.S. Courts of Appeal, 4th, 5th, and 11th Circuits