

Farhang Heydari

Vanderbilt Law School
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Vanderbilt Law School

Associate Professor, 2026 – present

Assistant Professor, 2023 – 2026

Criminal Law

Hall-Hartman Outstanding Professor Award 2025, 2026

Criminal Procedure: Investigation

Hall-Hartman Outstanding Professor Award 2024, 2025

Administering the Carceral State

Policing, Technology & Artificial Intelligence

New York University School of Law

Adjunct Professor, 2018 – 2023

Policing Externship

The Past and Present of Big Brother Policing

Columbia Law School

Lecturer-in-Law, 2015 – 2017

Consequences of Mass Incarceration Clinic

Advanced Federal Prison Litigation

Civil Rights Litigation

EDUCATION

COLUMBIA LAW SCHOOL, J.D.

James Kent Academic Scholar

Editor-in-Chief, *Columbia Law Review*

Outstanding Public Interest Student of the Year

Public Interest Initiative of the Year

HARVARD UNIVERSITY, B.A. Government

Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society

SERVICE

Open Table Nashville

Board Member (2025 – present)

U.S. Dep't of Treasury, National AI Advisory Committee, Subcommittee on AI & Law Enforcement

Chair (2024 – 2025)

Member (2023 – 2024)

Columbia Law School

Public Interest / Public Service Fellow Practitioner Board (2019 – 2023)

Public Interest / Public Service Fellow Selection Committee (2019 – 2022)

LEGAL SCHOLARSHIP

America's National Police (work in progress)

Genetic Frontiers (work in progress)

[Weird Cops \(Agency Police\)](#), 79 VANDERBILT L. REV. (2026) (forthcoming)

[Regulating Police Robots](#), 16 UC IRVINE L. REV. (2026) (forthcoming) (with Max Isaacs & Barry Friedman)

[Putting Police Body-Worn Camera Footage to Work: A Civil Liberties Evaluation of Truleo's AI Analytics Platform](#), 46 CARDOZO L. REV. 2247 (2025) (with co-authors)

[The Sheriff's Constitution](#), 113 GEORGETOWN L.J. 1041 (2025)

[Rethinking Federal Inducement of Pretext Stops](#), 2024 WISCONSIN L. REV. 181 (2024)

[The Invisible Driver of Policing](#), 76 STANFORD L. REV. 1 (2024)

Reviewed by Wendy Wagner, [NHTSA's Incredible Journey from Industry Regulator to Surrogate Cop](#), JOTWELL (June 2023)

[The Federal Government's Role in Local Policing](#), 110 VIRGINIA L. REV. 1527 (2023) (with Rachel Harmon & Barry Friedman)

[Policing Police Tech: A Soft Law Solution](#), 37 BERKELEY TECHNOLOGY L.J. 701 (2023) (with Barry Friedman, Katie Kinsey, Max Isaacs)

[The Private Role in Public Safety](#), 90 GEORGE WASHINGTON L. REV. 696 (2022)

Reviewed by Mary Fan, [Regulating Private Influences on Policing](#), JOTWELL (May 2023)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS & WRITINGS

[A Fear About Holistic Justice](#), 78 VANDERBILT L. REV. 1743 (2025) (symposium contribution)

[Why privatizing surveillance is the wrong move for Nashville](#), Op-ed, THE TENNESSEAN (Dec. 2025)

The National Artificial Intelligence Advisory Committee (NAIAC), Recommendation: [Field Testing of Law Enforcement AI Tools](#) (Sept. 2024)

The National Artificial Intelligence Advisory Committee (NAIAC), Law Enforcement Subcommittee, [Discussing a Framework for the Responsible Use of Facial Recognition Technology in Law Enforcement](#) (July 2024)

The National Artificial Intelligence Advisory Committee (NAIAC), Recommendation: [Require Public Summary Reporting on Use of High-Risk AI](#) (May 2024)

The National Artificial Intelligence Advisory Committee (NAIAC), Recommendation: [Require Public Use Policies for High-Risk AI](#) (Feb. 2024)

The National Artificial Intelligence Advisory Committee (NAIAC), Recommendation: [Expand the AI Use Case Inventory by Limiting the 'Common Commercial Products' Exception](#) (Feb. 2024)

[Biden just quietly took a key step to ‘decriminalize’ traffic safety policy](#), Op-ed, THE HILL (May 2024)

[If the feds are serious about police reform, they should stop encouraging bad policing](#), Op-ed, THE HILL (Aug. 2023)

[Report on Axon’s Project ION](#), POLICING PROJECT (Jan. 2023)

[Ring & Neighbors Public Safety Service: A Civil Rights & Civil Liberties Audit](#), POLICING PROJECT (Dec. 2021)

[Understanding Police Reliance on Public Data](#), HOOVER INSTITUTION (Oct. 2021)

[Collecting, Analyzing & Responding to Stop Data: A Guidebook for Law Enforcement Agencies, Government & Communities](#), U.S. Dep’t of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services grant award 2016-CK-WX-KOJ6 (Sept. 2020)

[Civil Rights & Civil Liberties Audit of Baltimore’s Aerial Investigation Research \(AIR\) Program](#), POLICING PROJECT (May. 2020)

[Second Report of the Axon AI Ethics Board: Automated License Plate Readers](#), AXON AI & POLICING TECHNOLOGY ETHICS BOARD (Oct. 2019)

[First Report of the Axon AI Ethics Board: Face Recognition](#), AXON AI & POLICING TECHNOLOGY ETHICS BOARD (June 2019)

[Making Strange Bedfellows: Enlisting the Cooperation of Undocumented Employees in the Enforcement of Employer Sanctions](#), 110 COLUM. L. REV. 1526 (2010) (student note)

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

The Policing Project, New York University School of Law

Senior Advisor, 2023 – present

Executive Director, 2019 – 2022

Deputy Director, 2017 – 2019

Inaugural Executive Director of multi-disciplinary center focused on improving police accountability. Led a staff of approximately 30, fundraised and managed an annual budget of over \$4 million, and spearheaded [litigation campaign](#) and advocacy around [policing technologies](#). Named to *Government Technology's* 2021 Top 25 Doers, Dreamers & Drivers.

Neufeld, Scheck & Brustin, LLP

Associate, 2015 – 2017

Johnnie L. Cochran Fellow, 2013 – 2015

Litigated complex civil rights actions representing victims of police, prosecutor, and other official misconduct, many with an emphasis on forensic science issues. Named a *Super Lawyers*, New York Rising Star in Civil Rights in 2017 and 2018.

Hon. Kimba M. Wood

U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York

Law Clerk, 2012 – 2013

Hon. Diana G. Motz

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit

Law Clerk, 2011 – 2012

BAR ADMISSIONS

New York

U.S. Courts of Appeals, including Second, Fourth, and Fifth Circuits (inactive)

U.S. District Courts, including SDNY, EDNY, WDNY, and D. Md. (inactive)