

CLAIRE JOHNSON RABA

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- University of Illinois Chicago School of Law** 8/16/22– Present
Assistant Professor of Law (tenure track)
Courses Taught: Civil Procedure, Consumer Law, Access to Justice and Legal Technology.
- University of California, Irvine School of Law**
Clinical Teaching Fellow, Consumer Law Clinic 8/1/19 – 6/27/22
Co-taught 6-unit direct representation and policy advocacy economic justice clinic.
- University of California College of the Law, San Francisco**
Adjunct Professor of Law, Consumer Law (part-time) 8/1/16 – 12/31/18

EDUCATION

University of California College of the Law, San Francisco

Juris Doctor, Public Interest Concentration, 2010
Senior Articles Editor, *Women's Law Journal*

California State University East Bay

Bachelor of Arts, cum laude Political Science, 2007
Editor in chief, *The Pioneer* campus newspaper
Peralta Community Colleges transfer to CSUEB

ARTICLES, JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS, AND PEER-REVIEWED RESEARCH REPORTS

Claire Johnson Raba and Dalié Jiménez, [Pay to Plead: Finding Unfairness and Abusive Practices in California Debt Collection Cases](#), forthcoming REV. BANKING & FIN. L. (2024).

Claire Johnson Raba, [Low-Income Litigants in the Sandbox: Court Record Data and the Legal Technology A2J Market](#) 97 ST. JOHN'S L. REV. 195 (2023).

Claire Johnson Raba, [Forfeiting Due Process: How Adjudicative Reform Fails Property Owners](#) 51 FORDHAM URB. L. J. 299 (2023).

[California Debt Collection Lawsuits, Geography, Credit, and Race/Ethnicity: An Exploration](#)

Dalié Jiménez, Claire Johnson Raba, Madeleine G. Larock, Nancy Montalbano, 2024
and Cindy Xu

Pew-funded, peer-reviewed research report, Debt Collection Lab.

[More Paper in California: An Evaluation of Documentation Reforms in State Court](#) 2024

Abhay Aneja, Julia Byeon, Jacqueline Cope, Luis Faundez, Doug A. Lewis, Dalié Jiménez,
Claire Johnson Raba, Prasad Krishnamurthy, and Manisha Padi
Pew-funded, peer-reviewed research report, Debt Collection Lab.

[More Paper in Connecticut: An Evaluation of Documentation Reforms in State Court](#) 2024

Abhay Aneja, Julia Byeon, Jacqueline Cope, Luis Faundez, Lewis, Dalié Jiménez,
 Claire Johnson Raba, Prasad Krishnamurthy, and Manisha Padi
 Pew-funded, peer-reviewed research report, Debt Collection Lab.

[One-Sided Litigation: Lessons from Civil Docket Data in California Debt Collection Lawsuits](#)

Claire Johnson Raba 2023
 Pew-funded, peer-reviewed research report, Debt Collection Lab.

[The Unequal Burden of Debt Claims: Disparate Impact in California Debt Collection Cases](#)

Claire Johnson Raba 2023
 Pew-funded, peer-reviewed research report, Debt Collection Lab.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

[Guest Author: UniCourt Blog](#)

Three-part series on court record data and access to justice. 2021-2022

Johnson Raba, Claire [Going Remote: Due Process and Unrepresented Debt Defendants During the Covid-19 Pandemic](#) 2021

[Untapped Tools: The Power of State Debt Collection Laws to Protect Student Loan Borrowers](#)

Research report, Student Borrower Protection Center. 2022

[Co-opting California Courts: How Private Creditors Have Turned the Judiciary into a Predatory Student Debt Collection Machine](#) 2021

Research report, Student Borrower Protection Center.

Claire Johnson Raba and Desiree Nguyen Orth,

[Unsettling: No Relief in Debt Settlement](#) 2021

California Low-Income Consumer Coalition research report.

Raegan Joern, Claire Johnson Raba, and Rebekah Evenson, *Driving Change: Reforming Traffic Court Fines, Fees, and License Suspension through Strategic Impact Litigation and Policy Advocacy* 2017

Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law Clearinghouse Review

Claire Johnson and Lisa Greif, *Litigation Approaches to Challenging Subsidized Housing Denials Based on Applicants' Criminal Records* 2013
 National Housing Law Project Housing Law Bulletin

GRANT-FUNDED PROJECTS AND RESEARCH AFFILIATIONS

Pew Charitable Trusts (Jun. 2023 – Jun. 2024)

State Debt Collection Reform Evaluation \$150,000
 Co-Principal Investigator

American Bar Foundation/JPB Foundation [Access to Justice Scholar](#) (2023-2024) \$60,000

Non-residential appointment as a research scholar. Appointment includes course buyout, summer salary, and research budget.

State Bar of California Consumer Debt Grant, with Inland Counties Legal Services (2023-2026)

Co-Principal Investigator

The Debt Collection Lab (Sept. 2022 – Present)

A project of the Sociology Department of Princeton University

Co-Principal Investigator

Pew Charitable Trusts (Nov. 2021 – Jun. 2024)

“Intentional Innovation: Using State Court Record Data in California Debt Collection

Cases to Advance Access to Justice” \$257,511

Co-Principal Investigators

Lead researcher on project. Grant application lead author.

State Bar of California Partnership Grant, sub-grantee of Inland Counties**Legal Services** (2021-2022)

“San Bernardino County Consumer Law Clinic Technology Automation” \$37,600

Lead Researcher. Grant application lead author.

Student Borrower Protection Center (2021-2022)

“Private Student Loans in the California Courts 2008-2020” \$15,000

Lead researcher on project. Grant application lead author.

LEGAL PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

Bay Area Legal Aid*Senior Attorney / Consumer Law Unit Lead* 10/5/12 – 6/15/19

Created and led legal aid consumer law practice area. Legal practice focused on racial justice, economic justice, systemic reform, access to justice, and legislative and policy impact advocacy. Successfully sought and obtained grant funding and attorney’s fees to grow the practice area from one to five attorneys.

Bay Area Legal Aid*Equal Justice Works Fellow, sponsored by Arnold & Porter LLP* 10/5/10 – 10/4/12

Developed and implemented a two-year fellowship project representing domestic violence survivors in consumer law matters. Successfully demonstrated the viability of a consumer law practice to the largest provider of civil legal services in Northern California.

SELECTED RECENT SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS AND PAPER PRESENTATIONS

International Access-to-Justice Forum, “Documenting the Debt: Evaluating the Effect of Debt Collection Reforms in Three States.” Oct. 25, 2024.

Clinical Law Review Clinical Writers’ Workshop, “Collaborative Impact: Bringing Access-to-Justice Research into the Law School Direct Representation Clinic.” Sept. 28, 2024.

Self-Represented Litigation Network Conference, “Evaluating State Debt Collection Reforms.” Sept. 19, 2024.

Teaching Consumer Law Conference, "Collaborative Impact: Bringing Access-to-Justice Research to the Law School Direct Representation Clinic." May 16, 2024.

National Consumer Law Center Consumer Rights Litigation Conference, Opening Plenary Keynote Speaker, "The Forest and the Trees: Big Data, Access to Justice, Consumer Protection, and Racial Justice." October 25, 2023.

Work in Progress, "Uncivil Proceedings: Perceptions of Civil Debt Collection Lawsuits from Re-Entry."
2024 Law and Society Annual Conference, June 5, 2024.
2023 American Society of Criminologists Annual Meeting, November 15, 2023.

Work in Progress, "Pay to Plead: Finding Unfairness and Abusive Practices in California Debt Collection Cases."
2024 Consumer Law Scholars Conference, March 1, 2024.
2023 International Access to Justice Forum, October 12, 2023.
2023 Poverty Law Conference, March 11, 2023.
2023 Law and Society Annual Conference, June 1-4, 2023.

Legal Services Corporation Innovations in Technology Conference, "The Legal Services Toolkit: Collaboration and Innovation," January 21, 2023.

Pew Charitable Trusts Great Lakes Summit on Reimagining Debt Collection in the Courts, "Beyond Default Judgments," December 8, 2022.

Work in progress, "Forfeiting Due Process: How Adjudicative Reform Fails Property Owners."
2022 Chicagoland Junior Scholars Conference, September 30, 2022.

2022 Teaching Consumer Law Conference, "Teaching Law + Innovation, Improving Access to Justice for Unrepresented Consumers," May 20, 2022.

2022 National Legal Aid & Defenders Association Equal Justice Conference, "Academic Partnerships for Legal Aid Services Delivery," May 11-14, 2022.

2021 Law and Society Association Annual Conference, "Using Partnerships to Reduce Default Judgments, Empower Consumer Debtors, and Rethink Judicial Efficiency," May 27, 2021.

"Low-Income Litigants in the Sandbox: Court Record Data and the Legal Technology A2J Market,"

2021 AALS Clinical Conference, WIP Session: Access to Justice Section, April 30, 2021.
2021 New York University Clinical Writers Workshop, October 4, 2021.

Webinar, National Lawyers Guild, "In the Red: What Happens When the Rent becomes a Debt - The Transformation of Covid-19 Rent Arrears to Consumer Debt in California," April 18, 2021.

Webinar, Equal Justice Works, "Taking Your Fellowship Project Remote: No-Code LegalTech App Development Best Practices," April 24, 2020.

Podcast, 2020 CodeX FutureLaw Conference, "No-Code Platforms for Lawyers, " April 9, 2020.

2020 Legal Services Corporation Innovations in Technology Conference, "Legal App Teardowns: Do's and Don't's of Designing Apps for A2J," January 15, 2020.

Webinar, Equal Justice Works, "Taking Your Fellowship Project Remote: No-Code LegalTech App Development Best Practices," April 24, 2020.

COURT ADMISSIONS

State Bar of Illinois, September 2023

State Bar of California, December 2010

U.S. District Court, N.D. Cal., December 2010

U.S. Bankruptcy Court, N.D. Cal., July 2012

U.S. District Court, C.D. Cal., October 2017

U.S. Bankruptcy Court, C.D. Cal., October 2017

CODING AND LEGAL TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS

Scripting languages, databases, and data analysis: R, Stata, SQL, Tableau

No-code platforms: AfterPattern/NetDocuments, Josef Legal, Neota, HotDocs, A2J Author, Documate/Gavel

Subject matter expert consultant to the Judicial Council of California on digital services redesign of self-help materials for unrepresented consumer debt defendants (2018)

Legal Technology Projects:

San Bernardino County Debt Defense Clinic: DocAssemble-based collaboration with the court and Inland Counties Legal Services (2021-2022)

[California Debt Defender](#): Creates an answer, affirmative defenses, and fee waiver application for California debt collection defendants. (2018)

[Claim of Exemption Tool](#): Creates claims of exemption for bank levies and wage garnishments. (2018)

Bay Area Legal Aid Debt Collection Defense Advocates Tool: HotDocs tool for creating responsive documents in debt collection lawsuits. (2014)

SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Law and Society Association, Collaborative Research Network 25 Co-chair, 2024-present

Member, UIC Law Faculty Recruitment Committee, AY 2023-24

Member, UIC Law Student Engagement Committee, AY 2022-23

Equal Justice Works Alumni Advisory Council chairperson, August 2023-August 2025

Legal Services Corporation Civil Court Data Initiative, August 2022-Present

Pew Charitable Trusts Civil Court Data Researcher Cohort, November 2021-Present

Ad hoc manuscript peer reviewer for University of Denver *Journal of Law & Policy*, spring 2022

Ad hoc manuscript reviewer for the *Yale Law Journal*, fall 2024

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS, CERTIFICATIONS, AND LANGUAGES

Northwestern University Causal Inference Workshop 2024

Econometrics, Econ 300, University of Illinois Chicago, spring 2024

R and Statistical Analysis, EdX, August 2020

Law and Society Association, Member 2020-present

National Association of Consumer Advocates, Member 2011-present

National Institute for Trial Advocacy Training, Basic Trial Skills, May 2012

National Institute for Trial Advocacy Training, Advanced Trial Skills, Dec. 2014

LawHelp Interactive HotDocs and A2J document automation programming course, Oct. 2017

Conversational Spanish