

John Sivolella
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Columbia University Experience

Columbia University, New York, New York

August 2013 – Present

Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science

At request of department, created and teach Senior American Politics Seminar, *Political and Legal Influences on Federal Government Agencies*. The seminar is a capstone for the political science major – it is a comprehensive, interdisciplinary, high-level class on the legal aspects and politics of U.S. federal bureaucracy. Also supervise and advise writing of senior theses. Conducted independent reading course on Voting Rights for seniors in American Politics. My research focuses on federal agencies, executive power, public law and courts.

August 2003 – June 2013

Teaching Fellow, Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Political Science

Academic degrees earned in Political Science through Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (GSAS):

- Ph.D. (completed June 2013; awarded October 2013)
- Major Subfield: American Politics
- Minor Subfield: Quantitative Methods
- Master of Philosophy (M.Phil.), May 2008
- Master of Arts (M.A.), May 2004

Dissertation Title: *Do Politics Matter to this Watchdog? The Effects of Ideology on Civil Enforcement at the United States Securities and Exchange Commission*

Link: <http://academiccommons.columbia.edu/item/ac:163348>

Dissertation Committee: Professor Robert Shapiro (Committee Chair); Professor Michael Ting (Committee Defense Chair); Professor Jeffrey Lax; Professor Robert Lieberman; and Professor Milton Heumann (External Member of Committee, former Political Science Department Chair at Rutgers)

Academic Honors and Fellowships: GSAS Teaching Fellowship; GSAS Summer Research Fellowship; National Italian-American Foundation Scholar; Fox Fellow, Political Science

Prior Teaching at Columbia:

- Teaching Assistant to Columbia President Lee C. Bollinger – Free Speech and Press (two years)
- Preceptor for Senior Honors Seminar in Political Science
- Teaching Assistant, American Politics and Social Welfare Policy
- Teaching Assistant, Introduction to American Government and Politics
- Academic advisor for undergraduates in Political Science Department (helped found advisory program for undergraduates)

Additional academic work toward Ph.D.: August 2002 to June 2003, *Ph.D. candidate* in Department of Political Science, Rutgers University.

Public Service Experience

Governor Charlie Baker, Transition Team on Better Government, Boston, Massachusetts

December 2014 – February 2015

Member

Office of Counsel to the Governor, Trenton, New Jersey

January 1994 to July 1997

Senior Assistant Counsel to the Governor

In addition to responsibilities described below under *Assistant Counsel*, supervised process in Governor's Office of interviewing and evaluating nominees for judicial and prosecutorial appointments and making recommendations on those appointments for Governor. Served as Governor's liaison to State Senate, including formulating, conveying and negotiating administration positions on legislation. Helped administration negotiate state budget (Counsel's Office was lead on behalf of administration; NJ budget was ~\$30 billion).

Assistant Counsel to the Governor

Assisted with start-up and organization of Counsel's Office from first day of new administration as one of six original attorneys in Office that grew to eventually comprise fifteen attorneys. Advised Governor and her Chief Counsel on legislation and legal issues pertaining to health law, human services issues (DHS was largest department in state), and public utilities and energy matters. As liaison from Governor's Office, helped oversee state executive departments of Health, Human Services, and Board of Public Utilities (policy, not adjudicatory, side of agency) to ensure that Commissioners' decision making and behavior comported with policies of the Governor and were coordinated more broadly with those of the administration.

**New Jersey State Supreme Court Associate Justice Stewart G. Pollock,
Morristown, New Jersey**

September 1992 to September 1993

Judicial Law Clerk

Wrote initial drafts of Court opinions; researched and wrote comprehensive conference memoranda designed to frame debates in chambers on cases before Court; reviewed and made recommendations on petitions for certification to the Court.

Other Relevant Experience

Pioneer Institute, Boston, Massachusetts

November 2014 – Present

Senior Fellow in Law and Policy

Leading establishment of *PioneerLegal*, the Institute's new public-interest law initiative. In partnership with legal professionals and community leaders, work with attorneys to select issues and facilitate changes in regulations, statutes and policies that impact economic growth and government accountability for Massachusetts (and New England) residents. Drive strategic direction and coordination of initiative, serve as primary spokesperson, write on issues in the media, and build outreach and fundraising.

Gunderson Dettmer LLP and Brobeck LLP, New York, New York

February 1999 to October 2001

Associate, General Corporate Group

Founded New York office of Gunderson Dettmer with partners from Brobeck. Managed cases and supervised less-experienced associates; represented companies in corporate and securities law practice, with emphasis on public offerings, venture capital financings, mergers and acquisitions and general representation of companies in emerging growth stage.

Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy LLP, New York, New York

August 1997 to January 1999

Associate, M&A/General Corporate Group

Transactional practice representing buyers, sellers and investors in mergers, joint ventures and corporate governance issues.

Prior Education

New York University School of Law, New York, New York

- Juris Doctorate (J.D.), 1992
- Editorial staff, *Annual Survey of American Law*
- Research Assistant, Vice-Dean Oscar Chase
- Intern, United States Attorney's Office, Newark, New Jersey

Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey

- Master of Public Affairs (M.P.A.), Concentration: International Affairs, 1991
- Woodrow Wilson Fellow
- Garden State Fellow
- Pol/Mil Intern, Department of State, U.S. Embassy, Tegucigalpa Honduras

Rutgers College, New Brunswick, New Jersey

- Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), History, 1987
- Phi Beta Kappa
- Henry Rutgers Scholar

Media

- Regular contributor, WBUR's *Cognoscenti* (2012 – Present) (<http://bit.ly/1gm1ZoA>)
- Contributor of radio commentary on American politics, WBUR and NPR
- Contributor, *Boston Herald* (2010 – Present)
- Contributor, *Boston Magazine Daily Political Blog* (2012 – 2013)

Boards and Community Involvement

- Member, Massachusetts State Ballot Law Commission (appointed by Governor Deval Patrick), 2014 – Present
- Member, Massachusetts State Advisory Committee (MASAC) to the United States Commission on Civil Rights (USCCR), 2013 – Present
- Education Advisory Committee (to Head of School, Ned Parsons), The Rivers School, Weston, MA, 2014 – Present
- Alumni Schools Committee (Boston Metro-West), Princeton University, 2011 – Present
- Member, Steering Committee, Graduate Alumni Giving Campaign, Princeton University, 2006 – Present
- Board Member, City of Summit (NJ) Board of Education, 2006 – 2007
- Board Member, Hemophilia Association of New Jersey, 1997 – 2006; “Unsung Hero Award,” Hemophilia Association of New Jersey

Professional Licenses and Additional Qualifications

- Admitted to the bars of New York, New Jersey and to the Federal District Court for the District of New Jersey
- Conversational and written Spanish
- Completed Columbia University Institutional Review Board's (IRB's) Human Research Curriculum

References – Available upon request