

MEGHAN E. BROOKS
Assistant Professor
Joseph F. Rice School of Law
University of South Carolina
1525 Senate Street
Columbia, SC 29208

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Joseph F. Rice School of Law, University of South Carolina Columbia, SC
Assistant Professor of Law, August 2023-present
Director, Veterans Legal Clinic, August 2023-present
Courses: Administrative Law; Veterans Legal Clinic; Poverty Law & Policy;
Public Benefits Seminar

Yale Law School New Haven, CT
Robert M. Cover Clinical Teaching Fellow, July 2021–June 2023
Clinical Lecturer in Law, July 2021–June 2023
Associate Research Scholar in Law, July 2021–June 2023
Courses: Veterans Legal Services Clinic; Introduction to Legal Analysis
and Writing

PUBLICATIONS

Policy by Pattern of Nonprecedential Decision in Mass Agency Adjudication, XX
FIU L. REV. XXX (*forthcoming* 2027) (showing that uncorrected patterns in
nonprecedential decisions in agencies like VA and EOIR can constitute constructive
policy, and arguing that treating these patterns as such would benefit claimants and
agencies alike despite tensions with top-down policymaking control).

Presuming Enough? Keeping the PACT Act's Promise, 110 IOWA L. REV. 571 (2025)
(assessing a new statutory presumption creation mechanism as a structural solution
for military toxic exposures, and proposing rulemaking fixes that would allow the
mechanism to match its potential.)

Early Reflections on a New Cause of Action for Camp Lejeune Veterans, 14:2 WAKE
FOREST J. L. & POL'Y 157 (2024) (invited symposium) (describing the first district
court cause of action for in-service injuries and the ongoing mass toxic tort
litigation, and setting an agenda for future analysis of its success.)

EDUCATION

Yale Law School, J.D., May 2019 New Haven, CT
Charles G. Albom Prize for Appellate Advocacy, 2018–2019
Yale Journal of Law and Feminism, Coeditor-in-Chief, 2017–2018

Harvard College, A.B., *magna cum laude*, May 2014 Cambridge, MA
Highest Honors, Comparative Study of Religion | Citation in Arabic | Detur Book Prize

SELECT PRESENTATIONS & MEDIA

“Veterans Benefits Advocacy Beyond Exceptionalism Narratives” presented at AALS New Voices in Poverty Law Program (Jan. 8, 2026).

“Policy by Pattern of Nonprecedential Decision in Mass Agency Adjudication” presented at AALS New Voices in Administrative Law Workshop (Jan. 6, 2026).

Moderator, Veterans Healthcare Justice Panel, Doing Better: Innovation in Access to Healthcare and Legal Justice Conference, Joseph F. Rice School of Law, Columbia SC (Oct. 3, 2025).

Televised Interview on South Carolina’s Deployment of the National Guard to Washington, D.C., SPECTRUM NEWS (Sept. 9, 2025).

“Policy by Pattern: The Weight of Nonprecedential Agency Adjudication” presented at an AALS Section on Clinical Legal Education Works-in-Progress Session (Apr. 29, 2025).

“What Now? Implementing Pro-Veteran Policy in the New Administration” for Ryan Foley’s Veterans’ Rights course at Columbia Law School, New York NY (Mar. 13, 2025).

“Addressing Veterans’ Legal Needs in South Carolina” for the Military and Veterans Law Section of the South Carolina Bar, SC Bar Convention, Columbia SC (Jan. 17, 2025).

“The Implications of Loper Bright for State Agencies” for the South Carolina Agency General Counsel Roundtable, Columbia SC (Nov. 20, 2024).

“Presuming Enough? Keeping the PACT Act’s Promise” presented at the Georgia State College of Law Junior Faculty Exchange (Mar. 4, 2024).

“The Camp Lejeune Justice Act” presented at the Wake Forest Journal of Law & Policy’s 2023 Symposium, “An Exploration of Current Issues Impacting Veterans and the Military” (Nov. 10, 2023) (with Renée Burbank).

SERVICE

Treasurer, National Law School Veterans Clinic Consortium
Hiring Committee, Joseph F. Rice School of Law (2024-2026)
Inclusive Excellence Committee, Joseph F. Rice School of Law (2023-2024)
Member-at-Large, AALS Section on Poverty Law Executive Committee
Veterans in Law Faculty Advisor, Joseph F. Rice School of Law
Member, Military and Veterans Law Section, South Carolina Bar

SELECT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Veterans Legal Services Clinic, Yale Law School New Haven, CT
Fellow (July 2021-June 2023), *Law Student Intern* (Jan. 2017-June 2019)

Co-taught the Veterans Legal Services Clinic, which represents veterans in benefits and discharge upgrade appeals and advocacy organizations in a broad range of policy and litigation matters, after time as a clinical student. Representative matters

included *Skaar v. McDonough*, the first-ever certified Veterans Court appellate class action; APA litigation to challenge the Army's refusal to recognize substance use disorder as a mental health condition for records correction purposes; FOIA litigation to uncover disparities in agency adjudications; disability compensation claims for veterans with toxic exposure, sexual assault histories, PTSD; Constitutional litigation challenging the Coast Guard Academy's ban on student parents; and federal and state lobbying on toxic exposure, military sexual trauma, and mental health issues.

New York Legal Assistance Group, Sept. 2019–June 2021 New York, NY
Justice Catalyst Fellow, Veterans Practice & Special Litigation Unit

Built out the Veterans Practice's appellate docket by developing appealable issues at the agency level. Handled veterans and other public benefits, and discharge upgrade docket for diverse set of individual clients, seeking strategic litigation opportunities. Worked on class action litigation teams. Pivoted to COVID-19 response and advocacy for nationwide VA deadline extensions and debt collections moratorium. Collaborated with local, national veterans' advocates on policy initiatives.

Greater Boston Legal Services, Summer 2018 Boston, MA

Advocated for clients at unemployment benefits hearings. Prepared T & U Visa petitions. Worked wage theft cases in collaboration with local and federal wage enforcement prosecutors. Created "Know Your Rights" trainings for women workers. Conducted intakes, including in Spanish, in community legal clinics.

National Employment Law Project, Summer 2017 New York, NY

Conducted research on local authority to enact living wage ordinances, as well as on forced arbitration and class action waivers. Created reference guides interpreting state and federal employee and independent contractor definitions.

BAR ADMISSIONS

New York, South Carolina (SCACR 414 limited)
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Accredited Attorney
U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims
U.S. Courts of Appeal for the Federal Circuit