



The Democracy Legal Strike Force Legal Team Bios

>> December 2023 <<

The Democracy Legal Strike Force was launched in 2022 and is managed by Democracy 21 Education Fund and its President Fred Wertheimer, with pro bono advice from Ambassador Norman Eisen (ret.). The project monitors and pursues legal and related opportunities to combat and hold accountable the dangerous anti-democracy forces that have been unleashed in our country.

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The Democracy Legal Strike Force has played a major role in providing analysis, insight, and deeply researched legal materials, including amicus briefs, in support of prosecutors in the federal Jan. 6 case, the Fulton County Georgia DA's 2020 election interference case, the federal Mar-a-Lago classified documents case, and the Manhattan DA's Trump hush money case.

The Democracy Legal Strike Force has played, and continues to play, a major role in providing analysis, insight, and deeply researched legal materials, including preparing and filing amicus briefs, in support of prosecutors in:

- *United States of America v. Donald J. Trump* – the federal government's Jan. 6 case;
- *State of Georgia v. Donald J. Trump, et. al.* – the Fulton County Georgia DA's 2020 election interference case;
- *United States of America v. Donald J. Trump* – the federal government's Mar-a-Lago classified documents case; and
- *The People of the State of New York v. Donald J. Trump* – the Manhattan DA's hush money case.

Some of the nation's top legal minds are part of the Democracy Legal Strike Force, authoring amicus briefs, and providing legal analysis, research, and legal support.

A partial list of these individuals includes:

FRED WERTHEIMER, President, Democracy 21 Education Fund. With more than five decades of experience in reform and accountability efforts and related public communications, he is one of the nation's leading experts on the laws of our democracy and has worked to hold errant public officials accountable for more than half a century. *Legal Times* has named Wertheimer one of Washington's greatest lawyers.

AMB. NORMAN EISEN (RET.). Eisen served as special counsel to the House Judiciary Committee majority during the impeachment proceedings and trial of President Trump (2019-2020) and served as White House special counsel and special assistant to the President for ethics and government reform during the Obama Administration (2009-2011).

MARCUS A.R. CHILDRESS, Special Counsel at Jenner + Block. He served as investigative counsel to the House Jan. 6 Committee.

AMY LEE COPELAND, a Partner of Rouse + Copeland, LLC in Savannah, Georgia. She previously served as former Appellate Chief at the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Southern District of Georgia (2000-2009) and specializes in appellate litigation and federal criminal defense representation.

RYAN GOODMAN, founding co-editor-in-chief of *Just Security* and a professor at New York University School of Law. He previously served as Special Counsel to the General Counsel of the Department of Defense (2015-2016).

TOM JOSCELYN, a Senior Fellow at the Reiss Center on Law and Security. He most recently served as a senior professional staff member on the House January 6th Committee and was one of the principal authors of the committee's 814-page report.

MICHELLE KALLEN, Partner at Jenner + Block. She previously served as Solicitor General of Virginia.

JOSHUA KOLB, a former law clerk on the Senate Judiciary Committee.

E. DANYA PERRY, Founding Partner at Perry Law. She is a nationally recognized white collar criminal defense attorney and commercial litigator. She previously served as New York Deputy Attorney General and Chief of Investigations for the Moreland Commission to Investigate Public Corruption. She previously served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York.

MATTHEW A. SELIGMAN, Partner at Stris & Maher and a fellow at the Constitutional Law Center at Stanford Law School. His current work on election law focuses on disputed presidential elections.

DON SIMON, Counsel to Democracy 21 and a partner at Sonosky, Chambers, Sachse, Endreson & Perry LLP where he specializes in litigation and administrative law. Simon previously served as Executive Vice President and General Counsel of Common Cause (1995-2000).

JOSHUA STANTON, Counsel at Perry Law. He previously served as a public defender in Tennessee and is the author of multiple amicus briefs in support of criminal justice reform.

ANDREW WARREN, the duly-elected State Attorney in Tampa, Florida since 2016. Warren previously served as a federal prosecutor with the Justice Department.

SIVEN WATT, a Legal Fellow at *Just Security*, based at New York University School of Law. He works on issues of accountability, democracy, and the rule of law in the United States.

SETH P. WAXMAN, Partner at WilmerHale. He previously served as U.S. Solicitor General (1997-2001) and is considered one of the country's premier Supreme Court and appellate advocates.

**The work of our Democracy Legal Strike Force project continues.
We are extremely grateful for the support of Democracy 21 donors
who help make this work possible.**