

The National Transgender Bar Association Annual Transgender Law Symposium

August 3rd, 2016 in Washington, D.C.

The National Transgender Bar Association will be holding its annual Transgender Law Symposium on August 3, 2016 at the law firm of Jenner & Block in Washington, D.C. from 8:30am to 5:30pm with a reception to follow at Whitman-Walker Health.

The Symposium will be a day-long event focused on cutting edge legal issues featuring leading experts in the field. The event will also be an opportunity for transgender and gender non-conforming lawyers, legal advocates, law students, and allies to come together to build community and network.

Schedule Overview

8:30-9:00	Coffee and Networking
9:00-9:30	Welcome & Keynote with Raffi Freedman-Gurspan White House LGBT Liaison
9:30-10:45	Employment Law and Workers Rights
10:45-12	Criminalization and Detention
12-12:30	Brief on the 2016 National Transgender Survey with Sandy James Survey Project Manager, National Center for Transgender Equality
12:30-1:30	Lunch Break
1:30-2:45	Anti-Trans Legislation and Litigation
2:45-4:00	Healthcare Access & Discrimination
4:00-5:30	Breakout and Small Group Discussions
6:00-7:30	Reception at Whitman-Walker Health

Employment Law and Workers Rights: 9:30-10:45am

Transgender and gender non-conforming communities experience high rates of discrimination and mistreatment in the workplace and in trying to access jobs. They also experience high rates of unemployment and, as a result, high rates of poverty—particularly within communities of color. Over the past several years, federal administrative agencies and courts have evolved in their application of worker protections to TGNC communities, and these panelists will discuss those developments, as well as the future advocacy agenda.

Speakers:

Jillian Weiss, Executive Director, Transgender Legal Defense and Education Fund
Victoria Rodríguez-Roldán, TGNC Justice Project Director, National LGBTQ Task Force
Sharon McGowan, U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Civil Rights

Criminalization and Detention: 10:45-12:00pm

Pervasive discrimination in virtually every aspect of life, including education, employment, and housing, lead to high rates of poverty and homelessness within transgender and gender non-conforming (TGNC) communities. This, in turn, puts TGNC people—especially TGNC people of color—at greatly increased risk of over criminalization and ending up in detention systems. Once in these systems, TGNC people often face horrific treatment and routine violations of their rights. Panelists will discuss the factors that drive TGNC people into systems of detention, their experiences within those systems, and the work advocates are doing to combat these issues.

Speakers:

Asa King, Staff Attorney, Transgender Law Center @ SONG
Sharita Gruberg, Senior Policy Analyst, Center for American Progress
Chinyere Ezie, Staff Attorney, Southern Poverty Law Center
Richard Saenz, Staff Attorney and Criminal Justice and Police Misconduct Program Strategist,
Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund
Demoya Gordon, Staff and Transgender Rights Project Attorney, Lambda Legal Defense and
Education Fund

Anti-Trans Legislation and Litigation: 1:30-2:45pm

This past year has seen an explosion of anti-transgender legislation, especially legislation threatening transgender people's equal access to public restrooms, along with a slew of related litigation. The panel will explore legal and political strategies for winning in legislatures and courts and changing public opinion. The panel will reflect on challenges and lessons learned from this past year, as well as ways that other attorneys and organizations can support our ongoing work.

Speakers:

Mara Keisling, Executive Director, National Center for Transgender Equality
Chase Strango, Staff Attorney, American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) LGBT & HIV Project
Chinyere Ezie, Staff Attorney, Southern Poverty Law Center

Health Law Panel: 2:45-4:00pm

The health care panel will discuss recent developments for transgender and gender-nonconforming people in health care by providing an overview of recent developments in state and federal law -- especially on the new ACA nondiscrimination regulations. The panel will also discuss recent developments and ongoing coverage issues for Medicare recipients. The panel will also provide an overview ongoing and relevant litigation that is happening across the country. Lastly, the panel will discuss some of the successes and challenges involved with providing competent health care.

Speakers:

Daniel Bruner, Senior Director of Policy, Whitman-Walker Health
Ezra Young, Staff Attorney, Transgender Legal Defense and Education Fund
Ma'ayan Anafi, Policy Counsel, National Center for Transgender Equality
Omar Gonzalez-Pagan, Staff Attorney, Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund
Sasha Buchert, Staff Attorney, Transgender Law Center

EVENT REGISTRATION AND DETAILS

Registration is available online at: <https://goo.gl/PFkDYd>

Please direct press and other inquiries to Ashe McGovern at mcgovernashe@gmail.com

Symposium Details:

Jenner & Block, LLP
1099 New York Ave NW # 900
Washington, DC 20001

Reception Details:

Following the Symposium, please join the Whitman-Walker Health Legal Services team for a reception, fabulous view of DC, and tour of their newly constructed building located on the 6th Floor of 1525 14th Street NW, WDC 20009. Soda, beer, wine, and light food will be served.