

**Asmara Mariam Tekle**

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Professor of Law  
Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall  
School of Law

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EDUCATION

**Cornell Law School**, J.D.

**Harvard College**, A.B. *cum laude*, Government

**Sorbonne (Paris IV)**

FEDERAL APPELLATE CLERKSHIP

**United States Court of Appeals, Fifth Judicial Circuit**

Law Clerk for the Honorable Judge Carl E. Stewart, Chief Judge

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Land Use
- Urban Planning
- Art, Design, & Architecture

TEACHING INTERESTS

Property (including oil and gas) and Land Use.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Professor**, Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law, 2012-present

**Associate Professor**, Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law, 2009-12

**Assistant Professor**, Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law, 2006-09

WORK-IN-PROGRESS

*Roll on, Cyclist: The Idaho Rule, Traffic Law, and the Quest to Incentivize Urban Cycling*, 92 CHI.-KENT. L. REV. \_\_\_\_ (2017) (Symposium entitled *Cities in Crisis*).

PUBLICATIONS

- *Rectifying These Mean Streets: Percent-for-Art, Street Furniture, and the New Streetscape*, 104 KY. L.J. 409 (2016).
- *Have a Scoop of Grandpa: Composting as a Means of Final Disposition of Human Remains*, 3 SAVANNAH L. REV. 137 (2016) (Colloquium entitled, *The Walking Dead*, examining death and the effect of the dead on the living).
- *Lawns and the New Watershed Law*, 95 MARQ. L. REV. 213 (2011) (Symposium entitled, *Changing Conceptions of Water in the Law*, 2011 AALS Property and Agricultural Law Joint Sections Meeting).
- *Law and the Authoritarian Aesthetic of the American Lawn*, ART LIES, Spring/Summer 2011, at 44.
- *The "Non-Maternal Wall" and Women of Color in High Governmental Office*, 35 T. MARSHALL L. REV. 169 (2010).

- *Safe: Restrictive Covenants and the Next Wave of Sex Offender Restrictions*, 62 SMU L. REV. 1817 (2009).
- *In the Zone: Sex Offenders and the Ten-Percent Solutions*, 94 IOWA L. REV. 607 (2009).
- *Privatizing Eminent Domain: The Delegation of a Very Public Power to Private, Non-Profit and Charitable Corporations*, 56 AM. U. L. REV. 455 (2007) (lead article).
- *Correcting for Kelo: Social Capital Impact Assessments and the Re-Balancing of Power Between "Desperate" Cities, Corporate Interests and the Average Joe*, 16 CORNELL J.L. & PUB. POL'Y 187 (2006).

#### ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

##### ***Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Development***

Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law, 2012-15

- Played leadership role in successful AALS admission.
- Established three faculty exchanges.
- Created three faculty programs (New Scholars Writing Workshop, Summer Research Assistant Program, and Scholars-in-Residence).

#### SELECT CONFERENCES/INVITED TALKS

- **Invited Presenter**, *Real Property Law Schmooze*, Texas A&M School of Law, Fort Worth, Texas, February 3-4, 2017.
- **Invited Panelist**, *Living Your Best Life*, Lutie A. Lytle Black Women Law Faculty Writing Workshop, University of Iowa School of Law, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, July 9, 2016.
- **Invited Speaker**, *Percent-for-Art, Street Furniture, and the New Streetscape*, South Texas College of Law, Houston, Texas, January 22, 2016.
- **Invited Panelist**, *Infraculture and Public-Private Partnerships: Legal Tools for Economic Recovery and Community Development*, 2016 Annual Meeting of the Association of American Law Schools, New York, New York, January 7, 2016.
- **Invited Panelist**, *Reforming Law and Scholarship by Disciplinary Design*, 2016 Annual Meeting of the Association of American Law Schools, New York, New York, January 8, 2016.
- **Invited Panelist**, *Administration*, Lutie A. Lytle Black Women Law Faculty Writing Workshop, University of Wisconsin School of Law, Madison, Wisconsin, June 27, 2014.
- **Accepted Presenter**, *The Art of Infrastructure*, Association of Law, Property, and Society Annual Meeting, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, May 3, 2014.
- **Accepted Panelist**, *Cultures of Place, Planning, and Environment in US Law*, Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, Minnesota, May 29, 2014.
- **Invited Speaker**, *Balancing Teaching, Research/Scholarship and Service*, Teaching and Learning Excellence Center, Texas Southern University, Houston, Texas, April 17, 2014.
- **Invited Speaker**, *What is a Scholarly Agenda and How Do You Create One?*, Southeast/Southwest People of Color Legal Scholarship Conference, Thurgood Marshall School of Law, Houston, Texas, February 27, 2014.
- **Invited Panelist**, *Associate Deans*, Fourth Biennial Workshop, Promoting Diversity in Law School Leadership, University of Washington School of Law, Seattle, Washington, October 12, 2013.
- **Presenter**, *The Art of Infrastructure*, 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Lutie A. Lytle Black Women Law Faculty Writing Workshop, University of Nevada Las Vegas William S. Boyd School of Law, Las Vegas, Nevada, June 29, 2013.

- **Invited Participant**, *Public Art and the Law*, Research Retreat, Division of Academic Affairs and Research, Texas Southern University, Houston, Texas, February 1-2, 2013.
- **Invited Speaker**, *Greening the Lawn in the Law*, Spring 2012 Colloquium, University of Houston Law Center, Houston, Texas, February 2, 2012.
- **Invited Online Contributor**, *If Architecture is an Inherently Political Act, Where, Why, and How Does Political and Social Consciousness Begin and Locate Itself Within the Process?*, The Glass House Conversations, <http://glasshouseconversations.org>, November 29, 2011.
- **Invited Speaker**, *Lawns and the New Watershed Law*, Faculty Workshop, South Texas College of Law, Houston, Texas, April 19, 2011.
- **Presenter**, *Greening the Lawn in the Law: Lawns and Waterways*, Association of Law, Property, and Society, Georgetown University School of Law, Washington, D.C., March 4-5, 2011.
- **Invited Panelist**, *Changing Conceptions of Water in the Law*, Agricultural Law and Property Law Joint Program, 2011 Annual Meeting of the Association of American Law Schools, San Francisco, California, January 5, 2011.
- **Invited Panelist**, *Mock AALS Interview*, Eighth Annual LatCrit-SALT Junior Faculty Development Workshop, University of Denver Sturm College of Law, Denver, Colorado, October 7, 2010.
- **Invited Moderator**, *Land Use and Race*, Third National People of Color Conference, Seton Hall Law School, Newark, New Jersey, September 10, 2010.
- **Invited Panelist**, *Lawn Language* as part of *Land Use and Race*, Third National People of Color Conference, Seton Hall Law School, Newark, New Jersey, September 10, 2010.
- **Invited Panelist**, *Balancing the Demands of Teaching and Scholarship in the Modern Law School*, 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Association of Law Schools (SEALS), Palm Beach, Florida, July 30, 2010.
- **Invited Juror**, *Charrette for Former Site of Sharpstown Mall (What Can It Be? Innovation Territory 093-066)*, American Institute of Architects, Houston, Texas, July 9, 2010.
- **Invited Facilitator**, *Not Just the Journals: Other Forms of Writing from Policy to Blogs*, 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Lutie A. Lytle Black Women Law Faculty Writing Workshop, University of Kentucky College of Law, Lexington, Kentucky, June 26, 2010.
- **Presenter**, *Greening the Lawn in the Law*, 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Lutie A. Lytle Black Women Law Faculty Writing Workshop, University of Kentucky College of Law, Lexington, Kentucky, June 24, 2010.
- **Invited Panelist**, *Land Use in the Unzoned City: Regulations, Property Rights, and Smart Growth in Houston's Future*, South Texas College of Law Real Estate Society, South Texas College of Law, Houston, Texas, April 13, 2010.
- **Invited Panelist**, *How To Become A Law Professor*, Office of Career Services, Thurgood Marshall School of Law, Houston, Texas, March 25, 2010.
- **Presenter**, *Greening the Lawn in the Law*, Works in Progress Session, 1st Annual Meeting of the Association of Law, Property, and Society, Georgetown University Law Center, Washington, D.C., March 5, 2010.
- **Invited Guest Lecturer**, Field Seminar on Eminent Domain, Rice University School of Architecture, Houston, Texas, February 21, 2010.
- **Invited Speaker**, *Sex Offender Residency Restrictions*, Ninth Annual Richard E. Nelson Symposium, University of Florida Levin College of Law, Gainesville, Florida, February 12, 2010.

- **Invited Moderator**, *Obama: Racial Awareness*, Barack Obama, Politics, Law, & Policy Symposium, Thurgood Marshall School of Law, Houston, Texas, October 30, 2009.
- **Invited Speaker**, *Texas Proposition No. 11 on Eminent Domain*, Informational Forum sponsored by Texas State Representative Ellen Cohen, Houston, Texas, October 14, 2009.
- **Invited Speaker**, Scholarship Panel, LatCrit Junior Faculty Development Workshop, American University, Washington College of Law, Washington, D.C., October 1, 2009.
- **Invited Speaker**, *The Non-Maternal Wall and Women of Color in High Governmental Office*, Faculty Quodlibet Scholarly Papers Forum, Thurgood Marshall School of Law, Houston, Texas, September 23, 2009.
- **Moderator**, *What Students Need to Know about Electronic Case Management: Devising a Model Curriculum*, 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Association of Law Schools (SEALS), West Palm Beach, Florida, August 2, 2009.
- **Mentor**, Associate Professor Elise Boddie of New York Law School, New Scholars Colloquium (Commercial and Land Use Law), 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Association of Law Schools (SEALS), West Palm Beach, Florida, August 4, 2009.
- **Invited Respondent**, *Houston Mayoral Forum on Land Use*, NOZone, Houston, Texas, July 9, 2009.
- **Invited Panelist**, *Towards Authenticity-Embracing and Empowering Voice in Writing*, 3rd Annual Lutie A. Lytle Black Women Law Faculty Writing Workshop, Seattle University School of Law, Seattle, Washington, June 25-28, 2009.
- **Invited Commentator**, *Slavery as Immigration?*, Professor Rhonda V. Magee of University of San Francisco Law School, Third Annual Lutie A. Lytle Black Women Law Faculty Writing Workshop, Seattle University School of Law, Seattle, Washington, June 27, 2009.
- **Presenter**, *The Non-Maternal Wall and Women of Color in High Governmental Office*, Third Annual Lutie A. Lytle Black Women Law Faculty Writing Workshop, Seattle University School of Law, Seattle, Washington, June 25-28, 2009.
- **Speaker**, Hearing of the Texas House Land & Resource Management Committee, HB 3709, Austin, Texas, April 8, 2009.
- **Invited Speaker**, *Safe: Restrictive Covenants and the Next Wave of Sex Offender Legislation*, Faculty Quodlibet Scholarly Papers Forum, Thurgood Marshall School of Law, Houston, Texas, November 2008.
- **Invited Speaker**, *TMSL Junior Faculty Roundtable*, Thurgood Marshall School of Law, Houston, Texas, September 26, 2008.
- **Nominated New Scholar**, *In the Neighborhood: Private Residency Restrictions on Sex Offenders*, New Scholar Workshop on Property Law, 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Association of Law Schools (SEALS), West Palm Beach, Florida, July 27-August 2, 2008.
- **Presenter**, *Safe: Restrictive Covenants and the Next Wave of Sex Offender Legislation*, Works-in-Progress Session, 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Lutie A. Lytle Black Women Law Faculty Writing Workshop, University of Denver Sturm College of Law, Denver, Colorado, June 26-29, 2008.
- **Invited Presenter**, *Safe: Restrictive Covenants and the Next Wave of Sex Offender Legislation*, 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Midwestern People of Color Legal Scholarship Conference, Hamline University School of Law, St. Paul, Minnesota, May 31, 2008.

- **Invited Commentator**, *Racial Profiling as Racial Harassment: Protecting the Critical Worker*, Associate Professor Phoebe Williams of Marquette University Law School, 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Midwestern People of Color Legal Scholarship Conference, Hamline University School of Law, St. Paul, Minnesota, May 31, 2008.
- **Invited Speaker**, Research Week 2008, Law School Faculty Development Discussion about the Current State of the Art of Inter-Disciplinary Research, Thurgood Marshall School of Law, Houston, Texas, April 2008.
- **Invited Speaker**, *In the Zone: Sex Offenders and the Ten-Percent Solutions*, Faculty Quodlibet Scholarly Papers Forum, Thurgood Marshall School of Law, Houston, Texas, February 2008.
- **Nominated New Scholar**, *In the Zone: Sex Offenders and the Ten-Percent Solutions*, New Scholar, Workshop on Property Law, 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Association of Law Schools (SEALS), Amelia Island, Florida, July 29-August 4, 2007.
- **Invited Presenter**, *In the Zone: Sex Offenders and the Ten-Percent Solutions*, Works-in-Progress Session, 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Lutie A. Lytle Black Women Law Faculty Writing Workshop, University of Iowa College of Law, Iowa City, Iowa, July 2007.
- **Invited Presenter**, *In the Zone: Sex Offenders and the Ten-Percent Solutions*, Works-in-Progress Session, 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Midwestern People of Color Legal Scholarship Conference, Washington University School of Law & Saint Louis University School of Law, St. Louis, Missouri, April 12-15, 2007.
- **Invited Speaker**, *Eminent Domain*, Garland R. Walker American Inns of Court, Houston, Texas, December 5, 2006.
- **Invited Presenter**, *Privatizing Eminent Domain: The Delegation of a Very Public Power to Private, Non-Profit Corporations*, Works-in-Progress Session, 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Midwestern People of Color Legal Scholarship Conference, Tucson, Arizona, June 2-5, 2006.

#### OPINION-EDITORIAL

- *Limit Med Center's Power to Condemn Homes*, HOUSTON CHRON., April 26, 2009, at B10 (with Hugh Rice Kelly).
- *See also*, Mike Snyder, *Neighbors Stand Up to Med Center*, HOUSTON CHRON., March 29, 2009, at A1.
- *See also*, Editorial, *Too Powerful*, HOUSTON CHRON., May 21, 2009.

#### COMMENTARY

- Nancy Sarnoff, *Court Reverses Ashby High-rise Rule in Favor of Developers*, HOUSTON CHRON., July 1, 2016, at A1.
- Radio Show, "Community Associations Institute's Community Spotlight," on 650 AM, Texas HB 3709, April 24, 2009 (with Jason Ryan).
- Radio Show, "Dialogue with Ada," on Praise 92.1 FM, Eminent Domain and Texas HB 3709, April 11, 2009 (with Texas House Rep. Garnet Coleman & Hugh Rice Kelly).
- Radio Show, "Dialogue with Ada," on Praise 92.1 FM, Eminent Domain, August 17, 2008.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- Faculty Advisor, *Lawyers Acquiring Wealth Society*
- Presenter, *Texas Real Property Review, Texas Bar Review Workshop*, Thurgood Marshall School of Law, 2015-present
- Moderator, *Symposium on the Civil Rights Agenda, the Roberts Court, and the Last Three Years of Challenges: What Now?*, Thurgood Marshall School of Law, February 19, 2016
- Introduction of Keynote Speaker, 2015 Energy Symposium, Thurgood Marshall School of Law, October 1, 2015
- Budget and Priorities Committee, 2016-present
- Academic Standards Committee, 2006-09, 2016-present
- Rank, Tenure, and Promotion Committee, 2012-15 (ex officio)
- Faculty Appointments Committee, 2006-10, 2012-15 (ex officio)
- Faculty Development Committee, 2009-16 (2012-15, ex officio)

PROFESSIONAL ACADEMIC SERVICE

- Member, ABA Site Teams, 2014-present
- Executive Committee, AALS Property Law Section, 2013-15
- Planning & Works in Progress Committee, Eighth Annual Lutie A. Lytle Black Women Law Faculty Writing Workshop, 2013-15
- Program Committee, Association of Law, Property, and Society (ALPS), 2012-14
- Chair, Fifth Annual Lutie A. Lytle Black Women Law Faculty Writing Workshop, 2011
- Steering Committee, Southeastern Association of Law Schools (SEALS), 2007-11

PUBLIC SERVICE

- Board of Directors, Greater Southeast Management District, 2011-14 (business improvement district and public taxing authority in Houston's historic Third Ward that promotes land development and enhancement of the district's property tax base; appointed by Mayor and approved by Houston City Council).
- City of Houston Mayor Annise Parker's Transition Team, Density & Development Committee, 2010 (recommended by Mayor-elect's transition team to serve with civic leaders, real estate developers, and city representatives to draft a high-density development ordinance).
- Co-Chair, Neighbors Against Eminent Domain Abuse 2008-09 (coalesced with Houston neighborhoods and Texas State Representative Garnet Coleman to pass eminent domain reform bill in 2011 Texas legislative session).
- President, Central City Civic Association 2009-2011 (worked heavily with local Houston City Council Members to improve the neighborhood of Central City in Houston's historic Third Ward).

INTERNATIONAL

Speak French and Spanish. Lived, worked, and traveled widely in Europe, Asia, and Africa. Extensive travel also in South America, North America, and Australia.

LICENSURE

Texas (2000) and Massachusetts (2000-inactive)