

LARA BAZELON

Postscript

Regarding the Article Concerning the
Racial Justice Clinic at the University of
San Francisco School of Law, published in
(2022) 17 California Legal History 27

Editor's note: At the request of the author of the original article, we present the following postscript.

In March of 2023, a client of the University of San Francisco School of Law's Racial Justice Clinic, Leon Benson, whose case was described in the original article at pages 43–46, was exonerated after serving nearly twenty-five years in prison for a murder that he did not commit.

In addition to providing this update, the author also wishes to acknowledge that University of San Francisco School of Law's Racial Justice Clinic was founded in 2015 by USF Professor of Law Emerita Sharon Meadows at a time when bail issues were at the forefront of criminal justice in City and County of San Francisco. In collaboration with then-San Francisco Public Defender Jeff Adachi, Professor Meadows had established the Racial Justice Clinic to complement the preexisting USF Criminal & Juvenile Justice Clinic, which she also had founded. The Racial Justice Clinic, as originally conceived, was a combination clinic / externship program. As part of the clinic, students, assisted by Professor Meadows, conducted jail visits, interviewed witnesses, and argued bail motions in connection with the San Francisco Public Defender's Office's newly created bail unit. Professor Meadows and her colleague, Kate Chatfield, also designed and held a class concerning racial bias.

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About the Author



Lara Bazelon is a Professor of Law at the University of San Francisco School of Law where she directs the Racial Justice Clinic and holds the Barnett Chair in Trial Advocacy.