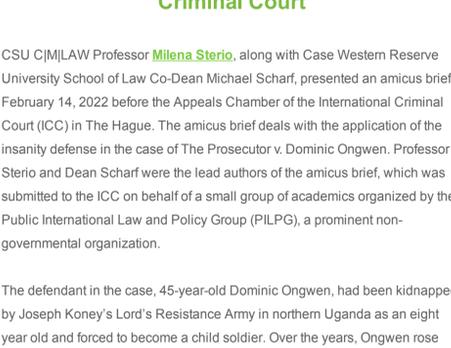




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Professor Sterio Presents Amicus Brief to Appeals Chamber of The International Criminal Court

CSU CJMLAW Professor **Milena Sterio**, along with Case Western Reserve University School of Law Co-Dean Michael Scharf, presented an amicus brief February 14, 2022 before the Appeals Chamber of the International Criminal Court (ICC) in The Hague. The amicus brief deals with the application of the insanity defense in the case of *The Prosecutor v. Dominic Ongwen*. Professor Sterio and Dean Scharf were the lead authors of the amicus brief, which was submitted to the ICC on behalf of a small group of academics organized by the Public International Law and Policy Group (PILPG), a prominent non-governmental organization.

The defendant in the case, 45-year-old Dominic Ongwen, had been kidnapped by Joseph Kony's Lord's Resistance Army in northern Uganda as an eight year old and forced to become a child soldier. Over the years, Ongwen rose through the ranks to become one of the top commanders in the insurgent group at the time of his surrender to the ICC.

"This is a very important issue because defendants do raise these types of affirmative defenses with some frequency, and until now, it had not been established what type of an evidentiary burden the defendant faces in these types of cases," explained Sterio. "This issue will remain relevant in future cases."

[Read More](#)



Student Profile: 4LE Michael Watkins

CSU Cleveland-Marshall College of Law 4LE **Michael Watkins**' interest in the law dates back to high school when he attended Shaw High School in East Cleveland, Ohio, and took part in the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association (CMB) [3Rs Program](#). Michael interned at Tucker Ellis LLP in 11th grade and went on to enroll in the CMB's [Louis Stokes Scholars Program](#).

Michael was drawn to CSU CJMLAW largely due to the high praise expressed for the law school from several alumni attorneys he met through those programs. Michael did not attend law school immediately after graduating from the University of Toledo, however, as he worked as a career preparation educator in St. Louis before returning back home to Cleveland.

Michael attends CSU CJMLAW as a part-time student while also working in his hometown as a Community Youth Diversion Coordinator/ Enrichment Specialist with the East Cleveland Neighborhood Center. Exercising his teaching background and connections to the community, he teaches K-2nd grade science, 4-6th grade social and emotional learning as well as coordinates services for pre-adjudicated youth to reduce recidivism and minimize involvement in the juvenile justice systems.

[Read More](#)



Social Justice Film Series Launch

The **Social Justice Film Series**, a partnership between CSU CJMLAW and the CSU School of Film and Media Arts, kicked off February 23 with a panel discussion of the Netflix documentary "137 Shots," which focuses on the 2012 police chase and fatal shootings of **Timothy Russell** and **Malissa Williams** by Cleveland police. The panel was moderated by WKYC's **Russ Mitchell** and included **Director Mike Milano**, **Producer Damien Eduardos**, **Jackie Russell**, the sister-in-law of Timothy Russell, and **Alonzo Mitchell III** who appeared in the film.

More than 130 people attended the event and engaged in discussion and reflection on race and police reform in the community. We send a special thank you to our cosponsors: **Chagrin Documentary Film Festival**, **Cleveland Community Police Commission**, **Cleveland International Film Festival**, **Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association**, **Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio**, **Greater Cleveland Association of Black Journalists**, **Greater Cleveland Film Commission**, **NAACP Cleveland Branch**, **United Way of Greater Cleveland** and **WKYC Studios**.

Watch for announcements of future films and events!

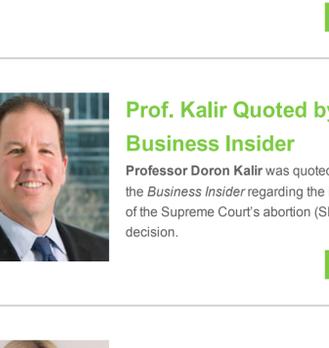


OUTLaw Profiled in The Cauldron

OUTLaw, our LGBTQ+ student organization that brings awareness to issues affecting LGBTQ+ people in the legal and political spheres, was profiled in CSU's student newspaper, *The Cauldron*.

[Read More](#)

Upcoming Public Lectures & CLE Events



The Role of International Law in the Russia-Ukraine Conflict

Monday, February 28 | 12:00 p.m. | Virtual

Professor Milena Sterio, the Charles R. Emrick Jr. - Calfee Halter & Griswold Professor of Law and LLM Program Director at the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law

Please join a conversation with Professor Milena Sterio about the role of International Law in the escalating Russia-Ukraine conflict. Professor Sterio will discuss relevant international law issues related to the conflict, such as the use of force, the law of aggression, the principle of state sovereignty and state determination, as well as the role of international organizations such as NATO and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

Co-sponsored by the *Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association* and the *Cleveland Council on World Affairs*

[Register](#)



52nd Annual Moot Court Night and Appellate Advocacy Seminar

Wednesday, March 2 | 6:30 p.m. | In-Person

At the 52nd Annual Moot Court Night, a distinguished panel of judges will preside over and comment on mock appellate arguments involving the following issues: First, whether a commercial website offering goods or services directly to consumers is a place of public accommodation under Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Second, whether Title III of the ADA applies to a website that has a nexus to a store that is a "place of public accommodation."

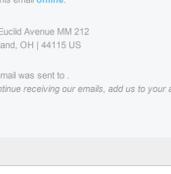
The Bench:

Justice Michael P. Donnelly '91, The Supreme Court of Ohio
Judge Cornelius J. O'Sullivan, Jr. '90, Ohio Eighth District Court of Appeals
Judge Brendan J. Sheehan '94, Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas, Administrative and Presiding Judge

Moderators:
 Caitlin Hill '14
 Alex Reich '09

1.5 free CLE hours pending

[Learn More](#)



Prof. Sagers Featured in Documentary for German National Media

Professor **Chris Sagers** appeared in the German documentary series "Opaque Worlds," produced by Germany's public broadcaster ZDF, in an episode on "The Rise of Big Tech."

[Read More](#)

Prof. Kalir Quoted by Business Insider

Professor **Doron Kalir** was quoted by the *Business Insider* regarding the implications of the Supreme Court's abortion (SB. 8) decision.

[Read More](#)

Prof. Laser Featured on Podcast Discussing Standard Essential Patents

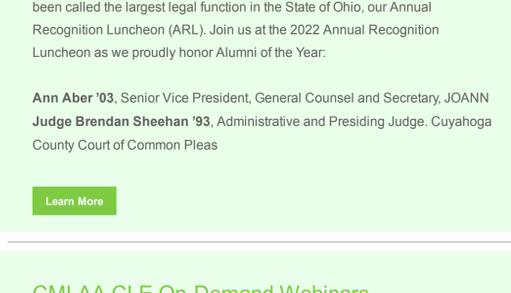
Professor **Christa Laser** is featured in an episode of The SEP Couch with Tim Polmann, a podcast focusing on standard essential patents.

[Watch](#)

Prof. Geier on Discussed Tax Season on Sound of Ideas

Professor **Deborah Geier** appeared as a guest on WCPN's "Sound of Ideas" program to discuss items of interest in the current tax filing season.

[Read More](#)



2022 Annual Recognition Luncheon

Thursday, May 26, 2022 | 12:00 p.m.

Renaissance Cleveland Hotel

Each year, the Cleveland-Marshall Law Alumni Association hosts what has been called the largest legal function in the State of Ohio, our Annual Recognition Luncheon (ARL). Join us at the 2022 Annual Recognition Luncheon as we proudly honor Alumni of the Year:

Ann Aber '03, Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary, JOANN
Judge Brendan Sheehan '93, Administrative and Presiding Judge, Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas

[Learn More](#)

CMLAA CLE On-Demand Webinars

On-demand webinars available virtually via Zoom recording.

Procedural Aspects of Landlord/Tenant Law

2.0 General Credit CLE Hours

[Register](#)

2021 Ethics Seminar with Kegler Brown

2.75 Professional Conduct CLE Hours

[Register](#)

Personal Injury: PI in a Box

3.0 General Credit CLE Hours

[Register](#)

Civil, Criminal and Traffic Rules Update: What You Need to Know in 2021

2.0 General Credit Hours and 1.0 Professional Conduct Credit Hour

[Register](#)

The Hopes and Hold-Ups of Immigration Law: A New Administration and the Effects of a Pandemic

1.0 General Credit CLE Hour

[Register](#)

The Home Construction Project

3.0 General Credit CLE Hours

[Register](#)

Revisiting the Calls for Equality in the Criminal Justice System and Ohio's Path Forward

2.0 Professional Conduct Credit CLE Hours

[Register](#)

Record Sealing Update: An Overview of the Big Changes in Ohio's Expungement Law

1.0 General Credit CLE Hour

[Register](#)

Modern Issues in Divorce: Custody, Support and Finances

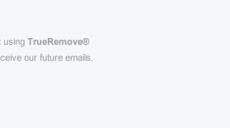
2.0 General Credit CLE Hour

[Register](#)

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Have exciting news to share? Send us your news to include on our website, social media or in a future newsletter. Email AlumniNews@law.csuohio.edu.

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