



Fair Chance in Housing Act (FCHA) One Year Anniversary Webinar

AGENDA

January 31, 2023

Welcome & Opening Remarks

Sundeep Iyer, Director

New Jersey Division on Civil Rights

Panel Discussion

Moderator:

Kai Durant, Community Relations Specialist

New Jersey Division on Civil Rights

Speakers:

James Williams, Director of Racial Justice Policy

Fair Share Housing Center

Jessica Laine, Legal Specialist

New Jersey Division on Civil Rights

Jonathan Green, Lead Community Mediator

New Jersey Division on Civil Rights

Question & Answer

Closing Remarks

Kai Durant, Community Relations Specialist

New Jersey Division on Civil Rights

Moderator & Panelists



Sundeep Iyer (DCR: Director), is the Director of the Division on Civil Rights. He previously served as Assistant Attorney General and Senior Counsel to Attorney General Matthew J. Platkin. In that capacity, he was the Attorney General's principal advisor on civil rights matters and coordinated department-wide civil rights initiatives. He also worked with the Office of the Solicitor General on appeals involving matters of constitutional law, statutory interpretation, civil rights, and criminal law.

Prior to joining the Office of the Attorney General, Iyer was a senior associate at Hogan Lovells US LLP. During his time at the firm, he served as a special attorney for the State of Minnesota in the prosecution of the four former police officers charged in connection with the death of George Floyd. He was part of the legal team that obtained a conviction of Derek Chauvin on charges of second-degree murder, third-degree murder, and second-degree manslaughter, and he briefed, argued, and won key legal motions for the State at trial.

Iyer was also part of the litigation team that obtained an injunction against President Trump's travel ban and defended that injunction before the U.S. Supreme Court. He represented federal death-row inmates in a challenge to the Trump Administration's federal lethal injection protocol. And he was one of the lead attorneys for a group of eight plaintiff organizations challenging President Trump's rescission of the Bears Ears National Monument in Utah.

Iyer previously clerked for U.S. Supreme Court Justices David H. Souter and Stephen G. Breyer, as well as for then-Judge Brett M. Kavanaugh on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. He received his A.B. from Harvard College and J.D. from Yale Law School. Prior to graduating law school, Sundeep was the Principal Quantitative Analyst at the Brennan Center for Justice at NYU School of Law, where he directed statistical research on voting rights, campaign finance, and redistricting issues.



Kai Durant – Moderator (DCR: Community Relations Specialist), is a community relations specialist in the Community Relations Unit (CRU) at the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights. At CRU, she works to prevent acts of discrimination and bias based harassment through education and community engagement. She co-leads topics of housing, employment, disability, and the youth ambassador program.

She completed her undergrad at Rutgers University with a focus Sociology and Gender Studies. Following undergrad, she completed her Master's in Social Work with a concentration on policy at Columbia University. She has experience in community outreach, advocacy, and organizing from her past work at a non-profit, community health center, and campaign.



Jonathan G. Green, J.D. (DCR: Lead Community Mediator), serves as Lead Community Mediator for the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights, Community Relations Unit. His experience is in mediation, education, and social services, focusing on human and civil rights.

In 2017, Jonathan was certified in circuit civil mediation by the Florida Supreme Court, and is currently certified in community mediation. Jonathan earned his Juris Doctorate (Southern University Law Center 2016). Also, he obtained a Master of Science in Criminal Justice (Troy University 2012) and a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice (University of South Alabama 2009). Jonathan has been a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., since 2005.



Jessica Laine (DCR: FCHA Legal Specialist), is a Legal Specialist in the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights' (DCR) Legal Enforcement Unit where she focuses on investigating and enforcing violations of the Fair Chance in Housing Act and the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination.

Prior to joining DCR, Jessica served on the executive team at a Housing Authority overseeing legal compliance of housing programs including Section 8 and Public Housing. Jessica has also worked in private practice as a civil litigator, and as a mediator in the Superior Court of New Jersey for Landlord Tenant matters.



James C. Williams IV (Fair Share Housing: Director of Racial Justice Policy), "I try to never forget the legacy of civil rights giants who created a space for me to exist. They created lanes not only through voting rights, housing, and education, but also through the ability to advocate for my community."

James is Director of Racial Justice Policy at Fair Share Housing Center. He joined the organization in 2019 after working for Philadelphia Works and the New Jersey Institute for Social Justice. He attended Fayetteville State University in North Carolina where he received both his B.A. and M.S. degrees. He continues to be an advocate for civil rights and social justice.