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## **2023 Racial Justice Challenge: Housing Law**

Roger Williams University School of Law

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## **2023 Racial Justice Challenge: Housing Law**

**The Pro Bono Collaborative's Racial Justice Challenge:  
Housing Law Kick-off Zoom Event**

***"What Does Housing Have To Do With Race?"***

**Wednesday, February 15 from 6-7 pm.**

## PLEASE JOIN OUR 2023 RACIAL JUSTICE CHALLENGE: HOUSING LAW

From February 1, 2023 until May 31, 2023  
all challenge participants are asked to select  
one challenge from each category.



### ***What Does Housing Have to Do with Race?***

**Wednesday, February 15, 2023**

Live Zoom Event 6:00 pm-7:00 pm

Program Registration [here](#).



**Professor Monica Teixeira de Sousa**

Monica Teixeira de Sousa is a Professor of Law at Roger Williams University School of Law where she teaches Property, Family Law, and Race and the Foundations of American Law.



**Professor Nicole Dyszlewski**

Nicole P. Dyszlewski currently serves as the Director of Special Programs, Academic Affairs, for the Law School. Professor Dyszlewski co-developed and teaches RWU Law's Race and the Foundations of American Law.

Learn more about the PBC's Racial Justice Challenge: Housing Law, and sign up to participate in the Challenge [here](#).

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## The PBC Racial Justice Challenge



Roger Williams University School of Law's Pro Bono Collaborative provides pro bono legal service using a three-way partnership model involving law firms and individual attorneys, law students, and community organizations.

This year, in addition to continuing our pro bono work in the community, we are launching an education and awareness campaign around racial justice issues with a focus on housing.

### What is the Challenge?

(1) From February 1, 2023 until May 31, 2023, select one challenge from each of the categories below: read something, watch something, and do something. It's that easy!

(2) Let us know you're up for the challenge: [Join The Challenge](#)

Challenge participants will be recognized on RWU Law's website and through our social media channels. Law firms and community organizations will be provided with a "challenge logo" to put on their organization's website.

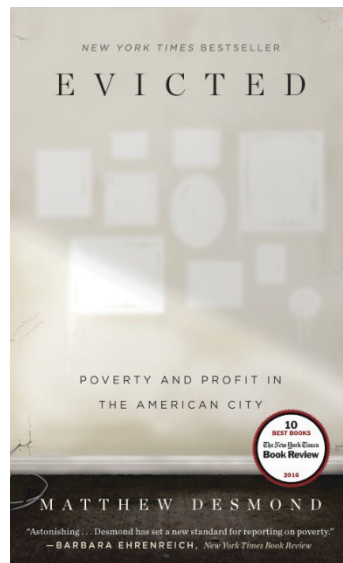
## Read:

### Articles:

- [\*Neighborhoods Don't Have To Be Rich To Be Vibrant\*](#), an article about: [Thanks for Everything \(Now Get Out\), Can We Restore Neighborhoods without Destroying Them?](#)
- The City of Providence's reparations committee report: [A Matter of Truth](#), The Struggle for African Heritage & Indigenous People Equal Rights in Providence, Rhode Island (1620-2020).

### Books:

- [The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America](#) by Richard Rothstein (2017).



- [Evicted](#) by Matthew Desmond (2017).

## Watch:

- [Segregated By Design](#). This short film examines the forgotten history of how our federal, state and local governments unconstitutionally segregated every major metropolitan area in America through law and policy. Directed by Mark Lopez.
- [Providence Lost](#) A short nonfiction film that follows a family undergoing an eviction in Rhode Island and their subsequent search for a new home. Directed by Oscar Dupuy d'Angeac.
- ["Some Kind of Funny Porto Rican?": A Cape Verdean American Story](#) (2006 55" PBS version).
- [13th](#) a full length Netflix documentary (2016).
- [Close Up: Where We Don't Live](#), Rhode Island Historical Society, Struggle for Fair Housing (1965). Edited footage from the WPRO (WPRI) documentary series "Close Up." This episode, entitled "Where We Don't Live" gave voice to Black Rhode Island residents who faced housing discrimination.

## Listen:



RWU Law students volunteers at the Providence Eviction Help Desk

- Stuff You Should Know, [How Housing Discrimination Works](#).
- [Less to Lean On](#): Housing Insecurity in Rhode Island and the Nation, Podcast Series.
- [Seeing White](#); Podcast Series, Scene on Radio.

## Do:

- Participate in the ***PBC Racial Justice Challenge: Housing Law*** kick-off zoom event "What Does Housing Have To Do With Race?" on February 15 from 6-7 pm. Register [here](#). This will be a great introductory event for anyone interested in learning about housing discrimination.

- Attend RWU's "[Hidden Truths: Stories of Race and Place](#)," series presentation "Why Zip Code Matters" on March 7, 2023 at 7 pm.
- Join the Affordable Housing Walk in May. Date TBA (most likely in April)
- Visit the Eviction Help Desk. The help desk operates Monday through Friday between 9 am and noon, outside of Courtroom 3E of the Garrahy Judicial Complex; and/or volunteer one day at the Eviction Help Desk. The help desk operates Monday through Friday between 9 am and noon, outside of Courtroom 3E of the Garrahy Judicial Complex. Email Eliza Vorenberg to schedule a visit: [evorenberg@rwu.edu](mailto:evorenberg@rwu.edu).

## Need More Information About the Challenge?

- [Harrington-Steppen, Suzanne](#)



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- [Vorenberg, Eliza](#)



Clinical Professor of Law Director of Pro Bono & Community Partnerships

401-254-4597 [evorenberg@rwu.edu](mailto:evorenberg@rwu.edu)

**Challenge Participants (as of 2/17/23)**

<b>Law firms &amp; Organizations</b>	<b>Individuals</b>	
Barton Gilman LLP	Dr. Stephanie Akunvabey	Justin Gallant, JE Group Properties
Committee for Racial and Ethnic Fairness in the RI Courts	Virginia Albert, Esq.	Richard Godfrey
Comprehensive Community Action Inc. (CCAP)	James J. Bagley	Amy Goins
Hamel, Waxler, Allen & Collins	Laurie Barron	Jane Govednik
HousingWorks RI at RWU	Madeline Becker	Katie Gradowski
Mandell, Boisclair & Mandell, Ltd.	Candace Brown Casey	Jodi Haley
	Zack Carlson	Amy Harrington
		Suzy Harrington-Steppen



Sinapi Law Associates, Ltd.

The RI Center for Justice

Maggie Chung

Brenda Clement

Abby Dos Santos

Nicole P. Dyszlewski

Cassandra Feeney

Seena Franklin

Eva Gallant

Diana Hassel

Chelsie Horne

Andy Horwitz

Julia Keefe

Zureen Khairuddin

Justin Kishbaugh