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Roger Williams University School Law

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# Newsroom

January 15, 2016

## Sack Joins Women's Fund of RI Board

Professor Emily Sack has joined the board of Women's Fund of Rhode Island, an advocacy organization working to eliminate gender bias in the state.



**PROVIDENCE, Jan. 15, 2016:** Professor Emily Sack has joined the board of Women's Fund of Rhode Island, an advocacy organization working to eliminate gender bias in the state.

WFRI's acting board chair Daria Kreher recently announced the appointment of Sack together with those of two other "community leaders with widely varying backgrounds," Beverly Wiley and David Vanech.

"The Board of Directors serves as the critical foundation for our organization," Kreher said. "With their business and functional experience, community involvement, and commitment to gender equality, Emily, David and Beverly will help to advance our mission and have a lasting impact on our state."

Founded in 2001, [Women's Fund of Rhode Island](#) is a group of passionate people working together to eliminate gender inequality in the state. As a leader in the movement to improve policies that impact women and girls in Rhode Island, the work of the Women's Fund is focused on economic independence of women and girls, political participation and representation. The organization also conducts research on gender inequity to inform our state and nation of the specific challenges facing women and girls in Rhode Island.

"I am so pleased to be part of an organization that's so committed to making gender equality a reality in Rhode Island," Sack noted. "The Women's Fund is doing top-notch work on a range of issues affecting women and girls, and I am looking forward to working with a great group of people in an area that is important to me."



Emily Sack is a professor of law at Roger Williams University School of Law and co-author of one of the leading casebooks in the domestic violence area, *Domestic Violence and the Law: Theory and Practice*.

Having joined the RWU Law faculty in 2001, Professor Emily Sack has become a nationally recognized expert on domestic violence and reform of the court system. As the Deputy Director for the Center for Court Innovation, Professor Sack helped develop and implement the first domestic violence courts in New York, as well as the first felony domestic violence court in the United States. U.S. Supreme Court Justice Stevens cited Professor Sack's article, "The Struggle for the Future of Domestic Violence Policy," in his opinion in the domestic violence case *Castle Rock v. Gonzales*.

Active in the community, Professor Sack is a member of the Elder Abuse Working group, assists the National District Attorney's Association with developing elder abuse training curriculum for prosecutors, and serves as Member of the Board and Chair of EMERGE, a batterers' intervention and parenting skills programs for men who abuse intimate partners. Prior to joining RWU, Professor Sack worked in diverse offices such as the Senate Judiciary Committee Staff of the late Edward M. Kennedy, the ACLU, and the law firm of Stillman, Friedman, & Shaw.

A *magna cum laude* graduate of NYU School of Law, Professor Sack earned her B.A. from Swarthmore with high honors and her M. Phil. from Columbia University. She teaches Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Family Law, Children and the Law, Domestic Violence Law, and Death Penalty Law. She

recently served as a Visiting Associate Professor of Law at Boston College. She has published in many top journals, including the Northwestern, Wisconsin, and Washington University law reviews.

WFRI's other two new board members are:

**David Vanech** is a financial advisor from Providence, RI. For the past five years he has held the position of Senior Director of Investments at Oppenheimer & Company Inc., and previously worked for Morgan Stanley. He graduated from Wesleyan University with a Bachelors of Arts in American Studies. In addition to serving on the board for the Women's Fund, he sits on the development committee for Family Service of Rhode Island and on the luncheon committee of Children's Friend.

**Beverly Wiley** has been coaching and mentoring young people in Rhode Island in nonviolence education for over a decade. As a coach, she's been involved in outreach work and community leadership programs for many Rhode Island schools and she currently works for the Community College of Rhode Island in the athletics program making sure student athletes are treated fairly under Title IX. She brings her passion for sports to aspiring female athletes and with the Women's Fund she hopes to promote equality and level the playing field for all girls.