

About the Faculty

STEPHANIE HERRON RICE is a Racial Justice Fellow and attorney in the Employment Law Unit of Greater Boston Legal Services (GBLS), where she works on expanding access to Massachusetts' Paid Family Medical Leave program. Prior to joining GBLS, Stephanie worked as a Staff Attorney at South Coastal Counties Legal Services focusing on housing issues and unemployment insurance. Stephanie serves on the UI Bond Bill Advisory Council providing input to the Employment Modernization and Transformation Project overhauling the UI online system. She was born and raised in Panama and received her J.D. from Northeastern University School of Law and a bachelor's degree in Political Communications from Emerson College. (February 2024)

EMMA HORNSBY is a Staff Attorney in the Employment Law Unit of Greater Boston Legal Services (GBLS), where she works on workplace rights and benefits issues, including unemployment insurance, wage and hour, and labor-related immigration matters. Before joining GBLS, Emma completed a clerkship at the Massachusetts Appeals Court. During law school, she completed internships related to workers' rights and immigration law. Emma received her J.D. from Northeastern University School of Law, an M.A. from the University of Wisconsin, and a B.A. from the University of Toronto. (February 2024)

ISABEL LICKY is a Legal Assistant in the Employment Law Unit of Greater Boston Legal Services (GBLS), where she supports staff on workplace rights and employment benefit cases. Isabel was born and raised in Portland, Oregon and graduated from Middlebury College with a B.A. in philosophy.

RORY MACANENEY is a Staff Attorney in the Employment Unit at Community Legal Aid where she represents workers with unemployment benefits and workplace rights issues. During law school, Rory worked at the Civil Litigation Clinic at Greater Boston Legal Services and the Wrongful Convictions Clinic and interned at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit. She received her J.D. from Boston University and her bachelor's degree from Brown University. Since June 2022, Rory has also served as Co-President of the Community Legal Aid Justice Workers Union. (February 2024)

MICHAEL MORELLI is a Benefits Advocate in the Public Benefits, Elder, Medicare and Employment Units at Community Legal Aid, where he has worked for the past eight years. Prior to that, Michael served as an AmeriCorps paralegal at Community Legal Aid handling public benefits and unemployment cases. Michael graduated from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst with a Bachelor of Art in History. Michael provides advice and full representation in the areas of unemployment insurance, Medicare, MassHealth, TAFDC, EAEDC, SNAP, and state veteran's benefits. (February 2024)

MELISSA POMFRED is the Principal at Pomfred Law Offices, PLLC, where she advises and represents employees in employment matters and litigation. Prior to founding Pomfred Law Offices, Melissa spent nine years working at legal aid in Central and Western Massachusetts fighting for the rights of employees and tenants. Melissa has extensive experience representing clients at the Department of Unemployment Assistance and the Massachusetts Commission

Against Discrimination, as well as in State and Federal Courts. She received her J.D. from the University of Connecticut School of Law, a Masters of Ed. from Boston University, and a double degree from UMASS at Amherst. She is licensed in MA and CT. (February 2024)

ENOCK RODRIGUEZ is a Paralegal in the Employment Law Unit of Greater Boston Legal Services where he represents low-wage workers seeking assistance with their claims for unemployment insurance benefits and helps workers recover their unpaid wages. Prior to joining the Employment Law Unit, Enock worked in the Housing Unit at GBLS as a paralegal in the CELHP (COVID Eviction Legal Help Team) project, assisting tenants in eviction matters. Enock received his M.S. in Criminology/Criminal Justice from Northeastern University and a B.A. from UMass Boston. (February 2024)

JASON SALGADO is a Staff Attorney in the Employment Law Unit of Greater Boston Legal Services (GBLS), where he represents workers and advocates for legislative change in unemployment insurance, paid family medical leave, wage and hour, and misclassification matters. Jason previously worked in the Employment Law Unit as an AmeriCorps paralegal, law student intern, volunteer and fellow. Jason graduated from Harvard Law School in 2021 and received his bachelor's degree from Boston College. (February 2024)

HANNAH TANABE is a Senior Attorney at Greater Boston Legal Services (GBLS) in the Employment Law Unit. Her practice focuses on unemployment insurance (UI) individual representation and systemic advocacy, in the forms of both administrative and legislative advocacy. Hannah also serves on the UI Bond Bill Advisory Council providing input to the Employment Modernization and Transformation Project overhauling the UI online system. In addition, she represents immigrant workers in wage and hour matters. Prior to joining the Employment Unit, Hannah worked in the CORI & Re-entry Project, Elder Health and Disability Unit, and Family Law Unit at GBLS. She graduated from Boston University School of Law in 2015. (February 2024)

SANDRA TAVAREZ is a Senior Paralegal in the Employment Law Unit of Greater Boston Legal Services, primarily providing advocacy to claimants in navigating issues related to their unemployment claims as well as legal representation in administrative appeal hearings with the Department of Unemployment Assistance. More recently, Sandra expanded her practice to include the representation of workers seeking paid family medical leave benefits. Sandra previously worked as a legal assistant at Cambridge and Somerville Legal Services and has been with GBLS since 2015. Sandra is active on a variety of committees focusing on racial justice, disability access, and Limited English Proficiency (LEP) issues. She is the Vice President of GBLS' Staff Association Union. (February 2024)

KIMBERLY WYLLIE is a legal intern in the Employment Law Unit of Greater Boston Legal Services. Kim joined GBLS through Northeastern University School of Law's Co-Op program in January 2024. Kim is in her final year of law school and enjoys working on civil and tort law cases. Kim was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York and graduated from Macaulay Honors College in 2021 with a B.A. in Political Science and Psychology.

KATIE YAO is an AmeriCorps Paralegal in the Employment Law Unit of Greater Boston Legal Services where she represents workers seeking assistance with their claims for unemployment insurance benefits. Prior to joining GBLS, Katie served with the College Advising Corps–Boston University as a college and career adviser for first generation, low-income, and underrepresented high school students. Katie received her B.S. from Boston University. (February 2024)