

ACLU Foundation of Oregon

Litigation 42 U.S.C. § 1983 Claims: Advanced Techniques for Practicing Civil Rights Lawyers

PROGRAM FACULTY BIOGRAPHIES

Michelle Burrows. Michelle Burrows is a sole practitioner in Portland and has practiced law in Oregon since 1986. She specializes in plaintiff civil rights cases and criminal defense. Michelle is a member of the Civil Forfeiture Asset Oversight Committee, which reports to the Oregon Legislature, and is a former Vice President of the Oregon Criminal Defense Lawyers Association. She also serves on the OHSU Institutional Review Board as a prisoner advocate, and is Chair of the Legal Advisory Committee for the Western Prison Project. Michelle is class counsel in *Anstett v. State of Oregon*, a prisoner class action addressing medical care in Oregon's prisons.

Spencer Neal. Spencer Neal is the Litigation Director of the Oregon Law Center. He has also practiced law at the Oregon Legal Services Corporation's Farmworker Law Office and privately in Portland specializing in police misconduct and prisoner rights cases. Spencer is the recipient of a Commendation from the ACLU of Oregon and the Civil Justice Award from the Oregon Trial Lawyers Association.

Elden Rosenthal. Elden Rosenthal is partner in the Portland law firm of Rosenthal & Greene, P.C., and is listed in the Best Lawyers in America for Civil Rights and Employment Law. He is a member of the American College of Trial Lawyers and has received the Award of Merit from the Oregon State Bar, the Public Justice and Distinguished Trial Lawyers Awards from the Oregon Trial Lawyers Association, and the Civil Liberties Award from the ACLU of Oregon. Elden's most notable cases are *Mayfield v. USA*, in which he won a \$2 million settlement and a public apology from the federal government for wrongfully jailing his client Brandon Mayfield as a presumed terrorist in connection with the Madrid train bombings, and *Seraw v. Metzger*, in which he won a \$12.5 million jury verdict against Tom Metzger, the leader of the White Aryan Resistance, and other co-conspirators, for inciting members of the Resistance to beat to death Mulegeta Seraw, a black Ethiopian.