

BIOGRAPHIES

Karl Racine, Attorney General for the District of Columbia

Attorney General Karl A. Racine is the first elected Attorney General of the District of Columbia. With his inauguration in 2014, the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) began an new era of independence for the agency and accountability to District residents.

As the chief legal officer for the District of Columbia, Attorney General Racine relies on his 25 years of legal and leadership experience to advise the Mayor and District agencies, defend the city in court, and use the law to advance the public interest.

Attorney General Racine has established the following priorities for the OAG: data-driven juvenile justice reform, consumer protection for the District's most vulnerable residents, affordable housing, advancing democracy and safeguarding public integrity.

Gina Jurva Esq., Attorney & Manager, Thomas Reuters Thought Leadership Enterprise

Gina Jurva, Esq., is an attorney and Manager for the Thomson Reuters Legal Executive Institute's Thought Leadership Enterprise Content – Corporates & Government. Gina works on solutions to some of the world's most pressing financial fraud issues including anti-money laundering (AML), human trafficking, and government fraud, in addition to risk and regulatory compliance. In previous roles at Thomson Reuters, Gina worked as the Manager for the Risk & Compliance platform. She was also a Senior Legal Writer and Editor. Additionally, she spent a combined 11 years as a deputy district attorney handling both misdemeanor and felony cases and later, her own legal practice defending clients in criminal matters. Gina is currently studying for the Association of Certified AntiMoney Laundering Specialists (ACAMS) certification exam.

John Hudak, Deputy Director - Center for Effective Public Management, Senior Fellow - Governance Studies, Brookings Institution

John Hudak is deputy director of the Center for Effective Public Management and a senior fellow in Governance Studies. His research examines questions of presidential power in the contexts of administration, personnel, and public policy. Additionally, he focuses on campaigns and elections, legislative-executive interaction, and state and federal marijuana policy.

John's 2016 book, [*Marijuana: A Short History*](#), offers a unique, up-to-date profile of how cannabis emerged from the shadows of counterculture and illegality to become a serious, even mainstream, public policy issue and source of legal revenue for both businesses and governments. In it, he describes why attitudes and policy have changed, and what those changes mean for marijuana's future place in society.

His 2014 [*Presidential Pork: White House Influence over the Distribution of Federal Grants*](#) demonstrates that pork-barrel politics occurs beyond the halls of Congress. Presidents capitalize on their discretionary funding authority to target federal dollars to swing states in advance of presidential elections. His other work explores how agency staffing, expertise, and institutional structure facilitate or hinder presidential power and influence. This research explores the balance between political control and bureaucratic expertise in the delivery of public policy.

John's work has been recognized for its quality and contribution by the Midwest Political Science Association and the American Political Science Association's Presidency Research Group. His work has been supported by institutions including the National Science Foundation.

Prior to joining Brookings, John served as the program director and as a graduate fellow at the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions. He holds a B.A. in political science and economics from the University of Connecticut and an M.A. and Ph.D. in political science from Vanderbilt University.

Professor Robert Mikos, Professor of Law, Vanderbilt University Law School

Robert Mikos is one of the nation's leading experts on federalism and drug law. His most recent scholarship analyzes the struggle among federal, state, and local governments for control of marijuana law and policy, which includes a first-of-its-kind casebook, [*Marijuana Law, Policy, and Authority*](#) (Wolters Kluwer, 2017). In that vein, he has written, testified, and lectured on the states' constitutional authority to legalize marijuana, federal preemption of state marijuana regulations, the political and budgetary considerations that limit enforcement of the federal marijuana ban, federal law's influence on state regulation and taxation of the marijuana industry, and the desirability of marijuana localism. He has also written on the states' constitutional authority to withhold information from the federal government, the political safeguards of federalism, accuracy in criminal sanctions, the economics of private precautions against crime, and remedies in private law. Professor Mikos earned his J.D. summa cum laude from the University of Michigan Law School, where he served as articles editor on the *Michigan Law Review* and won numerous awards, including the Henry M. Bates Memorial Scholarship. After graduation, he was a law clerk for Chief Judge Michael Boudin of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit. Professor Mikos has taught at the University of California at Davis, where he was twice nominated for the school's Distinguished Teaching Award, as well as at Notre Dame and the University of Michigan. He teaches courses in Federalism, Constitutional Law, Marijuana Law and Policy, Federal Criminal Law, and Drug Law and Policy.