

Douglas (Doug) B. Ammar – Key Accomplishments

Leadership & Organizational Growth

- Served Georgia Justice Project (GJP) since 1986: Volunteer, Staff Attorney, and Executive Director (since 1995).
- Grew GJP's budget from \$200,000 to over \$4 million annually, expanding staff from single digits to over 40 employees.
- Conducted three successful capital campaigns to support growth and initiatives.
- Built a statewide presence, serving clients across 100 Georgia counties in 2023 alone.

Program Innovation

- Developed and expanded a nationally recognized holistic defense model, combining legal services with social support.
- Launched Georgia's first Criminal Records Services Program (2008).
- Created Georgia's first Second Chance Expungement Desks in three jurisdictions.
- Initiated Georgia's first Expungement Summits to remove barriers to reentry.
- Established a Volunteer Lawyer Program in 2014, growing to 250 active volunteers by 2023.
- Designed prison and jail reentry efforts focused on removing stale warrants and restoring driver's licenses.
- Pioneered GJP's landscaping business to employ returning citizens (later transitioned to expanded policy advocacy).

Policy Reform Leadership

- Advocated for and helped draft 24 changes to Georgia state law since 2009.
- Key leader in Georgia's "Ban the Box" movement for state job applications.
- Played a critical role in Governor Nathan Deal's Criminal Justice Reform initiatives.
- Regularly built bipartisan coalitions to advance criminal justice reforms.
- Influenced major probation reforms, sealing and expungement legislation in Georgia.

Thought Leadership & Speaking Engagements

- Presented nationally and internationally at universities, conferences, law schools, and government agencies, including:
 - Harvard, Davidson College, Fordham Law School, W&L, University of Chicago, Department of Justice, and the National Governors Association.
- Invited speaker for restorative justice conferences in Italy, Israel, and Japan.
- Advisory board member and consultant for major justice and social enterprise organizations.

Publications

- Authored and contributed to works in *Fordham Urban Law Journal*, *National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers CHAMPION*, and *Transforming Justice*.
- GJP's work featured in *Forces for Good* (2nd Edition, 2012).

Awards and Honors

- **Ben F. Johnson Jr. Public Service Award**, Georgia State University College of Law (2025).
- Non-Profit Times Power & Influence Top 50 Honoree (2019).
- Leadership in Criminal Justice Award, Georgia Black Legislative Caucus (2022).
- Martin Luther King Jr. Dream Forward Award for Social Justice (2018).
- Anti-Defamation League Tuttle Jurisprudence Award (2012).
- William Spann Jr. Pro Bono Award, State Bar of Georgia (2016, 2019).
- Urban League of Atlanta Man of Empowerment & Distinction Award (2018).
- Davidson College Game Changer Recognition Award (2016).
- Annie E. Casey Foundation Fellowship (2007-2008)
- Annie E. Casey Foundation National Honors Program Award (2006).
- Numerous additional community service & public interest awards (1997-present).

Community Leadership and Service

- Board Member or Advisor for numerous nonprofits and educational initiatives including:
 - GreenLight Fund Atlanta, Stein Center for Ethics at Fordham, Washington & Lee Shepherd Poverty Alliance, and Emmaus House Episcopal Church.
- Member of the State Bar of Georgia, Atlanta Bar Association, and U.S. Supreme Court Bar.
- Participant in Harvard Business School Non-Profit Leadership Program and Leadership Atlanta (Class of 2004).

Education

- J.D., Washington & Lee University (1989) – Homer Adams Holt Scholar & Francis Lewis Law Center Fellow.
- B.A., Davidson College (1984) – Recipient of the Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award and multiple leadership honors.