

## **Suraj Tandukar, Administrative Assistant**



As the Administrative Assistant in NCLC's Boston office, Suraj Tandukar answers phones, assists staff with scheduling meetings and making travel arrangements, creates and modifies documents, and helps maintain our database. Suraj joined NCLC in 2020 and is very excited to be part of the NCLC team! During his free time, he enjoys cooking and spending time with friends.

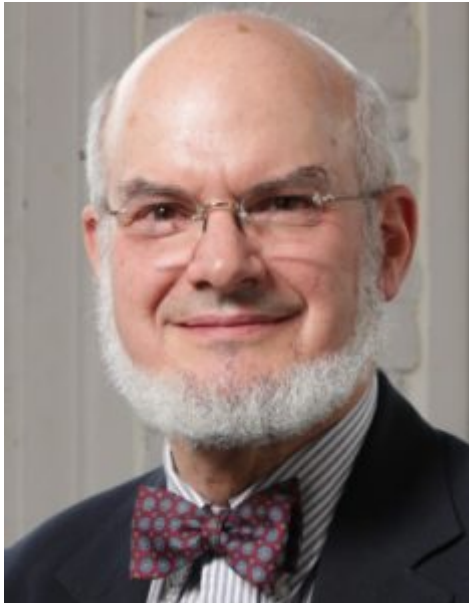
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## **Moussou N'Diaye, Digital Content and Operations Assistant**

Moussou N'Diaye joined the National Consumer Law Center in 2020. She helps maintain and update the NCLC website, in addition to designing and tweaking digital and print materials that the organization needs. She also assists staff with software problems. Her free time is spent illustrating, animating, and making films.

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## **Dick Bauer, Access to Justice Fellow**



Dick Bauer joined National Consumer Law Center as HomeCorps Project Supervisor in Fall 2014, focusing on foreclosures and mortgage issues. As an Access to Justice fellow, most of Dick's time has been spent supervising and mentoring on appeals and other housing cases. He also provides technical assistance, mentoring, and training to a number of other Legal Aid Programs including DOVE (Domestic Violence Ended), Inc., Greater Boston Legal Services, the Justice Center of Southeast Massachusetts, the Lawyers Clearinghouse on Affordable Housing and Homelessness, the Medical Legal Partnership of Boston, Northeast Legal Aid, the Ohio Access to Justice Foundation, the Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law, South Coastal Counties Legal Services, the Tenant Advocacy Project of Harvard Law School, and the Volunteer Lawyers Project. Previously, Dick was a Senior Attorney with Greater Boston Legal Services, representing low-income homeowners, tenants, and homeless families. A graduate of MIT and Northeastern University Law School, Dick served as a member of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court Standing Advisory Committee on the Rules of Civil Procedure from 1998 until 2015. In 2018, he was selected by the Massachusetts Bar Association for its Access to Justice Lifetime Achievement Award.

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## **Campaign for the Future**

***NCLC's vision is for a nation in which economic opportunity is available to all.***

The Campaign for the Future will transform NCLC into a stronger and more sophisticated consumer rights and economic justice advocacy organization—the kind of organization needed to achieve our vision.

Over the past year, NCLC has engaged our Board, Partners Council, staff, and other constituencies to identify the areas in which new resources are most needed to advance consumer rights and economic justice. With the support of our community,

Campaign for the Future investments will be focused in the following broad areas:

## **Next Generation Campaign**

### **Building a Bigger and Stronger Consumer Law Community**

When NCLC was founded in 1969, there were few consumer lawyers and no real “consumer law community.” Over the past five decades, NCLC has worked tirelessly to build this community. Our definitive consumer law treatises, highly-attended conferences, and support of consumer lawyers through webinars, listservs and other forms of ongoing engagement make a daily difference for consumer lawyers, and have helped build a thriving community.

**Our commitment is not only to support consumer lawyers in the present, but to build the consumer law community of the future.**

Through the Campaign for the Future, NCLC aims to invest in new ways to continue building a bigger and stronger consumer law community. Those who have benefited from support, mentoring and expert assistance in the past have the opportunity to present those gifts to the next generation.

Through these priority investments, NCLC will work to continue building a pipeline of new consumer lawyers with high levels of expertise to tackle the consumer law challenges of the future.

## **Legal Aid Partnership Project**

### **Strengthening NCLC’s Support of Legal Aid Services for Low-Income Consumers**

NCLC founding mission was to support the Legal Services Program, and that commitment has never wavered. Over five decades we have trained thousands of legal aid lawyers in consumer law, and provided resources they rely on to effectively represent their clients.

**All Americans deserve equal access to justice—and justice requires access to good consumer lawyers.**

In this era, legal services programs are in jeopardy, and resources are limited. Through the Campaign for the Future, NCLC will strive to build a permanent pipeline of attorneys well-versed in consumer law, and work to ensure that legal aid

lawyers receive the training and development opportunities they need to meet the complex consumer law challenges of the future.

## **State Advocacy Initiative**

### **Expanding NCLC's Impact at the State Level**

In this era of gridlock and regression at the national level, important consumer law fights are increasingly being fought at the state level. Some states offer opportunities for pro-consumer reform that are not currently feasible on the national level, and anti-consumer forces are active—often with little resistance—in others. NCLC has long fought to preserve the role of states in protecting consumers, and has always provided support to state advocates, but our resources to do so have been extremely limited. New resources will allow us to identify and respond to the most important threats and opportunities in the states and build lasting partnerships with state coalitions, which will positively impact state protections and also help NCLC mobilize state networks on federal issues.

**Critical consumer law battles are being fought—and important opportunities for pro-consumer reforms exist—at the state level.**

Through the Campaign for the Future, NCLC will be able to plan more pro-actively to engage on the most strategic and important initiatives, and to respond more quickly and aggressively when requests for assistance are made. Through these priority investments, NCLC will deepen our commitment to state advocacy to meet the challenges of the future.

## **Communications Capacity-Building Campaign**

### **Enhancing NCLC's Ability to Reach Decision-Makers, Engage Supporters, and Influence Public Opinion**

In the 21st Century, honing a persuasive message to cut through a cacophony of information is an essential component of any successful campaign, and more important than ever in building a lasting pro-consumer political environment.

**In a challenging and chaotic political environment, using sophisticated techniques to reach decision-makers, influence public opinion and mobilize people to take action is necessary to protect important consumer laws and win pro-consumer reforms.**

Through the Campaign for the Future, NCLC will invest in building the more sophisticated communications capacity it takes to win, investing in the tools and resources needed to tell the stories of our low-income clients, shape the debate, convey complex information in more easily-understood ways, and mobilize supporters and others who care about consumer rights and economic justice issues.

Through these priority investments, NCLC will become a more effective advocate for consumer protections, better able to shape public opinion and persuade policy makers on the consumer law issues of the future.

## **Advancing the Agenda Fund**

### **Investing in New Strategies for Advancing Fairness in the Marketplace**

For half a century, NCLC has used its expertise in consumer law and energy policy to work for consumer justice and economic security for low-income and other disadvantaged people in the U.S. Our traditional tools have included policy analysis and advocacy; consumer law and energy publications; litigation; expert witness services, and training and advice for advocates.

### **New tools and resources are needed for the next generation of consumer law advocacy.**

Through the Campaign for the Future, NCLC will be able to invest in areas where we often lack resources—to allow us to get ahead of the curve and lead the way forward on a range of critical issues.

Through these priority investments, NCLC will advance our expertise and capabilities in several key areas to meet the challenges of the future.

If you would like to find out more about NCLC's Campaign for the Future please contact Paul Laurent at [pl Laurent@nclc.org](mailto:pl Laurent@nclc.org).

### ***HONORARY Campaign Co-Chairs:***

Senator Elizabeth Warren &  
Will Ogburn

- **Campaign for the**

**Future Co-Chairs:**

- [Elizabeth Cabraser](#)
  - [Lieff Cabraser Heimann & Bernstein](#)
- [Andy Spanogle](#)

**• Campaign**

**Chancellors:**

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& [Mark Mailman](#) & [John Soumilas](#) - [Francis Mailman Soumilas, P.C.](#)
- [Scott Owens](#)- [Scott D. Owens, P.A.](#)
- Anonymous

**• Campaign Cabinet:**

- [Mark Chavez](#)
  - [KBK Legal](#)
- [Kristi Kelly](#)  
& [Andrew Guzzo](#) - [Kelly Guzzo, PLC](#)
- [Cary Flitter](#)
  - [Flitter Milz, P.C.](#)
- [Brian Wanca](#)
  - [Anderson + Wanca](#)
- [Jon Kravetz](#)
  - [Mintz](#)
- [Abbas Kazarounian](#)  
& [Robert Hyde](#) - [Kazerouni Law Group, APC](#)

**• Campaign Counsel:**

- [Mike Donovan](#)

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LLC](#)
  - o [James Sturdevant  
- The Sturdevant  
Law Firm](#)
  - o [Hassan Zavareei  
- Tycko &  
Zavareei, LLP](#)
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Wolf - Jones Wolf  
& Kapasi, LLC](#)
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- Law Office of  
Matthew P. McCue](#)
  - o [Seth Lesser  
- Klafter Olsen &  
Lesser, LLP](#)
  - o Anonymous
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## **[Video: Visionaries Profile](#)**

The work of the National Consumer Law Center (NCLC) and its network is profiled in the 23rd season of *Visionaries*, the award-winning public television series hosted by acclaimed actor Sam Waterston of *Grace and Frankie*, and formerly of *The Newsroom* and *Law & Order*. The episode, now being shown on PBS stations across the country, profiles NCLC attorneys and its civil legal-aid partners on location in Atlanta, Boston, Detroit, and Washington, DC as they work to protect low-income families from wrongful eviction, foreclosure, and other unfair and deceptive consumer abuses.

Executive Director Rich Dubois encouraged *Visionaries* producers to emphasize that NCLC is more than a single non-profit organization with two offices in Boston and Washington, DC — that through the consumer law community NCLC has worked to build for five decades, it is in fact a national network of consumer champions, fighting together for economic justice.

NCLC is grateful to the supporters who underwrote NCLC's involvement in this program:

- Long-time NCLC Board member Jon Kravetz and his wife Janny
- Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C.
- Boston Private
- Brian Wanca

To watch the entire show, visit <https://www.visionaries.org/organizations-profiled/-national-consumer-law-center>

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## **Martha Tamayo**

Martha Tamayo is a Community Advocate and a member of the Board of Directors for Central California Legal Services. Martha has worked with the Kings Community Action Organization since 2012 to help residents and communities achieve self-sufficiency. She has also worked with the humanitarian program Palomas Mensajeras to arrange visits in the U.S. between elderly residents of Mexico and their family members now living in the U.S.

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## **Joshua Ambre, Editorial Associate**



Joshua Ambre provides support to NCLC's editorial department, building on his previous experience as a legal proofreader, freelance editor, and writing tutor. He holds a bachelor's degree with concentrations in creative writing and classics from the University of Arizona.

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## **Ariel Nelson, Staff Attorney**





Ariel Nelson is a staff attorney at the National Consumer Law Center focusing on credit and background reporting and criminal justice debt issues. She is a contributing author to NCLC's [Fair Credit Reporting](#) and [Collection Actions](#). Previously, Ariel litigated administrative and environmental law cases as a staff attorney/clinical teaching fellow at Georgetown University Law Center. She also served as a law clerk to the Honorable Judge David O. Carter of the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California and to the Honorable Judge Dorothy W. Nelson of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. She holds a B.A. from the University of California, Berkeley and a J.D. from Harvard Law School. She is admitted to practice law in Massachusetts, California, and the District of Columbia.

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## **[Karen Lusson, Staff Attorney](#)**



Karen Lusson is a staff attorney at the National Consumer Law Center, who focuses on energy and utility issues that affect low-income customers. Previously she was the assistant bureau chief in the Public Utilities Bureau of the Illinois Attorney General's Office. Her duties included representing Illinois residential ratepayers in litigation involving utility rate increase requests, rate design, ratepayer-funded energy efficiency programs, mergers, rulemakings and low

income customer affordability issues. Prior to that, Karen was a staff attorney at the Illinois Citizens Utility Board and an assistant public counsel at the Illinois Office of Public Counsel. She received her degree in Journalism and Political Science from Indiana University and her law degree from DePaul University College of Law.

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## [Andrea Bopp Stark - Attorney](#)



Andrea Bopp Stark is a staff attorney focusing on fair debt collection practices, including criminal justice debt. She also teaches an Introduction to Consumer Rights Litigation practicum course at Boston College Law School. Andrea is a contributing author to NCLC's [Fair Debt Collection](#) and [Mortgage Servicing and Loan Modifications](#) legal manuals. Previously, Andrea was a partner at Molleur Law Office in Biddeford, ME, and worked as an attorney for Northeast Legal Aid in Lawrence, Massachusetts where she was one of NCLC's first recipients of the John G. Brooks fellowship. Andrea holds a B.A. from the University of Vermont and obtained her JD and Masters of Social Work from Boston College. She is admitted to practice law in Massachusetts, Maine, and New Hampshire.