## SETON HALL | LAW

Seton Hall Journal on Legislation & Public Policy Symposium An Innocence-Centered View of New Jersey's Post-Conviction Jurisprudence Friday, March 1, 2024



Bernard K. Freamon Professor of Law Emeritus Seton Hall University School of Law Visiting Professor of Law Roger Williams Law School Panel: 1

Professor Freamon holds a B.A. from Wesleyan University, a J.D. from Rutgers Law School (Newark), and an LL.M. and J.S.D. from Columbia Law School.

Professor Freamon began his legal career in 1974, working as a staff attorney for Essex County Legal Services, and quickly transitioned to project director for the the New Jersey branch of the American Civil Liberties Union, focusing on the representation of underrepresented persons in civil rights and civil liberties litigation. He came to Seton Hall University School of Law in the fall of 1979 and became the founding director of what is now the Center for Social Justice in the fall of 1992. In that capacity, he participated in extensive litigation in the federal courts, including the Supreme Court of the United States, involving claims under the First, Fifth, Sixth, Eighth, and Fourteenth Amendments. In addition, he has worked on a variety of issues in the state courts related to the wellbeing of the poor, the underrepresented, religious minorities, lawyers, prisoners, and criminal defendants.

After leaving the Center for Social Justice to pursue more doctrinal teaching and scholarship, Professor Freamon taught a wide range of courses and pursued a wide range of subject matter interests, including legal ethics, international law, comparative law, evidence, legal philosophy, criminal law and jurisprudence, and Anglo-American legal history.

In recent years, much of Professor Freamon's research, writing, and teaching focuses on Islamic law and jurisprudence, and he is increasingly attune to the problem of slavery in the Muslim world. Professor Freamon was co-editor of an important collection of essays entitled *Indian Ocean Slavery in the Age of Abolition*, published by Yale University Press in 2013.

Professor Freamon recently published the first comprehensive legal history of slavery and abolition in the Muslim world: *Possessed by the Right Hand: The Problem of Slavery in Islamic Law and Muslim Cultures* (2019), and he is currently at work on a textbook for law students on slavery and human trafficking.

His international experience includes two years on the law faculty of the University of Nairobi in Nairobi, Kenya. Closer to home, Professor Freamon is an elected member of the American Law Institute, and a long-time member of the board of editors of the New Jersey Law Journal. In the 1999-2000 academic year, Professor Freamon was a Samuel I. Golieb Fellow in Legal History at New York University School of Law. In 2007, he completed a fellowship at the Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance and Abolition at Yale University.