

SETON HALL | LAW

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WHY PEOPLE DON'T CONNECT WITH YOU: INTERPERSONAL SKILLS INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE COURTROOM AND OTHER TOP TIPS FOR LAWYERS AND LAW STUDENTS

Thursday, September 13, 2018
Biographies

THE HONORABLE JON M. BRAMNICK, ESQ., *Assemblyman, 21st District of New Jersey and Partner, Bramnick, Rodriguez, Grabas, Arnold & Mangan*



Assemblyman Bramnick, a partner in the law firm of Bramnick, Rodriguez, Grabas, Arnold & Mangan, based in Scotch Plains, is a certified civil trial attorney who concentrates on representing accident victims. He has tried cases throughout the State of New Jersey and has over thirty years of experience in the personal injury field. Mr. Bramnick has been named by New Jersey Super Lawyers magazine as one of the top attorneys in New Jersey since 2006.

Mr. Bramnick began his career as a trial attorney in the office of the corporation counsel for the City of New York, Bronx division, from 1979-1980. He continued to develop his skills as a trial attorney at the New York law firm of Friedlander, Gains, Cohen, Rosenthal and Rosenberg, where he represented personal injury victims. Mr. Bramnick opened his own firm in 1984, and he has continued since that time to focus his practice on personal injury cases.

Jon M. Bramnick is a Master and has served as past President of the Richard J. Hughes Inn of Court, an organization dedicated to the training and education of young trial lawyers. He is a frequent lecturer for the New Jersey Institute of Continuing Legal Education and the American Association for Justice. Jon Bramnick co-authored the New Jersey Automobile Litigation chapter of the ICLE Civil Trial Preparation Book.

Jon M. Bramnick currently serves as a New Jersey State Assemblyman, representing the 21st Legislative District, where he fights for the rights of all New Jersey citizens to enjoy a safer and more prosperous lifestyle in the Garden State. Bramnick has introduced new laws requiring motorists to stop for pedestrians at crosswalks, limiting pay-to-play contributions, and preserving funding for the arts. Assemblyman Bramnick was elected by his colleagues in November 2017 to serve his fourth term as the Assembly Minority Leader, making him the highest-ranking member of the Republican Caucus in the Assembly.

Assemblyman Bramnick holds the title “Funniest Lawyer in New Jersey” after winning contests sponsored by the New Jersey State Bar Association (NJSBA) at Rascals Comedy Club. He often volunteers his services as a comedic auctioneer on behalf of non-profit organizations.

Assemblyman Bramnick holds a B.A. in political science from Syracuse University, where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. He also holds a J.D. from Hofstra University's School of Law. He resides in Westfield with his wife Patricia and has two grown children, Brent and Abigail and two grandchildren.



BRIAN SHEPPARD, *Professor of Law & Associate Dean for JD & Graduate Admissions, Seton Hall University School of Law*



Professor Sheppard's research examines the relationship between the manner in which the law is expressed and the consequences that it brings about. His areas of interest have been human behavior, such as judicial decision-making or lawyer conduct, and computer automation, such as the capacity for machines to interpret legal language. His work typically uses the insights of legal philosophy and the methodologies of behavioral psychology to investigate how the clarity of our legal directives changes the way that we justify or argue against state action. He is currently analyzing the connection between law's clarity and the development of natural language processing technology. His other academic interests include legal ethics, international law, jurisprudence, torts, entertainment law, and legal innovation.

He has published work on the *Vanderbilt Law Review*, *Yale Press*, the *University of Toronto Law Journal*, the *Harvard Law Review Forum*, and the *Florida State University Law Review*, among others. Professor Sheppard is a frequent contributor to national news publications regarding developments in legal services technology. He has also published op-eds in the *New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times*, and the *Boston Globe* on issues of international justice.

Professor Sheppard also serves as an advisor on issues of ethics, political unrest, and injustice. Recently, he has been a high-profile commentator regarding the use of legal ethics against important lawyers connected to the Trump Presidency. In 2011, he was a co-author of the report analyzing the legality of the 2009 Honduran coup for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Honduras, a project lauded by numerous governments as well as by the OAS and the UN. Professor Sheppard has also served as an empirical researcher and consultant for organizations such as the Perception Institute and the Last Resort Exoneration Project.

Professor Sheppard joined Seton Hall as an associate professor in 2010 after serving as a Climenko Fellow at Harvard Law School, where he earned his S.J.D. In the years before his fellowship, he served as a law clerk in Boston for Justice Martha B. Sosman of the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts and for Judge Levin H. Campbell of the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit. While studying at Harvard Law School, he continued to work at the First Circuit as a staff attorney, working largely on criminal and immigration cases. He also coordinated the Law Teaching Colloquium of the school's Graduate Program. Before then, Professor Sheppard earned his LL.M. from Harvard Law School and his J.D. from Boston College Law School. He is a member of the Massachusetts Bar.