

SETON HALL | LAW

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An Innocence-Centered View of New Jersey's Post-Conviction Jurisprudence
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Robert F. Williams
Distinguished Professor of Law Emeritus
Rutgers Law School
Panel: 1

Professor Williams holds a B.A. *cum laude* and Phi Beta Kappa from Florida State University, a J.D. with honors from the University of Florida School of Law, an LL.M. from New York University School of Law, and an LL.M. from Columbia University Law School.

A leading expert in state constitutional law, Professor Williams was the Director of the Center for State Constitutional Studies at Rutgers until his retirement. His books include *The Law of American State Constitutions* (2009); *The New Jersey State Constitution* (2d Ed. 2012) and *State Constitutional Law, Cases and Materials* (Fourth Edition, 2006). He is the coauthor, with Hetzel and Libonati, of *Legislative Law and Statutory Interpretation: Cases and Materials* (Fourth Ed. 2008). Among his articles are: “Statutes as Sources of Law beyond Their Terms in Common Law Cases” (*George Washington Law Review*), “State Constitutional Law Processes” (*William and Mary Law Review*), “In the Supreme Court’s Shadow: Legitimacy of State Rejection of Supreme Court Reasoning and Result” (*South Carolina Law Review*), “Equality Guarantees in State Constitutional Law” (*Texas Law Review*), “The State Constitutions of the Founding Decade: Pennsylvania’s Radical 1776 Constitution and its Influence on American Constitutionalism” (*Temple Law Review*), and “In the Glare of the Supreme Court: Continuing Methodology and Legitimacy Problems in Independent State Constitutional Rights Adjudication” (*Notre Dame Law Review*).

He is admitted to the bars of Florida, New Jersey, and the United States Supreme Court. Prior to embarking on an academic career, he was the legislative advocacy director and executive director of Florida Legal Services, Inc.; an International Legal Center Fellow in Kabul, Afghanistan; and a reporter for the Florida Law Revision Council’s Landlord-Tenant Law Project. In addition, he served as a legislative assistant to Florida Senator D. Robert Graham; a staff attorney with Legal Services of Greater Miami, Inc.; and a law clerk to Chief Judge T. Frank Hobson of the Florida Second District Court of Appeals.