

# DAVID S. ABRAMS

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## EMPLOYMENT

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### **University of Pennsylvania Law School**, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

*Professor of Law*, July 2013 - present

*Assistant Professor of Law*, July 2008 - present

### **The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania**, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

*Professor of Business Economics & Public Policy* (secondary), July 2013 - present

*Assistant Professor of Business Economics & Public Policy* (secondary), July 2008 - present

*Senior Fellow*, Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics, 2012 - present

*Faculty Affiliate*, LDI Center for Health Incentives, 2009 - present

### **The University of Chicago Law School**, Chicago, Illinois

*John M. Olin Fellow in Law and Economics & Lecturer in Law*, July 2006 - June 2008

- 2007 Ronald H. Coase Prize for Outstanding Paper in Law and Economics

### **D. E. Shaw and Co.**, New York, New York

*Quantitative Analyst and Trader*, Convertible Arbitrage Strategy, July 1998 - August 1999

## EDUCATION

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### **Massachusetts Institute of Technology**, Cambridge, Massachusetts

*Ph.D.*, Economics, June 2006

- Thesis: "Essays on the Economics of Law, Crime, and Discrimination"
- Advisors: Michael Greenstone, Sendhil Mullainathan

### **Stanford University**, Stanford, California

*M.S.*, Physics, January 2001

- Research in particle astrophysics

### **Harvard University**, Cambridge, Massachusetts

*A.B.*, Physics, *magna cum laude*, June 1998

- Harvard College Scholarship
- Robert Byrd Scholarship
- National Plasma Fusion Fellowship

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

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David Abrams, Roberto Galbiati, Emeric Henry, Arnaud Philippe, *Electoral Sentencing Cycles*, THE JOURNAL OF LAW, ECONOMICS, AND ORGANIZATION, Volume 39, Issue 2 (2023).

David S. Abrams, Hanming Fang, Priyanka Goonetilleke, *Police Frisks*, 112 AMERICAN ECONOMIC REVIEW PAPERS AND PROCEEDINGS 178 (2022).

David Abrams, Roberto Galbiati, Emeric Henry, Arnaud Philippe, *When in Rome... On Local Norms and Sentencing Decisions*, 20 JOURNAL OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION 700 (2022).

David S. Abrams, *COVID and Crime: An Early Empirical Look*, 194 JOURNAL OF PUBLIC ECONOMICS 104344 (2021).

David S. Abrams, *The Law and Economics of Stop-and-Frisk*, 46 LOYOLA LAW REVIEW 369

David S. Abrams, *How Do We Decide How Long to Incarcerate?*, in EMPIRICAL LEGAL ANALYSIS: ASSESSING THE PERFORMANCE OF LEGAL INSTITUTIONS (Yun-chien Chang, ed., 2014)

David S. Abrams & R. Polk Wagner, *Poisoning the Next Apple? How the America Invents Act Harms Inventors*, 65 STANFORD LAW REVIEW 517 (2013).

David S. Abrams, *The Imprisoner's Dilemma: A Cost-Benefit Approach to Incarceration*, 98 IOWA LAW REVIEW 905 (2013).

David S. Abrams, *Putting the Trial Penalty on Trial*, 51 DUQUESNE LAW REVIEW 777 (2013).

David S. Abrams & Daniel L. Chen, *A Market for Justice: A First Empirical Look at Third Party Litigation Funding*, 15 JOURNAL OF BUSINESS LAW 1075 (2013).

David S. Abrams, *Estimating the Deterrent Effect of Incarceration Using Sentencing Enhancements*, 4 AEJ: APPLIED ECONOMICS 32 (2012)

David S. Abrams, Marianne Bertrand, & Sendhil Mullainathan, *Do Judges Vary in Their Treatment of Race?*, 41 JOURNAL OF LEGAL STUDIES 347 (2012).

David S. Abrams, *Is Pleading Really a Bargain?*, 8 JOURNAL OF EMPIRICAL LEGAL STUDIES 200 (2011).

David S. Abrams & Chris Rohlfs, *Optimal Bail and the Value of Freedom: Evidence from the Philadelphia Bail Experiment*, 49 ECONOMIC INQUIRY 750 (2011).

David S. Abrams, *Did TRIPS Spur Innovation? An Analysis of Patent Duration and Incentives to Innovate*, 157 UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA LAW REVIEW 1613 (2009).

David S. Abrams & Albert H. Yoon, *The Luck of the Draw: Using Random Case Assignment to Investigate Attorney Ability*, 74 UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO LAW REVIEW 1145 (2007). (winner of the 2007 Ronald H. Coase Prize)

## WORKING PAPERS

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David S. Abrams, Viet Nguyen, Aurelie Ouss, Julia Reinhold, *A (Plea) Offer You Can Refuse*

David S. Abrams, Hanming Fang and Priyanka Goonetilleke, *Do Cops Know Who to Stop? Assessing Optimizing Models of Police Behavior with a Natural Experiment*

David S. Abrams and Bhaven Sampat, *Pharmaceutical Patent Citations and Real Value*  
David S. Abrams and Ryan Fackler, *To Plea or Not to Plea: Evidence from North Carolina*  
David S. Abrams, Ufuk Akcigit & Gokhan Oz, *The NPE: Benign Middleman or Stick-Up Artist?*  
David S. Abrams, Ufuk Akcigit & Jillian Popadak, *Patent Value and Citations: Creative Destruction or Strategic Disruption*, (Penn Inst. for Econ. Res., Working Paper 13-065, 2013).  
David S. Abrams & L. Strahilevitz, *Do More Eyes on the Road Mean Better Driving?*

## WORK IN PROGRESS

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“Outside Directors as a Brake on Corporate Control Transactions” (with M. Kahan and E. Rock)  
“Learning about Real Economics in Virtual Worlds”  
“Patent Duration and Innovation in the Pharmaceutical Industry”  
“Multitasking in the Multiverse: Field Evidence from a Virtual World” (with A. Cohn, E. Fehr, A. Nicklisch)  
“Understanding High Skill Worker Productivity using Random Case Assignment in a Public Defender’s Office” (with A. Yoon)  
“When Docs Snooze Do You Lose? Medical Resident Work Hours and Patient Outcomes”

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

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David S. Abrams et al., *Present Status of the Cryogenic Dark Matter Search (CDMS II) Experiment*, 329 PHYSICA B: CONDENSED MATTER 1590 (2003).  
D. Abrams et al., *Exclusion Limits on the WIMP-nuclear Cross Section from the Cryogenic Dark Matter Search*, 66 PHYSICAL REV. D 122003-1 (2002).  
T. Saab et al., *Deployment of the First CDMS II ZIP Detectors at the Stanford Underground Facility*, 110 NUCLEAR PHYSICS B – PROC. SUPPLEMENTS 100 (2002).

## PRESENTATIONS

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### 2023:

Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, U Chicago  
Economics Department Seminar, University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign  
U Toronto Law and Economics Conference  
American Law and Economics Association Conference, Boston University

### 2022:

Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Conference, Austin  
Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, U Toronto  
Symposium on Innovation and Criminal Justice, Penn  
American Economic Association Annual Meeting

### 2021:

American Law and Economics Association Conference  
NBER Summer Institute Law & Economics Workshop  
NBER Summer Institute Economics of Crime Workshop  
Wharton Applied Economics Workshop  
America Invents Act Symposium, Penn  
Innovation in a Time of Crisis, Penn

**2020:**

Duke Empirical Criminal Law Roundtable  
Pandemic Policython, Harvard  
Penn Law Roundtable on Police Reform  
Stanford Law and Economics Workshop  
National Association of Pretrial Service Agencies  
International Symposium on COVID and Crime, University College London  
Wharton Applied Economics Workshop

**2019:**

Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, Claremont McKenna  
Boston University Law & Economics Workshop  
Midwestern Law & Economics Association Conference  
NBER Summer Institute  
American Law and Economics Association, NYU  
Penn Labor Economics Seminar  
Roundtable on Empirical Methods in Intellectual Property, PTO  
Works in Progress in Intellectual Property, U Houston

**2018:**

Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, U Michigan  
Oxford University Economics Colloquium  
Intellectual Property Scholars Conference, UC Berkeley  
Nuffield Foundation Future of Justice Conference  
Georgia State Risk Management Colloquium  
Eighth Annual Tri-State Region IP Workshop, NYU

**2017:**

American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting (Philadelphia)  
George Mason Law Colloquium  
University of West Virginia Economics Colloquium  
NBER Summer Institute Economics of Crime Workshop  
NBER Summer Institute Aging Workshop  
Searle/USPTO Conference on Innovation Economics (Northwestern)  
Trento Law and Technology Roundtable  
Munich Summer Institute  
Roundtable on Empirical Methods in Intellectual Property  
American Law and Economics Association (New Haven)  
Patent Conference VII (Northwestern)  
Harvard Law School  
Rutgers Economics Colloquium

Patent Damages Conference, University of Texas  
Works in Progress in Intellectual Property, Boston University  
Seventh Annual Tri-State Region IP Workshop, NYU

**2016:**

Creativity and Innovation Research Initiative, Stern Business School/NYU Law  
Conference on Empirical Legal Studies (Duke)  
Conference on Moral Technologies (Switzerland)  
Economics Colloquium, Ecole des Mines (Paris)  
Munich Summer Institute  
Conference on Empirical Legal Studies in Europe (Amsterdam)  
College de France Symposium on Innovation, Growth, and Firm Dynamics  
Conference of The Society for Institutional and Organizational Economics (Paris)  
Economics Colloquium, Ben-Gurion University (Israel)  
Economics Colloquium, Tel Aviv University Business School (Israel)  
Florence Law & Economics Workshop  
University of Paris II Law & Economics Colloquium  
Erasmus Visiting Scholar Colloquium, University of Ghent

**2015:**

Economics Colloquium, University of Economics in Prague  
Patent Statistics for Decision Makers (Vienna)  
Transatlantic Conference on Crime (London)  
European Law and Economics Association (Vienna)  
American Law and Economics Association (New York)  
University of Chicago Law and Economics Colloquium  
Works in Progress in Intellectual Property (Washington DC)  
Fifth Annual Tri-State Region IP Workshop (New York)

**2014:**

NYU Intellectual Property Colloquium  
Conference on Empirical Legal Studies (Berkeley)  
Rutgers-Camden Law School Colloquium  
University of Houston Law School Colloquium  
Roundtable on Empirical Methods in Intellectual Property (Chicago)  
Conference on Value Pluralism and Intellectual Property Law (Hong Kong)  
American Law and Economics Association (Chicago)  
Loyola Law Review Symposium (Chicago)  
Texas Law Review Symposium  
Fourth Annual Tri-State Region IP Workshop (New York)

**2013:**

Hebrew University  
Patent Reform Conference (Philadelphia)  
ETH Zurich  
University of Oslo

Patent Statistics for Decision Makers (Rio de Janeiro)  
IP Scholars Conference (New York)  
NBER Summer Institute Industrial Organization Workshop  
NBER Summer Institute IP and Innovation Workshop  
American Law and Economics Association Conference (Nashville)  
Understanding Entrepreneurship Conference (Israel)  
Stanford Design Patents Conference  
Patent Conference 3 (Chicago)  
Duquesne Law School Symposium: Plea Bargaining After *Lafler* and *Frye*  
Works in Progress Intellectual Property Conference (Newark, NJ)  
University of Virginia, Batten School Faculty Research Series

**2012:**

Hunter Economics Colloquium (New York)  
Conference on Empirical Legal Studies (Stanford)  
Harvard Law and Economics Workshop  
U Chicago Workshop on Judicial Behavior  
Empirical Patent Law Conference (Ithaca)  
Wharton Applied Economics Workshop  
National Law University, Jodhpur (India)  
National Law School India University, Bangalore (India)  
Copenhagen Business School  
Conference on Crime Control Policy (Paris)  
American Law and Economics Association Conference  
Santa Clara International IP Symposium  
Fordham Tri-State IP Conference

**2011:**

Conference on Empirical Legal Studies (Chicago)  
U Texas Law and Economics Colloquium  
Third-Party Financing of Litigation Conference (New York)  
Workshop on Innovation and Patent Harmonization (Boston)  
Intellectual Property Scholars Conference  
Petroleum University (Beijing)  
International Empirical Legal Studies Conference (Taipei)  
Workshop on the Law and Economics of IP and Competition Law (Munich)  
American Law and Economics Association Conference  
Columbia Applied Microeconomics Seminar  
Berkeley Law and Economics Workshop  
Harvard Law, Economics, and Organization Seminar

**2010:**

Northwestern Law and Economics Workshop  
U Michigan Law and Economics Workshop  
Conference on Empirical Legal Studies (New Haven)

Georgetown Law and Economics Workshop  
Cornell Judgment by the Numbers Conference  
NBER Summer Institute Economics of Crime Workshop  
RAND Alternative Litigation Finance Academic Roundtable  
U Chicago Conference on the Law and Economics of Race  
U Texas Law and Economics Colloquium  
U Virginia Law and Economics of Criminal Law Conference (commentator)  
U Penn Health Services Research Seminar  
U Penn Annenberg School Colloquium  
Temple Law & Behavior Colloquium  
American Economic Association Annual Meeting

**2009:**

Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Conference  
U Penn Empirical Research in Law Conference  
Works in Progress Intellectual Property Conference  
Intellectual Property Scholars Conference  
NBER Summer Institute Personnel Economics Workshop  
NBER Summer Institute L&E Workshop  
Hebrew University Crime Workshop  
Bar-Ilan University Law School Colloquium  
Rutgers Economics Colloquium  
University of Virginia Law and Economics Workshop  
George Mason Public Choice Seminar  
Junior International Law Scholars Conference  
U Penn Symposium on the Foundations of Intellectual Property Reform

**2008:**

Conference on Empirical Legal Studies  
Econometric Society Australasian Meeting  
American Law and Economics Association Conference  
University of Chicago Graduate School of Business  
Harvard Law, Economics, and Organizations Seminar  
George Mason Law School  
Duke University Law School

**2007:**

University of Pennsylvania Law School  
Washington University Law School  
University of Texas Law School  
Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Conference  
Conference on Empirical Legal Studies  
University of Pennsylvania, Wharton School  
Northwestern University, School of Law  
NBER Crime Working Group Meeting  
American Law and Economics Association Conference  
Criminology and Economics Summer Workshop  
European University Institute

University of Chicago Law School  
University of Chicago Graduate School of Business  
University of Zurich

**2006:**

Conference on Empirical Legal Studies  
Criminology and Economics Summer Workshop  
Harvard Law, Economics, and Organizations Seminar  
Harvard Law and Economics Seminar

**2005:**

MIT Labor Economics Seminar  
NBER Summer Institute (Law and Economics Workshop)

**TEACHING**

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Advanced Topics in Intellectual Property  
*University of Pennsylvania* – Fall 2014

Analytical Methods in Law  
*University of Chicago* – Fall 2006, Spring 2008  
*University of Pennsylvania* – Fall 2008, Fall 2009, Fall 2010, Fall 2012, Spring 2015, Spring 2017, Spring 2021

Causal Inference in Daily Life  
*Sciences Po* – Fall 2015

Economics and Law  
*University of Pennsylvania, Wharton School* – Fall, 2017

Introduction to Intellectual Property Law  
*University of Pennsylvania* – Spring 2010, Spring 2011, Spring 2012, Spring 2013, Spring 2022

Introduction to Law and Economics  
*University of Pennsylvania* – Spring 2014, Spring 2015, Spring 2017, Spring 2023

Journal of Law and Innovation: Innovation and Criminal Justice  
*University of Pennsylvania* – Fall 2021, Spring 2022

Law and Economics Seminar  
*University of Pennsylvania* – Fall 2008, Fall 2009, Fall 2010, Spring 2014, Spring 2018, Spring 2019, Spring 2020, Spring 2021

Law, Economics and Psychology Seminar



*University of Pennsylvania – Fall 2012*

Patent Law

*University of Pennsylvania – Fall 2017, Fall 2019*

Patents, Innovation and Value

*University of Pennsylvania – Spring 2019*

Using Legal Logic to Win at Daily Life

*University of Pennsylvania – Fall 2019*

## **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

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*Board Member, Society for Empirical Legal Studies, 2012 - present*

*Board Member, American Association of Law Schools Law & Economics Section, 2016 – 2020*

*Chair, American Association of Law Schools Law & Economics Section, 2015 – 2016*

*Vice-chair, American Association of Law Schools Law & Economics Section, 2014 - 2015*

*Faculty Advisory Committee, Quattrone Center for the Fair Administration of Justice, 2013 - present*

*President, Society for Empirical Legal Studies, 2012-2013*

*Faculty Affiliate, University of Chicago Crime Lab, 2009 - present*

*Member: American Economic Association, American Law and Economics Association, American Physical Society, Econometric Society*

*Referee: American Economic Review, American Law and Economics Review, American Economics Journal: Applied Economics, Econometrica, Economic Journal, Journal of Empirical Legal Studies, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Law and Economics, Journal of Legal Analysis, Journal of Legal Studies, Journal of Political Economy, Journal of Public Economics, Quarterly Journal of Economics, RAND Journal of Economics, Review of Economics and Statistics, Review of Economic Studies*