

# WEBCAST – YOU’VE GOT A FRIEND IN ME - EFFECTIVE ALLYSHIP

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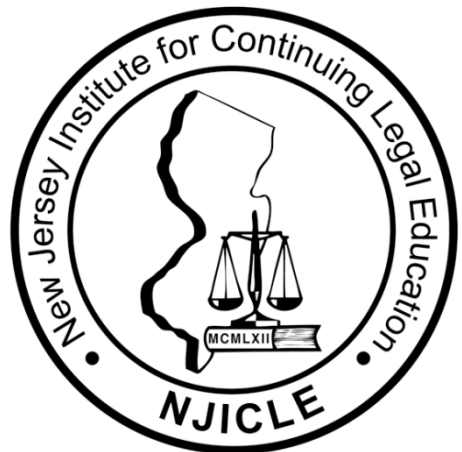
2020 Seminar Material

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**S4013.20**

New Jersey Institute for  
Continuing Legal Education

A Division of the State Bar Association  
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# WEBCAST – YOU’VE GOT A FRIEND IN ME - EFFECTIVE ALLYSHIP

## **Moderator/Speaker**

**Dara Govan, Esq.**  
*United States Attorney’s Office  
(Newark)*

## **Speakers**

**Lloyd Freeman, Esq.**  
*Archer Law  
(Haddonfield)*

**Thomas H. Prol, Esq.**  
*Sills Cummis & Gross PC  
(Newark)*

**NaSheena Porter, Esq.**  
*Union County Prosecutor’s Office  
(Elizabeth)*

**Elissa Zylbershlag**  
*New Jersey State Bar Foundation  
(New Brunswick)*

M4013.20



# **You've Got a Friend in Me: Effective Allyship**

## **June 12, 2020**

*Links to resources from Moderator Dara Govan*

**NAACP Legal Defense Fund President Sherrilyn Ifill on what lawyers can do:**

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2020/05/11/even-if-we-bring-justice-ahmaud-arbery-work-will-remain/>

**A Guide for How You Can Support Marginalized Communities**

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/05/30/us/how-to-be-an-ally-guide-trnd/index.html>

**10 Simple Ways White People Can Step Up to Fight Everyday Racism**

<https://www.mic.com/articles/97900/10-simple-rules-for-being-a-non-racist-white-person>

**75 Things White People Can Do for Racial Justice**

<https://link.medium.com/DARZbupxU6>

**20+ Allyship Actions for Asians to Show Up for the Black Community Right Now**

<https://link.medium.com/4vuV9qgzU6>

**Van Jones: It's not the racists we have to worry about**

<https://www.cnn.com/videos/us/2020/05/29/van-jones-george-floyd-white-liberal-hillary-clinton-supporter-sot-newday.cnn>

**Essay: Underneath the Melting Pot**

<https://commonreader.wustl.edu/c/underneath-the-melting-pot/>

**The Empathy Crisis of White America**

<https://fruity.substack.com/p/the-empathy-crisis-of-white-america>

**Your Black Colleagues May Look Like They're Okay — Chances Are They're Not**

<https://www.refinery29.com/en-us/2020/05/9841376/black-trauma-george-floyd-dear-white-%20people>

**Opinion: It's not obesity. It's slavery. We know why COVID-19 is killing so many Black people.**

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/25/opinion/coronavirus-race-obesity.html?referringSource=articleShare>

*And when someone tells you they are tired of hearing these things, tell them about me and other Black people who are tired of living it. Share this article with that person:*

<https://www.latimes.com/world-nation/story/2020-05-28/george-floyd-central-park-familiar-terror-they-inspire>

## **About the Panelists...**

### **Dara Aquila Govan, Esq.**

***Assistant U.S. Attorney, United States Attorney's Office Former President, Garden State Bar Association***

Dara Aquila Govan, a native of Plainfield, New Jersey, is a 1998 graduate of Morgan State University and the third of four members of her family to graduate from the University. While attending Morgan, she served as president of the Freshman, Sophomore and Junior Classes and the Student Government Association, and was initiated into the Alpha Delta Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. At graduation, she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Education with a concentration in Sports Administration and was awarded the President's Second Mile Award.

Following her graduation from Morgan, she was a 2001 Order of the Coif graduate of Rutgers University School of Law-Newark. While attending Rutgers, she continued her legacy of leadership by serving as an Associate Editor of the Rutgers Law Review, and she served as Chairs of the Rutgers Moot Court Board and the Association of Black Law Students. Dara received several awards at Rutgers, including the Myron Harkavy Prize for the student showing the most promise as a trial lawyer and the Alumni Senior Prize for the student exhibiting the greatest achievement during her entire law school career and who has the greatest promise as a future member of the legal profession.

Dara has worked as a commercial litigator at major law firms in New York and New Jersey. Dara has more than a decade of experience in providing both legal and leadership trainings for many nonprofit and social organizations, bar associations and corporations. On January 24, 2011, Dara was sworn in as an Assistant United States Attorney in the District of New Jersey. In this capacity, she prosecutes federal criminal cases on behalf of the United States of America. Dara previously was assigned to the General Crimes, Organized Crime/Gangs, Economic Crimes, and Cyber Crimes Units. Most recently, she served as the Chief of the Public Protection Unit and is currently serving as the Chief of the Government Frauds Unit. Dara formerly served as the District's Project Safe Neighborhood Coordinator and is serving as the Criminal Division's Hate Crimes Coordinator.

Dara also is the creator of the A.V.I.A.T.O.R. Leadership Model and facilitates workshops on a host of topics, including without limitation, effective leadership, conflict resolution, running effective meetings, time management, maximizing resources, nonprofit corporate governance, and nonprofit public relations. Dara currently is a life member of the Morgan State University National Alumni Association. She also has served on many nonprofit organization boards and is an active member of St. Mark's Episcopal Church. Dara currently is serving as the Immediate Past President of the Garden State Bar Association. She previously served as the Regional Director for Region III of the National Bar Association ("NBA"), which encompasses New Jersey, Delaware and Pennsylvania. Dara also authored a chapter on hazing liability in a book called Black Greek-Letter Organizations 2.0: New Directions in the Study of African American Fraternities and Sororities (University of Mississippi/Jackson Press) (2011).

### **Lloyd Freeman**

***Partner and Chief Diversity Officer, Archer Former President, Garden State Bar Association***

Lloyd Freeman is a Partner and Chief Diversity Officer at Archer. Lloyd concentrates his practice in the area of commercial and complex civil litigation in state and federal courts in both New Jersey and Pennsylvania. He has represented clients in trials, arbitration and mediation in both states.

Lloyd has experience in commercial and complex matters involving consumer fraud, real property, franchise, business torts and other issues related to business and contractual disputes. Lloyd has also litigated a number of disputes involving merchants and the sale of goods governed by Article 2 of the Uniform Commercial Code (“UCC”).

A member of Archer Discovery Strategies – the firm’s practice group dedicated to eDiscovery litigation and document management practices – Lloyd has extensive experience managing electronic discovery in complex state and federal matters. In the fall, Lloyd teaches e-discovery and digital evidence to upper-level students at Drexel University’s Kline School of Law in Philadelphia, PA.

As Chief Diversity Officer, Lloyd carries out the firm’s vision to grow diversity and inclusion in the legal profession, as well as implements policies and procedures, and fosters programs to promote diversity throughout the firm. He does this by promoting diversity and inclusion in the recruitment, hiring, retention and promotion of Archer attorneys, which includes maintaining an ex-officio position on the Personnel and Hiring Committees while serving as Chairman of the Diversity & Inclusion Committee. In addition, he develops and nurtures key partnerships to drive strategic diversity and inclusion marketing, as well as business development initiatives. Accordingly, Lloyd serves as a trusted advisor to firm executive management and the Office of the President.

A longtime champion of diversity and inclusion in the profession and at Archer, Freeman created Archer’s affinity group, L.E.A.D. (Lawyers Encouraging Archer’s Diversity) in 2012 and has coordinated the firm’s summer associate program for the past two years, resulting in the most diverse summer associate classes in the firm’s history. Freeman himself was a summer associate at Archer and also received an Archer diversity scholarship while in law school. He is the first person of color to rise through the ranks from summer associate to partnership status.

Outside of the firm, Lloyd served as president of the Garden State Bar Association and has written articles and spoken at conferences on the importance of diversity and inclusion. Lloyd has used his influence as a social justice advocate in the cannabis space as well. He has spoken at press conferences with the governor, met with state leaders and written pieces urging the decriminalization of marijuana in New Jersey.

Prior to joining the firm, Lloyd served as an intern to the Honorable Jerome B. Simandle, S.U.S.D.J, and as an extern to the Honorable Joseph E. Irenas, S.U.S.D.J., both of the District of New Jersey.

**NaSheena Porter**  
***Special Deputy Attorney General/Acting Assistant Prosecutor, Union County***  
***Prosecutor's Office***  
***YLD Executive Board***

NaSheena Porter is a Special Deputy Attorney General and Acting Assistant Prosecutor for the

Union County Prosecutor's Office in Elizabeth, N.J. NaSheena is currently assigned to the Trial Team Unit, where she handles cases from inception to resolution, including but not limited to complaint charges, arguing motions, and conducting trials. NaSheena has also served in the Appellate Unit, Domestic Violence Unit, and Pre-Indictment Unit of the office.

NaSheena graduated from Carnegie Mellon University and received her law degree from Tulane University School of Law. Upon graduation from law school, NaSheena served as a Staff Attorney for the Third Circuit Court of Appeals, in Lake Charles, LA. Prior to law school, NaSheena worked in the education field as a Regional Director of Admissions for a university.

**Thomas H. Prol**

***Former President, New Jersey State Bar Association Sills Cummis & Gross PC, Newark***

Thomas H. Prol, a Member of Sills Cummis & Gross, concentrates his practice on environmental, land use, and related litigation and administrative law matters. He is admitted to practice law in New Jersey and New York and before numerous federal courts.

Tom is a Past President of the New Jersey State Bar Association (2016-2017) and was the first openly gay leader in the Association's history. He is a member of the American Bar Association House of Delegates, and is a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation, an honor bestowed on less than one percent of the attorneys in each jurisdiction.

Throughout his legal career, Tom has been a vocal advocate on issues of equality and access to justice. He worked to advance marriage equality and LGBT rights in New Jersey, and was an advocate for, and successfully argued the defense of both the New Jersey Criminal Justice Reform Act and the New Jersey Anti-Bullying Act. Tom is also a founding member and serves in the executive leadership of Garden State Equality, the leading New Jersey LGBT civil rights organization. He previously served as vice chair of the National Lesbian and Gay Law Association (now known as the National LGBT Bar Association) and on the board of the LGBT Bar Association of Greater New York.

Tom has appeared and has authored/co-authored numerous briefs over the past decade before the New Jersey Supreme and Superior Courts, New Jersey Council on Local Mandates and the U.S. Third Circuit Court of Appeals. He is a frequent lecturer for the New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education ("NJICLE"). Tom is an adjunct professor at Seton Hall University School of Law, and previously taught legal writing and appellate advocacy at New York Law School. He also served as Associate General Counsel and Agency Chief Contracting Officer for New York City's Department of Consumer Affairs.

Prior to practicing law, Tom was an environmental scientist and enforcement officer for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and served two years as a volunteer in the U.S. Peace Corps in Nepal.

Tom has also held externships with the U.S. Attorney's Office (EDNY), the New York City Commission on Human Rights, CNN and The Carter Presidential Center.

**Elissa Zylbershlag**

***Director of Conflict Resolution and Anti-Bias Initiatives New Jersey State Bar Foundation, New Brunswick***

Elissa is a seasoned educator with many years of teaching and facilitating experience. She has been the Director of Conflict Resolution and Anti-Bias Initiatives at the New Jersey State Bar Foundation since 2016. She develops and facilitates educator workshops and writes curricula that are distributed throughout New Jersey. She is also a National Trainer for the Anti-Defamation League and has been a Jewish Educator since 2000.

Elissa graduated from Ithaca College in 1997 with a BA in Religious Studies. After college she lived on Kibbutz Givat Brenner in Israel while doing an *Ulpan*, an intensive Hebrew language learning course. When she returned to the U.S., she began working for the Hadassah Organization in their Education Department. She then worked at Hillel in San Diego as a Program Coordinator. She began her work at the Anti-Defamation League in 2006 as the Assistant Director of Education in the San Diego office.

As a National Trainer for ADL, she currently facilitates various anti-bias program as well as Echoes and Reflections, a Holocaust education program. She has taught Hebrew School to all ages since 2000. She has her M.Ed. in Multicultural Education from National University in San Diego, CA. She was an elected member of the Springfield Board of Education for one three-year term and has volunteered as an ESL teacher to new immigrants at a local community center.

She lives in Springfield, NJ with her husband, their two children and their dog.