

## Spring 2025 Newsletter

Spring 2025 CGJ Student Staff and Clerks



## LAUNCHING THE CENTER for GLOBAL JUSTICE NEWSLETTER!

Dear Friends of the Center for Global Justice,  
We are excited to launch our seasonal e-newsletter! Through the newsletter, we will be sharing about all that God is doing through the CGJ, including:

- updates on our Human Trafficking Vacatur Clinic and pending legislation
- current Student Staff projects
- exciting reports from our domestic and international summer interns
- local events such as our annual Symposium
- volunteer opportunities
- and more

## Top News

### Meet the Team

**The Vacatur Expansion Bill has passed unanimously in the Virginia General Assembly**

**Successful Behavioral Health Docket Workshop in Newport News General District Court**

**Meet our 2025 Summer Interns and Fellow**

**Annual Symposium Success**

# Meet the Center for Global Justice Team



## **Margaret "Meg" Kelsey, Director**

Meg Kelsey graduated with honors from the University of Pennsylvania before earning her J.D. at the University of Miami. She served as an Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney in Norfolk, Virginia, where she prosecuted crimes like embezzlement, burglary, narcotics manufacturing, and violent offenses. After joining the CGJ, Meg launched the Human Trafficking Clinic in 2023. In addition to overseeing CGJ research and clinic cases, she co-chairs the Virginia Criminal Record Relief legislative work group and trains legal professionals across Virginia.



## **Jeff Brauch, Founding Director**

Professor Jeff Brauch joined the Regent Law faculty in 1994. From 2000 to 2015, he served as the law school's dean. Brauch helped create Regent's Center for Global Justice®. He has taught Foundations of Law, International Human Rights, International Religious Freedom, Torts, and other courses. Prior to teaching, Brauch served as a law clerk for Justice William Callow of the Wisconsin Supreme Court and then worked as an associate with Milwaukee law firm Quarles & Brady, where he specialized in commercial litigation.



## **Ernie Walton, Faculty Director**

Dean Walton serves as Associate Dean of Administration & Admissions, faculty director of the Center for Global Justice®, and Assistant Professor. He graduated first in his class from Regent Law. Outside of his work at Regent, Ernie served as a law clerk to the Honorable D. Arthur Kelsey of the Virginia Supreme Court. He also practiced law in Southern California at Tyler & Bursch, LLP, where he specialized in civil litigation and business law while simultaneously serving as an associate attorney at Advocates for Faith & Freedom, a non-profit firm that specializes in protecting religious freedom.



## **Lauryn Eason, Legal Fellow**

Lauryn Eason ('24) is the Center for Global Justice post-graduate Fellow. During her time at Regent, she served on the CGJ student staff and completed several public interest internships with organizations like International Justice Mission and the U.S. Attorney's Office. For the first part of her Fellowship, Lauryn lived in Kampala, Uganda assisting with prosecution of human trafficking and child sacrifice cases. She is back at Regent working in the Center for the second part of her Fellowship.





## The Vacatur Law has Expanded!

This year, thanks in part to the relentless advocacy of Director Meg Kelsey and CGJ Fellow Lauryn Eason, the Virginia General Assembly passed a groundbreaking expansion of the Commonwealth's Vacatur Law. Effective July 1, 2025, the law will now allow for the reversal of over thirty types of convictions—up from just two—for survivors of trafficking who were forced to commit crimes.

Director Kelsey co-chaired the bipartisan Criminal Record Relief Workgroup, uniting stakeholders to craft legislation that will profoundly impact survivors' futures by removing legal barriers to employment, education, housing, and custody. The [CGJ Human Trafficking Vacatur Clinic](#) has already begun receiving client referrals in anticipation of the law's enactment, and our students have worked tirelessly this semester to support survivors through their petitions.

## Specialty Docket Workshops



This semester, the Center was invited by Judge Lewis of the Newport News General District Court to lead a workshop on identifying trafficking victims in the behavioral health docket. The session equipped practitioners with better tools for screening and intervention, and the Center was also asked to join the Newport News Multi-Disciplinary Team—expanding our role in local justice reform efforts.

## Annual Symposium



The CGJ hosted our long-time friend and partner, Peter Sewkiryanga from Kyampisi Childcare Ministries, to speak at the annual Symposium about child protection issues in combatting child sacrifice in Uganda. There's a reason Regent Law is #1 in the Nation for Public Policy!

# Meet our 2025 CGJ Summer Interns and Fellow!

Since the Center was founded in 2010, 234 interns have been deployed across the globe to serve the most vulnerable. This year, 17 more Regent Law students are spending their summers working on issues pertaining to religious freedom and persecution, anti-human trafficking, sexual exploitation, non-profit protection, parental rights, and other human rights violations in Africa, Asia, Europe, and DC.



## REGENT LAW SUMMER 2025 INTERN PLACEMENTS



## Upcoming Events

- 5/15 Chesterfield Specialty Docket Workshop
- 5/28 Training at Troutman Pepper in Richmond for attorneys offering pro bono services for survivors in the Vacatur Clinic
- End of May - CGJ summer interns deploy!
- July - Hampton Specialty Docket Training

## Uganda Fellow



This August, Alyssa Schiefer '25 will move to Uganda for a year-long fellowship. There, she will partner with Uganda Christian University (UCU) to strengthen their clinical legal education programs and serve as a liaison and legal counsel for Kyampisi Childcare Ministries (KCM) in their vital efforts to combat and prosecute child sacrifice.



## Get Involved

Donate to provide legal assistance to those who need it most.

Partner with us to support our mission to equip Christian advocates who will promote the rule of law, seek justice for the world's downtrodden, and serve those already engaged in such advocacy. **Make your tax-deductible donation HERE.**



## Connect with us on Social Media

Stay up to date on events, projects, and more.

Instagram



Facebook



LinkedIn



## Join us for Prayer

Join our Monthly Prayer Call over Zoom every 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month as we come together to praise God for answered prayers, lift up current needs, and stand in the gap for those in need.

[Click here](#) to receive the Zoom link.

## Volunteer

Attorneys and mentors, we'd love to connect. If you're interested in providing pro bono services for trafficking survivors or would like to host a CGJ intern for the summer, please email [globaljustice@regent.edu](mailto:globaljustice@regent.edu).

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