

ANDREW REGINALD HAIRSTON, ESQ.

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EDUCATION

Louisiana State University Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Juris Doctor and Graduate Diploma in Comparative Law May 27, 2016

Howard University Washington, District of Columbia
Bachelor of Arts, Political Science, *cum laude* May 11, 2013

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Texas Appleseed Austin, Texas
Education Justice Project Director June 2020 - present
School-to-Prison Pipeline Project Director June 2019 - May 2020

As a project director at Texas Appleseed, I work to dismantle the school-to-prison pipeline and fight for equal educational opportunities in the state of Texas - primarily through public policy advocacy. I also assist local organizations with campaigns to diminish the criminalization of Black and Brown children in schools throughout the state. In this role, I am particularly focused on removing police officers from schools across Texas in favor of more school psychologists and counselors. In the fall of 2019, along with Tyler Whittenberg of Advancement Project's National Office, I was named a Law for Black Lives Fellow.

Equity Action Austin, Texas
Canvasser October 2021 - November 2021

I worked as a canvasser for Equity Action to defeat Prop A on the City of Austin's ballot in November 2021. This initiative would've super-funded the Austin Police Department – and further eroded some of the racial justice victories won after the murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Tony McDade.

Advancement Project Washington, District of Columbia
Staff Attorney August 2017 - May 2019

As a staff attorney at Advancement Project, I supported the organization's Opportunity to Learn and Power & Democracy programs. I worked closely with various community-based organizations across the country in an attempt to secure racial justice through multiple strategic avenues. During my first six weeks in this role, I co-authored an amicus brief in support of the respondents in *Husted v. APRI*, a case before the Supreme Court during the October 2017 Term.

Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law
George N. Lindsay Fellow and Associate Counsel

Washington, District of Columbia
September 2016 - August 2017

I worked as a staff attorney in the Educational Opportunities Project of the Lawyers' Committee. I was primarily responsible for advancing the goals of the Parental Readiness and Empowerment Program, and I provided general support to senior staff attorneys. I assisted with the matter of *The Coalition for Equity and Excellence in Maryland Higher Education, et al. v. Maryland Higher Education Commission, et al.*, and I worked closely with the Dignity in Schools Campaign.

BAR ADMISSIONS

Louisiana, 2016

Texas, 2021

PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITIONS

Member, LeadershipSBOT Class, 2025-2026

Fellow, Law 4 Black Lives, 2019-2020

Scholar, American Bar Association's Young Lawyers Division, 2018-2019

SELECTED SPEECHES AND PANELS

David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church: *The State of Education: Community Solutions* - Austin, Texas - March 28, 2026

Western New England School of Law: *Movement Lawyering in the Twenty-First Century* - Springfield, Massachusetts - September 16, 2025

United Women in Faith Horizon Texas Conference 2025 Charter for Racial Justice Event (with Minerva Briones and Cessilye R. Smith) - Fort Worth, Texas - February 22, 2025

Dignity in Schools Campaign's 2024 Southern Week of Action Regional Convening: *On Democratic Governance of Public Schools* (with Kameisha Smith and Coretta Mallet-Fontenot) - Houston, Texas - October 24, 2024

New York University Metro Center's 2024 *Brown at 70* Equity Conference: *Bridging Horizons: Uniting New York City & Texas on School Integration Policy & Practice* (with Nyah Berg) - New York City - May 17, 2024

Dignity in Schools Campaign's 2024 Biennial Meeting: *Black Socialism and Solidarity* (with Dianna Freelon-Foster) - Richmond, Virginia - April 18, 2024

Harvard Law School's Bell Collective for Critical Race Theory Censorship and Consciousness Conference: *Black Radical Censorship* (with Justin L. Brooks and Edward Chung) - Cambridge, Massachusetts - March 22, 2024

University of Texas School of Law's Thurgood Marshall Legal Society Symposium: *Afrofuturism and Public Education* (with Paige Duggins-Clay, Dean Demetria Frank, and Dean Shavonne Henderson) - Austin, Texas - February 10, 2024

University of Houston Law Center's American Constitution Society Pilot Program - Houston, Texas - November 13, 2023

Educators in Solidarity Fall 2022 Cultural Proficiency Unconference Closing Keynote - Austin, Texas (*delivered via Zoom*) - October 22, 2022

Austin DSA Organized Labor for Reproductive Justice Rally - Austin, Texas - July 31, 2022

BOARD SERVICE

Frontera Fund, 2025 - present

Austin Bat Cave, 2025 - present

Grassroots Leadership, 2026 - present