

# Battling Injustices:

## AAPI Advocates Share Their Stories

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### AGENDA

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**Wednesday, May 15, 2024**

**Webinar | 6:30pm to 8:30pm**

#### **OPENING REMARKS**

**Sundeep Iyer**

*Director, NJ Division on Civil Rights | NJ Office of the Attorney General (OAG)*

#### **SPEAKERS**

• **Ami Kachalia**

*Campaign Strategist, American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) - NJ*

• **Kat Phan**

*Policy & Research Associate, NJ Alliance for Immigrant Justice (NJAIJ)*

• **Gabriel Tanglao**

*Manager, Human and Civil Rights, Center for Racial and Social Justice  
National Education Association (NEA)*

**Moderator**

**Fannie Chan Jarvis**

*Community Relations Specialist | NJ Division on Civil Rights | OAG*

#### **NJBIAS OVERVIEW**

#### **QUESTIONS & ANSWERS**

#### **CLOSING REMARKS**

**Tee Leonardo-Santiago**

*Director of Outreach & Community Relations | NJ Division on Civil Rights | OAG*

# Speakers & Panelists



## Sundeep Iyer

*Director*

*NJ Division on Civil Rights*

*NJ Office of the Attorney General*

**Sundeep Iyer** is the Director of the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights. He leads the state agency charged with enforcing New Jersey's civil rights laws.

He previously served as Assistant Attorney General and Senior Counsel to Attorney General Matthew J. Platkin. In that capacity, he was the Attorney General's principal advisor on civil rights matters and coordinated department-wide civil rights initiatives. He also worked with the Office of the Solicitor General on appeals involving matters of constitutional law, statutory interpretation, civil rights, and criminal law.

Prior to joining the Office of the Attorney General, Iyer was a senior associate at Hogan Lovells US LLP. During his time at the firm, he served as a special attorney for the State of Minnesota in the prosecution of the four former police officers charged in connection with the death of George Floyd. He was part of the legal team that obtained a conviction of Derek Chauvin on charges of second-degree murder, third-degree murder, and second-degree manslaughter, and he briefed, argued, and won key legal motions for the State at trial.

Iyer was also part of the litigation team that obtained an injunction against President Trump's travel ban and defended that injunction before the U.S. Supreme Court. He represented federal death-row inmates in a challenge to the Trump Administration's federal lethal injection protocol. And he was one of the lead attorneys for a group of eight plaintiff organizations challenging President Trump's rescission of the Bears Ears National Monument in Utah.

Iyer previously clerked for U.S. Supreme Court Justices David H. Souter and Stephen G. Breyer, as well as for then-Judge Brett M. Kavanaugh on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. He received his A.B. from Harvard College and J.D. from Yale Law School. Prior to graduating law school, Sundeep was the Principal Quantitative Analyst at the Brennan Center for Justice at NYU School of Law, where he directed statistical research on voting rights, campaign finance, and redistricting issues.



# Ami Kachalia

*Campaign Strategist*

*American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) - NJ*

<https://www.aclu-nj.org/en>

Ami is a Campaign Strategist at the American Civil Liberties Union of New Jersey, where she develops and leads policy advocacy campaigns with a focus on drug policy, criminal legal reform, and immigrants' rights. Previously, she worked at the Drug Policy Alliance, where she executed statewide policy advocacy campaigns on criminal legal and public health issues related to drugs, including pretrial justice, marijuana legalization, and harm reduction.

Prior to that position, she served at The Fund for New Jersey, where she conducted grantmaking to organizations advocating for progressive social and economic policy in New Jersey. Ami holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Rutgers University – New Brunswick. Outside of work, Ami also serves as board chair of the New Jersey Harm Reduction Coalition.

Ami can be reached on Twitter: [@AmiKachalia](https://twitter.com/AmiKachalia).



# Kat Phan

*Policy & Research Associate  
NJ Alliance for Immigrant Justice*

<https://www.njimmigrantjustice.org/>

[https://www.njimmigrantjustice.org/resource\\_hub](https://www.njimmigrantjustice.org/resource_hub)

Kat Phan is a Policy and Research Associate with the New Jersey Alliance for Immigrant Justice, anti-detention organizer, and cultural worker. Previously, she led policy and research at the San Francisco Office for Civic Engagement and Immigrant Affairs and worked on international election integrity as a software engineer.

Kat received her Master in Public Affairs from Princeton University's School of Public and International Affairs and B.S. in Computer Science from Stanford University.

Kat can be reached at [kphan@njimmigrantjustice.org](mailto:kphan@njimmigrantjustice.org).



# Gabriel Tanglao

*Manager, Human and Civil Rights  
Center for Racial and Social Justice  
National Education Association (NEA)*

<https://www.nea.org/>

Gabriel is an educator at heart, activist in spirit, and organizer in practice. He started his career as a social studies teacher in a culturally rich community, and quickly became active in his union at the local, state, national, and global levels.

Gabriel now serves as Manager in the Human and Civil Rights Department with the National Education Association, the largest labor union in the country, advancing racial, social, and economic justice throughout our liberatory learning ecosystem.

Gabriel can be reached at <https://www.linkedin.com/in/gabriel-tanglao>



# Fannie Chan Jarvis

*Community Relations Specialist  
NJ Division on Civil Rights  
NJ Office of the Attorney General*

Fannie Chan Jarvis is a Community Relations Specialist with the NJ Division on Civil Rights (DCR), the state agency responsible for enforcing NJ’s anti-discrimination laws. As part of DCR’s Community Relations Unit (CRU) and as the lead AAPI liaison, Fannie works with community-focused organizations to prevent acts of discrimination and bias-based harassment and engages communities across the state with “Know Your Rights” presentations, anti-bias webinars, and direct outreach activities. Fannie and her colleagues also serve as a Crisis Response Unit and engage with impacted communities following major civil rights incidents, including through mediation, trauma-informed and restorative justice practices, and community dialogues.

Before joining DCR in 2023, Fannie was invested in advocacy and community-building efforts. Her professional background is in education and government where she worked in public policy, community relations, and project management. Fannie received her Bachelor of Arts and Master of Public Administration from New York University.

Fannie can be reached at [Fannie.ChanJarvis@NJCivilRights.gov](mailto:Fannie.ChanJarvis@NJCivilRights.gov).



## **Tee Leonardo-Santiago**

*Director of Outreach & Community Relations  
NJ Division on Civil Rights  
NJ Office of the Attorney General*

**Tee Leonardo-Santiago** (she/they) is the first Latinx Director of Outreach and Community Relations and Chief Community Mediator for the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights.

Tee is a second-generation Latinx, originally from Hudson County and a first-generation college graduate. They earned their undergraduate and graduate degrees in Criminal Justice from New Jersey City University. In 2017, Tee joined DCR as a Bilingual Investigator in the Enforcement Unit. They served as the bilingual subject matter expert for the New Jersey Bias Investigation Access System (NJBIAS) that was launched in November 2020.

In March 2021, Tee was promoted to the newly created Community Relations Unit as the Bilingual Community Relations Specialist before becoming the unit Director. Tee's team also acts as a crisis response unit following major civil rights incidents. As a community mediator, they engage in complex mediation, restorative justice practices, and community dialogue with a trauma-informed care lens.

Tee can be reached at [Tisha.Leonardo@NJCivilRights.gov](mailto:Tisha.Leonardo@NJCivilRights.gov).