

MICHAEL A. MCCANN
UNH Franklin Pierce School of Law
2 White Street
Concord, NH 03301

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

University of New Hampshire Franklin Pierce School of Law, Concord, NH

Appointments:

Associate Dean for Academic Administration and Intellectual Life	2024-present
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs	2017-19
Professor of Law (with tenure)	2013-present
Founding Director of the Sports and Entertainment Law Institute	2013-present

Courses taught:

Amateur Sports Law
Combat Sports Law (on location at UFC headquarters in Las Vegas)
Crisis Management Law
Deflategate (online course)
Deflategate: The Intersection of Sports, Law and Journalism
Employment Law
Entertainment Law
Investigative Reporting and the Law
Name, Image and Likeness
Name, Image and Likeness, Influencers and the Right of Publicity
Professional Sports Law
Sports Betting Operations (online course)
Sports Law and Current Controversies
Sports Law for the Hybrid JD program (mostly online course)
Torts
U.C.C. Article 2
U.S. Sports Betting Law and Policy (online course)

Achievements and Awards:

As Associate Dean for Academic Administration and Intellectual Life:

- Serve as the point person for academic matters involving students.
- Organize and manage faculty colloquia on scholarship projects, including by providing opportunities for feedback.
- Directly assist faculty on development of scholarship, including by reviewing drafts and offering edits.
- Directly assist faculty on development of op-eds, including by reviewing drafts and offering edits and providing specific advice about placements.
- Track faculty accomplishments and promote their scholarly works.

As Associate Dean for Academic Affairs:

- Supervised senior staff offices such as the registrar and admissions dean. During this time, applications, enrollment, student diversity and median LSAT and GPA all rose.
- Responsible for evaluating faculty workload in compliance with a CBA.
- Responsible for drafting appointment letters for faculty and drafting employment contracts for non-tenure track faculty.
- Responsible for recruiting and retention of adjunct faculty.
- Oversaw the creation and launch of the Minor in Law at UNH undergrad, which led to increased enrollment at the law school.
- Helped to craft and launch the Hybrid JD program, the first JD for IP law.
- Oversaw campus-neighborhood relations, such as parking and snow plowing issues.

As Director of the Sports and Entertainment Law Institute:

- Have developed a curriculum of sports and entertainment law courses and career tracks for law students.
- Have helped to secure numerous gifts, ranging as high as \$100,000, with a very high participation rate from graduates of the institute.
- Have helped students land top jobs in sports law, including with the New York Mets, the Boston Bruins and Power Conference athletic programs, and have helped them secure externship placements with the Dallas Cowboys, the Charlotte Hornets, the Ultimate Fighting Championship, the Boston Red Sox, Under Armor and Sony Entertainment.
- Have hosted symposia that attracted prospective students and national media attention.
- Designed and implemented a five-course online certificate in Sports Wagering & Integrity Certificate Program. The program was the first of its kind. Students were mostly mid-career professionals in the sports, gaming and wagering industries.

As Professor of Law:

- In 2025, the Association of American Law Schools awarded the Law and Sports Award. This prestigious award recognizes an individual who has made a substantial and significant contribution to scholarship, teaching, and/or service in the field of sports law.
- Testified before the U.S. Senate Commerce Committee on June 9, 2021, in a hearing with NCAA president Mark Emmert on name, image and likeness reforms.
- Commencement Speaker for the 2015 graduation (voted on by class of 2015).
- Consistently among the highest student evaluations for teaching.

Leadership:

Chair, Faculty Appointments Committee	2015-17, 2020-24
Chair, Curriculum Committee	2019-20
Co-Chair, Dean Search Committee	2016-17
Chair, Appeals Committee	2015-17

Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA

Appointments:

Visiting Professor of Law	2023-present
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Teaching:

Legal Research, Writing and Analysis I
Legal Research, Writing and Analysis II

Achievements and Activities:

- High teaching evaluations.
- Have advised the Committee on Sports and Entertainment Law (CSEL) and students on sports and entertainment law careers and externships.
- Have advised and supervised students on law review notes, including those published in the *Harvard Law Review* and *Harvard Journal of Sports and Entertainment Law*.
- Have connected HLS students to employers in the sports and entertainment industry.
- Have appeared on, and helped to organize, CSEL panel discussions.

Vermont Law School, South Royalton, VT

Appointments:

Professor of Law (with tenure)	2010-13
Founding Director of the Sports Law Institute	2010-13
Associate Professor of Law	2009-10

Teaching:

Antitrust Law, Contracts II/Sales, Sports Law and Torts

Achievements and Awards:

Highest student evaluations among faculty in the 2010-11 academic year.
Twice nominated by Dean Jeff Shields for the American Law Institute's Young Scholar Medal.
Earned tenure by unanimous vote.

Leadership:

Chair, Faculty Appointments Committee	2010-12
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Yale Law School, New Haven, CT

Volunteer Instructor for Sports Law Analytics Reading Group 2010

Boston College Law School, Newton, MA

Appointments:

Visiting Associate Professor of Law 2008

Teaching:

Administrative Law and Sports Law

Mississippi College School of Law, Jackson, MS

Appointments:

Assistant Professor of Law 2005-08

Distinguished Visiting Hall of Fame Professor of Law 2008-17

Teaching:

Consumer Law, Health Care Law Immigration Law, Sports Law and Torts

Achievements and Awards:

- 2008 AALS Teacher of the Year Award (selected by Dean and Academic Dean of MC Law)
- 2008 Professor of the Year Award (voted on by the entire law student body)
- 2008 Professor of the Year for First-Year Courses Award (voted on by first-year law students)
- 2008 Shirley Norwood Jones Faculty Award (voted on by law school faculty)
- 2008 Phi Delta Phi Professor of the Year Award (voted on by Phi Delta Phi Legal Society)
- 2007 Professor of the Year Award (voted on by the entire law student body)
- 2007 Professor of the Year for First-Year Courses Award (voted on by first-year law students)
- 2006 Professor of the Year for First-Year Courses Award (voted on by first-year law students)

LEGAL PRACTICE, LEGAL ACADEMY AND JOURNALISM POSITIONS

Sportico (Penske Media), Los Angeles, CA

Legal Analyst & Senior Writer, 2020-present

- Recruited by Penske Media—the publisher of *Rolling Stone* and *Variety*—to join launch of Penske’s sports industry publication.
- One of the publication’s lead writers, authoring more than 1,900 sports law columns.
- Awarded Penske Media’s Journalistic & Creative Excellence Award (2021) “for consistently going above and beyond to deliver compelling content.”
- Have appeared as a guest on *The Today Show*, *Good Morning America*, *PBS NewsHour* and other national TV shows to discuss major news stories involving sports and the law.

- NBA TV, Atlanta, GA** *On-Air Legal Analyst, 2011–present*
- On-Air Legal Analyst for NBA TV, including in its television coverage of the 2011 lockout.
- Sports Illustrated, New York, NY** *Legal Analyst & Writer, 2007-2020*
- Authored more than 1,100 legal columns for *Sports Illustrated* and SI.com.
 - Member of SI’s investigative unit and travelled to investigate a number of stories, including the murder of Odin Lloyd and the trial of Aaron Hernandez.
 - In March 2013, became the first journalist to interview Lance Armstrong after his interview with Oprah Winfrey. I interviewed Armstrong at his home in Austin, Texas and authored “My Dance With Lance” in a featured magazine story in *Sports Illustrated*.
 - Broke major news stories in regard to Donald Sterling, Colin Kaepernick, Josh Hamilton, Ed O’Bannon, Robert Kraft, Tom Brady and other high-profile figures in sports.
 - Recognized for excellence in journalism by *The American Lawyer*, *Forbes Magazine*, *The Huffington Post*, *Boston Magazine*, *The Boston Globe* and the Newhouse School of Public Communications.
- Your Call Football, Newton, MA** *Legal Counsel & Strategic Advisor, 2017-2020*
- Advised formation of a sports technology company and drafted legal documents for executives.
- Project on Law & Mind Sciences at Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA** *Co-Founder, Jan. 2007-present*
- The Project, which was co-founded with Professor Jon Hanson of Harvard Law School, is devoted to understanding the implications of social psychology for law, policymaking and legal theory.
 - With Jon Hanson, awarded the 2011 Media Prize from the Society for Social Psychology & Personality.
- Association of American Law Schools’ Section on Sports and Law** *Chair, Jan. 2008 – Jan. 2009*
- The Project, which was co-founded with Professor Jon Hanson of Harvard Law School, is devoted to understanding the implications of social psychology for law, policymaking and legal theory.
- U.S. Rep. Marty Meehan (MA), Washington, D.C.** *Legal Counsel & Senior Advisor, May 2006 – May 2007*
- Provided legal and strategic advice to Congressman Meehan, who served on the House Judiciary and Armed Services Committees. Wrote speeches and op-eds; drafted legislative proposals.
- Maurice Clarett’s Legal Team (*Clarett v. NFL*), Pennsauken, NJ** *Counsel, Feb. – Aug. 2004*
- Provided labor and antitrust analysis in *Clarett v. NFL*, 369 F.3d 124 (2nd Cir. 2004), a case involving an Ohio State University football player who was deemed ineligible for the NFL Draft due to his age.
 - Invited to join legal team after Clarett’s lead attorney, Alan Milstein, read my law school note on the labor and antitrust implications of the NBA age limit.
- Paragon Legal Group, Boston, MA** *Partner, Jan. 2003 – Aug. 2004*
- Practiced in the areas of antitrust, labor and employment law at a firm founded by a former partner of Testa, Hurwitz & Thibault. Appeared before courts and participated in hearings.

Testa, Hurwitz & Thibeault, Boston, MA

Associate, Aug. 2002 – Jan. 2003

- Practiced in the areas of antitrust, labor and employment law at a large law firm with a high-tech focus.

Admitted to the Massachusetts Bar (2002).

BOOKS AND ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

Co-Author (with Ed O'Bannon), *Court Justice: The Inside Story of My Battle Against the NCAA*, (DIVERSION BOOKS, 2018)

- Named by CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR as a Top Sports Book for Spring 2018
- For a period of time #1 selling book in Amazon categories of "Sports Industry" and "Basketball"

Editor, *Oxford Handbook of American Sports Law* (OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, 2018)

- An assigned book in numerous law school, graduate and college courses.

SELECTED LIST OF LAW REVIEW PUBLICATIONS AND BOOK CHAPTERS

Limitations of Pro Sports Teams Using Labor Agreements to Preempt State-Law Claims (work-in-progress)

The Gist of It: The Uneasy Triangle of Sports Journalism, Deadlines & Defamation Law, 17 HARVARD JOURNAL OF SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT LAW __ (forthcoming, 2026, with Samantha Chavez-Salinas)

Student Athletics and Students as Employees in Higher Education, in OXFORD RESEARCH ENCYCLOPEDIA OF EDUCATION 93 (2025, peer reviewed)

Revisiting Catalyzing Fans: How Dan Markel Predicted the Future of College Athletics, 52 FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY LAW REVIEW 571 (2025, with Howard Wasserman)

(Still) Anticompetitive College Sports, 66 BOSTON COLLEGE LAW REVIEW 1267 (2025, with John T. Holden and Marc Edelman)

Life After Employee-Status in College Sports, 93 FORDHAM LAW REVIEW 1619 (2025, with John T. Holden and Marc Edelman)

Symposium: Clarett v. NFL: 20 Years Later and the Future of Age Limits in Pro Sports, 3 UNH SPORTS LAW REVIEW 348 (2024, with Michael Dube, Alan Milstein, Michelle Clarett, Maurice Clarett, Benjamin Block, and The Honorable Schira Scheindlin)

Sharing Broadcast and Streaming Revenues with College Athletes, 15 HARVARD JOURNAL OF SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT LAW 187 (2024)

New Amateurism, 11 TEXAS A&M LAW REVIEW 869 (2024)

The Collegiate Employee-Athlete, 2024 UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS LAW REVIEW 1 (2024) (with Marc Edelman and John T. Holden)

A Short Treatise on College Athletes' Name, Image, and Likeness Rights, 57 GEORGIA LAW REVIEW 1 (2022) (with John T. Holden and Marc Edelman)

Missing Link: League Punishments of Team Executives, 66 SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY LAW JOURNAL 293 (2022)

Jump Ball: The Unsettled Law of Representing College Basketball Stars and their Names, Images and Likenesses, 61 SANTA CLARA LAW REVIEW 177 (2021)

American Sports Law through Deflategate, in OXFORD HANDBOOK OF AMERICAN SPORTS LAW 1 (2018)

Leagues & Owners: the Donald Sterling Story, in OXFORD HANDBOOK OF AMERICAN SPORTS LAW 45 (2018)

Catalyzing Fans, 6 HARVARD JOURNAL OF SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT LAW 1 (2015) (With Dan Markel and Howard Wasserman)

Do You Believe He Can Fly? Royce White and Reasonable Accommodations under the ADA for NBA Players with Anxiety Disorder and Fear of Flying, 41 PEPPERDINE LAW REVIEW 397 (2014)

Antitrust, Governance, and Postseason College Football, 52 BOSTON COLLEGE LAW REVIEW 517 (2011)

American Needle v. NFL: An Opportunity to Reshape Sports Law, 119 YALE LAW JOURNAL 726 (2010)

Justice Sonia Sotomayor and the Relationship between Leagues and Players: Insights and Implications, 42 CONNECTICUT LAW REVIEW 901 (2010)

The NBA and the Single Entity Defense: A Better Case?, 1 HARVARD JOURNAL OF SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT LAW 40 (2010)

Situationist Torts 41 LOYOLA LOS ANGELES LAW REVIEW 1347 (2008) (with Jon Hanson)

It's Not About the Money: The Role of Preferences, Cognitive Biases and Heuristics Among Professional Athletes, 71 BROOKLYN LAW REVIEW 1459 (2006)

Legality of Age Restrictions in the NBA and NFL, 56 CASE WESTERN RESERVE LAW REVIEW 731 (2006) (with Joseph Rosen)

The Reckless Pursuit of Dominion: A Situational Analysis of the NBA and Diminishing Player Autonomy, 8 UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA JOURNAL OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT LAW 819 (2006)

Social Psychology, Calamities, and Sports Law, 42 WILLAMETTE LAW REVIEW 585 (2006)

Dietary Supplement Labeling: Cognitive Biases, Market Manipulation & Consumer Choice, 31 BOSTON UNIVERSITY AMERICAN JOURNAL OF LAW AND MEDICINE 215 (2005)

Economic Efficiency and Consumer Choice Theory in Nutritional Labeling, 2004 WISCONSIN LAW REVIEW 1161 (2004)

Illegal Defense: The Irrational Economics of Banning High School Players from the NBA Draft, 3 VIRGINIA SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT LAW JOURNAL 113 (2004)

Resolving Physician-Patient E-mail through Contract Law, 5 YALE JOURNAL OF LAW AND TECHNOLOGY 102 (2003)

A Vote Cast; A Vote Counted: Quantifying Voting Rights through Proportional Representation in Congressional Elections, 12 KANSAS JOURNAL OF LAW AND PUBLIC POLICY 191 (2002)

National Missile Defense: Legal & Policy Justifications, 3 SAN DIEGO INTERNATIONAL LAW JOURNAL 207 (2002)

SELECTED AWARDS AND PRIZES

- In February 2026, named a finalist for the [Best Academic Article in Antitrust Law Award](#) hosted by the George Washington Law Competition Center and Concurrences.
- In January 2025, the Association of American Law Schools awarded the [Law and Sports Award](#). This prestigious award recognizes an individual who has made a substantial and significant contribution to scholarship, teaching, and/or service in the field of sports law.
- In August 2023, awarded, along with Marc Edelman and John Holden, the [Best Sports and Entertainment Law Paper for 2023](#) by the Academy of Legal Studies in Business.
- In April 2023, named by *Prelaw Magazine* to the [Dream Team of Law Professors](#). These 20 professors “stand above the crowd when it comes to providing legal analysis.”
- In August 2021, awarded Penske Media’s [Journalistic & Creative Excellence Award](#) “for consistently going above and beyond to deliver compelling content.”
- In December 2020, named to the *International Business Times* [11 Entrepreneurs, Marketers, and Coaches to Follow in 2021](#). Joined a group that includes Elon Musk, Arne Sorenson and Eric Yuan.
- In December 2020, named by The Aspen Institute as one of the [50 people to follow in 2021](#) for discussion of sports and society.
- In June 2011, awarded, along with Harvard Law School Professor Jon Hanson, the [2011 Media Prize](#) by the Society for Personality and Social Psychology
- Various: named to industry leader lists published by *ESPN*, *Forbes*, *The Boston Globe*, *Sports Business Daily* and *The Huffington Post*.

EDUCATION

HARVARD LAW SCHOOL

LL.M., June 2005

- Areas of focus: behavioral law and economics; food and drug law; consumer law; and sports law
- Thesis: “Pharmaceutical Drugs, Consumers, and the Law” (Jon Hanson faculty advisor)
- Nominated for John M. Olin Law and Economics Award

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA SCHOOL OF LAW

J.D., May 2002

- Editor-in-Chief of the VIRGINIA SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT LAW JOURNAL
- Hardy Cross Dillard Fellow
- Best Oral Advocacy Award in First-Year Moot Court Competition

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

B.A., *magna cum laude*, May 1998

- Major: American Government
- President of the Blue and Gray Organization