

# Samuel Deschênes Halpert

1220 19<sup>th</sup> Street NW | Ste. 401  
Washington D.C. 20036-2405

[shalpert@nalp.org](mailto:shalpert@nalp.org)  
(202) 296-0076

## EDUCATION

### **Georgetown University Law Center** | Washington, D.C.

J.D., *cum laude*, May 2014

Honors: 2011 Human Rights Institute Associate;  
2012 Fact-finding proposal funded by Human Rights Institute;  
Dean's List (2012-2013; 2013-2014);  
Special Pro Bono Pledge Honoree (completed over 125 hours of *pro bono* service)

Activities: Contributor to 1948 (Georgetown Law Human Rights Blog) [2011-2012];  
Refugee Assistance Program [2011-2012];  
Research Assistant to Prof. Barry Carter (Transnational Business topics) [Fall 2012];  
Public Interest Fellow [2011-2014];  
Human Rights Action-Amnesty International (HRA-AI) Exec. Board [2012-2013]

### **Harvard University** | Cambridge, MA

A.B. (History & Literature), *cum laude*, March 2007

Honors: 2007 Harvard – Stowe Fellow;  
Senior Thesis awarded *magna cum laude*

## EXPERIENCE

### **National Association for Law Placement (NALP)** | Washington, D.C.

*PSJD Fellow*, August 2014 – *present*

Currently managing and promoting [PSJD.org](http://PSJD.org), a premier job search resource for law students and lawyers seeking public interest and government opportunities. Managing by: (1) Providing technical support and customer service to job-seekers, career officers, and employers. (2) Improving site efficiency (e.g., automating new portions of the website to decrease update times and save work hours). (3) Coordinating with PSJD Advisory Group to develop new resources & features (e.g., researching effective telepresence techniques). (4) Developing database reporting tools to increase accountability for PSJD's productivity and breadth. Promoting by: (1) Lecturing at law schools to students on public interest career search tools and techniques. (2) Editing PSJD blog, authoring and soliciting posts on topics related to legal career searches and access to justice and managing PSJD's social media presence (Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn).

### **Harrison Institute for Public Law, Georgetown Law** | Washington, D.C.

*Worker Strategies Analyst*, September 2013 – May 2014

Drafted model "Just Employment Policy" and an accompanying Policy Guide on behalf of Georgetown University's Kalmanovitz Initiative for Labor and the Working Poor's (KI) efforts to assist Jesuit university students and administrators seeking to elevate the status of low-wage university workers in a climate of intense budget pressures. Researched available models for various policy choices available to KI and advised them of these choices and their legal implications.

### **National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty** | Washington, D.C.

*Civil Rights Intern*, May 2013 – August 2013

Researched recent developments in litigation to re-author domestic law section of institutional report on tent cities. Drafted memoranda analyzing the potential of novel legal claims on behalf NLCHP's client population. Researched, outlined, and drafted academic article relating domestic and international approaches to equitable remedies.

### **Freedom Now** | Washington, D.C.

*Intern*, May 2012 – July 2012

Drafted language for legal submissions to the U.N. Working Group on Arbitrary Detention as well as other documents (e.g., press releases, op-ed pieces, and letters) advocating on behalf of Freedom Now's political prisoner clients. Authored background memoranda on potential cases, monitored relevant human rights news and events to identify potential cases, and proposed a novel approach to international litigation.

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## **Georgetown Human Rights Institute** | Washington, D.C.

*Fact-Finding Practicum Team Member*, September 2012 – May 2013

Developed and executed human rights fact-finding mission. Developed by: (1) co-authoring mission proposal (to secure funding), (2) identifying research locations, and (3) co-authoring pre-mission documents on the legal and factual contexts for those locations. Executed by: (1) conducting interviews with ~150 individuals (community leaders, politicians, experts, and community residents) over the course of two research trips spanning roughly a week-and-a-half, (2) analyzing original research through an international human rights framework, (3) co-authoring the mission report, and (4) briefing water rights activists and Congressional staff on report findings. Major U.S. human rights organizations recently quoted this mission report extensively in an official letter sent to U.N. officials.

## **Office of Pro Bono Programs, Georgetown Law** | Washington, D.C.

*Assistant to the Director*, October 2011 – September 2012

Developed Microsoft Access database allowing employees to track pro bono contributions and achievements of Georgetown Law students based on online data reported with Symplicity. Catalogued existing pages within office website (active and defunct) and reorganized website sitemap for Law-Center-wide website redesign. Experimented with Georgetown Law's new CMS (Content Management System) to accommodate Director's request for officially unsupported dynamic page features (an "Announcements" section with currently-available Pro Bono Opportunities).

## **Adaptive Technology Lab, Harvard University** | Cambridge, MA

*Adaptive Technologist*, September 2008 – June 2011

Supported Harvard University students with visual, motor, or cognitive disabilities. Interviewed students to determine their technological accessibility needs. Met with teaching staff and university accessibility officers to ensure those needs were met. Supervised temporary employees. Researched and recommended new assistive technologies. Developed a process to overcome technical defects among tools for producing computer-voiced mathematics; prototyped a Perl program automating the process.

## **Stowe School** | Buckinghamshire, UK

*Harvard-Stowe Fellow*, August 2007 – June 2008

Taught History to 3<sup>rd</sup> form (8<sup>th</sup> grade) students and U.S. Politics to 6<sup>th</sup> form (12<sup>th</sup> grade) students.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

GEORGETOWN LAW HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTE FACT-FINDING PRACTICUM, *Tapped Out: Threats to the Human Right to Water in the Urban United States* (2013).

NATIONAL LAW CENTER ON HOMELESSNESS & POVERTY and ALLARD K. LOWENSTEIN INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS CLINIC, YALE LAW SCHOOL, *Welcome Home: The Rise of Tent Cities in the United States* (2014).

## **LANGUAGE SKILLS**

Proficient French; Basic Arabic; Perl; PHP; XML; HTML; Javascript; ASP; Spreadsheets Formulae (Excel & Google).

## **PRO BONO**

Currently conducting client intake interviews for the Equal Justice Foundation's Employment Justice Clinic.