

NAME OF EVENT: Mind the Gap: How Law Can Address Income Inequality in America
(This event has been approved for 1.5 hours of California MCLE credit)

DATE | TIME | LOCATION: Wednesday, October 23, 2019 | 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. | SEIU
1800 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington, DC 20036

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: Income inequality has taken center stage in America's political debate. As the 2020 presidential election heats up, candidates on all sides of the political divide are tapping into feelings of economic anxiety fueled by a disappearing middle class and increased concentrations of wealth. Indeed, the continually rising gap between the rich and everyone else has fueled unrest across the globe and has shown itself to have a corrupting effect on democracy itself. Labor law, antitrust law, and tax law all offer potential avenues to help increase wages, grow the middle class, deconsolidate corporate power, and shrink the racial wealth gap. What policy proposals should be on the table? Would increasing antitrust enforcement help? Could a wealth tax be the answer to growing inequality? What changes to labor law might help reduce income disparities? And perhaps most importantly, what constitutional potholes should advocates make sure to avoid as they go about this work?

SPEAKERS' NAMES AND BIOS:

Nicole Berner, General Counsel, Service Employees International Union, *Moderator*

Lisa Cylar Barrett, Director of Policy, NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund, Inc.

Lina Khan, Academic Fellow, Columbia Law School and Majority Counsel, U.S. House Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial, and Administrative Law

Anne Marie Lofaso, Arthur B. Hodges Professor of Law, West Virginia University College of Law

Ganesh Sitaraman, Chancellor Faculty Fellow and Professor of Law, Vanderbilt Law School

AGENDA OF EVENT:

12:00-12:30pm – Lunch (30 minutes)
12:30-12:35pm – Introduction (5 minutes)
12:35-1:35pm – Moderated Discussion (1 hour)
1:35-2:00pm – Q&A (25 minutes)

MATERIALS FOR EVENT:

Reuven Avi-Yonah, [The Shaky Case Against Wealth Taxation](#), AM. PROSPECT (Aug. 28, 2019).

[Letter from Lisa Cylar Barrett](#), Director of Federal Policy, POLICYLINK (Mar. 6, 2018).

Matthew Dimick, [Should the Law Do Anything About Economic Inequality](#), 26 CORNELL J.L. & PUB. POL'Y 1 (2016).

Robert H. Frank, [How Rising Inequality Has Widened the Justice Gap](#), N.Y. TIMES (Aug. 31, 2018).

Calvin H. Johnson, [A Wealth Tax Is Constitutional](#), AM. BAR ASS'N (Aug. 9, 2019).

Lina Khan, [Amazon's Antitrust Paradox](#), YALE L.J. (2017).

Lina Khan, [The Supreme Court just quietly gutted antitrust law](#), VOX (July 3, 2018).

Colleen Leahy, [Professor: Income Inequality May Threaten US Democracy](#), WIS. PUB. RADIO (Apr. 25, 2017).

Anne Marie Lofaso, [Workers' Rights as Natural Human Rights](#), 71 U. MIAMI L. REV. 565 (2017).

Anne Marie Lofaso, [In Defense of Public-Sector Unions](#), 28 HOFSTRA LABOR & EMPLOYMENT L.J. 301 (2011).

Shaun Richman, [Can the Courts Strike Down Right-to-Work?](#), AM. PROSPECT (Mar. 5, 2019).

Ganesh Sitaraman, [Our Constitution Wasn't Built for This](#), N.Y. TIMES (Sept. 16, 2017).

Ganesh Sitaraman, [How to Regulate Tech Platforms](#), AM. PROSPECT (Nov. 8, 2018).

[The Crisis of the Middle-Class Constitution](#), GANESH SITARAMAN (last visited Oct. 10, 2019).