

**NAME OF EVENT:** Founding Failures: Reckoning with our Constitution's Generational Impacts on Health and Well-Being (This event has been approved for 1 hour of California MCLE credit.)

**DATE | TIME | LOCATION:** May 4, 2021 | 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. ET | Online

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION:**

Our Constitution's establishment of a racial caste system left a legacy that can be seen generations later in its impact on the health and well-being of communities of color. Exploitative scientific studies, inferior medical care, and discriminatorily designed infrastructure and environmental policy have wreaked havoc on the bodies of Black, Indigenous, and LatinX Americans. As we look to fight our latest urgent public health challenges, COVID-19 and climate change, what law and policy tools are available to address the disproportionate harms borne by communities of color? What new legal authorities are needed? And what can state and federal enforcement agencies do, more broadly, to help close the racial gap in our public health policy and to enhance environmental justice?

**SPEAKERS' NAMES AND BIOS:**

**Sahar Fathi**, Policy Director, Washington State Attorney General's Office

**Chandra Taylor**, Senior Attorney and Leader of the Environmental Justice Initiative, Southern Environmental Law Center

**Ruqaiijah Yearby**, Professor of Law and Executive Director of Institute for Healing Justice and Equity, Saint Louis University School of Law

**Zinelle October**, Executive Vice President, ACS, *Moderator*

**AGENDA OF PROGRAM:**

5 minutes introduction

40 minutes speaker presentations and moderated conversation

15 minutes Q&A

**MATERIALS FOR CALL:**

Emily A. Benfer, et al., [\*Health Justice Strategies to Combat the Pandemic: Eliminating Discrimination, Poverty, and Health Disparities During and After COVID-19\*](#), 19 YALE J. HEALTH POL'Y L. & ETHICS (2020).

Ananya Bhattacharya, [\*COVID-19 Reveals Environmental Justice Gaps in National Environmental Policy\*](#), ENVTL. L. INST. (Aug. 19, 2020).

Sheila Foster, Yael Cannon, Gregg Bloche, [\*Health Justice Is Racial Justice: A Legal Action Agenda For Health Disparities\*](#), HEALTH AFF. (July 2, 2020).

Ellen M. Gilmer & Kellie Lunney, [\*Environmental Justice Bill Sharpens Civil Rights Litigation Tool\*](#), BLOOMBERG LAW (Apr. 8, 2021).

R.A. Hahn, B.I. Truman & D.R. Williams, [\*Civil Rights as Determinants of Public Health and Racial and Ethnic Health Equity\*](#), 4 SSM – POPULATION HEALTH 17 (2018).

Kimani Paul-Emile, [\*Blackness as Disability?\*](#), 106 GEO. L.J. 293 (2018).

N.Y. Times Editorial Board, [\*The Racism at the Heart of Flint's Crisis\*](#), N.Y. TIMES (Mar. 25, 2016).

Michael S. Regan, Administrator, Env'tl. Protection Agency, [\*Remarks for National Environmental Justice Advisory Council Meeting\*](#) (Mar. 24, 2021).

Laurel Wamsley, [\*CDC Director Declares Racism A 'Serious Public Health Threat'\*](#), NPR (Apr. 8, 2021).

[\*FLINT WATER ADVISORY TASK FORCE, FINAL REPORT \(2016\)\*](#).

Ruqaiyah Yearby, [\*Breaking The Cycle of 'Unequal Treatment' with Health Care Reform: Acknowledging and Addressing the Continuation of Racial Bias\*](#), 44 CONN. L. REV. 1281 (2012).