

ASHA RANGAPPA

27 Ingram Street, Hamden, CT 06517

asha_rangappa@hotmail.com · (203) 996-0219 · www.asharangappa.com

EDUCATION

Yale Law School, J.D. **2000**

Academic Distinctions: Coker Fellow, Constitutional Law (Professor Kenji Yoshino); Senior Editor, *Yale Law & Policy Review*; Awarded John Streicker field research grant for Supervised Analytical Writing with Professor Dan Esty, “The Emergence of Environmental NGOs in Chile” (1999)

Activities: New Haven Legal Assistance Clinic; Seminario en Latinoamérica de Teoría Constitucional y Política (SELA) Exchange Program, Santiago, Chile; Co-Leader, Shakespeare and the Law Reading Group; Co-Founder, The Court Jesters (Producer, Director, and Performer, *The Merchant of Venice*)

Summer Positions: U.S. Attorney’s Office, Baltimore, MD (1998); Vinson & Elkins, Dallas, TX (1999); Zuckerman, Spaeder, Taylor, & Evans, Miami, FL (1999)

Fulbright Scholar, Bogotá, Colombia **1996–1997**

Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Facultad de Derecho

Princeton University, A.B., *cum laude* **1996**

School of Public and International Affairs; Certificate in Latin American Studies

Thesis: “The Rule of Law: Reconciling Judicial Institution-Building and U.S. Counternarcotics Policy in Colombia”

Class of 1996 Leadership Circle; Member, Society of the Claw; Performer, Princeton Triangle Club

RESEARCH INTERESTS

National security law and policy; intelligence and counterintelligence; disinformation, information warfare, and AI regulation; ethics and institutional accountability; democratic governance and the rule of law; U.S. foreign policy and international law.

COURSES AVAILABLE TO TEACH

National Security Law and Policy · Intelligence and Counterintelligence · Russian Information Warfare and Disinformation · Law and Emerging Technology / AI Regulation · U.S. Foreign Policy and International Law · Democratic Governance and the Rule of Law · Leadership and Ethics

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Books

UNCOMPROMISED: Activating Your Moral Compass in an Age of Complicity (Bloomsbury, forthcoming 2028). This book argues that institutional wrongdoing cannot be understood by focusing solely on its architects. It requires examining the predictable infrastructure of complicity that surrounds them and whose choices collectively determine whether wrongdoing succeeds or fails. Drawing on intelligence models, Albert Bandura’s theory of moral disengagement, and case studies spanning corporate, governmental, and national security contexts, the book maps how ordinary individuals become participants in institutional wrongdoing through incremental moral compromise—and what conditions make resistance possible.

Articles and Chapters

Preface to *Media Literacy for Justice: Lessons for Changing the World*, ed. Belinha S. De Abreu (Chicago: ALA Neal-Schuman, 2022)

[“The Cost of Freedom: Using the Tax Power to Limit Personal Arsenals,”](#) *Yale Law & Policy Review* *Inter Alia* 32 (2013): 17.

PROFESSIONAL CAREER: TEACHING AND SERVICE

Yale University, New Haven, CT

Yale Jackson School of Global Affairs

2017–Present

Senior Lecturer

- National Security Law — Graduate seminar examining legal frameworks governing surveillance, detention, use of force, and executive power; writing-intensive with student evaluations consistently noting measurable improvement in analytical and writing skills.
- Russian Intelligence, Information Warfare, and Social Media — Graduate seminar on foreign influence operations, disinformation ecosystems, and the intersection of intelligence tradecraft and emerging technology.

Director of Admissions (2017–2022); Assistant Dean of Admissions (2022–2025)

- Created operational roadmap for Jackson’s transition to Yale’s first independent professional school in 46 years; collaborated with Provost’s Office to launch 5-year BA/BS-MPP program.
- Increased application volume by 66% and international applicants by 82% over eight years. Created Africa, Latin America, and Middle East pipelines and achieved record DEI benchmarks.

Yale Global Executive Leadership Program

2019–Present

Guest Lecturer and Program Faculty

- Recurring faculty for the Executive Leadership Program and Sinovations, teaching national security, rule of law, and institutional ethics to senior executives and global leaders.

Yale School of Management

2026–Present

Lecturer

- Law, Risk, and the Corporate Manager (Spring 2027) — Business law course for MBA students.

Yale Law School

2005–2017

Associate Dean, Admissions and Financial Aid (2007-2017); Assistant Dean, J.D. and Graduate Admissions (2005-2007)

- Served on senior staff for three deans and *ex officio* on the law school’s Expanded Governing Board and Alumni Executive Committee.
- Served on faculty committees on curriculum, grading, legacy admissions, loan forgiveness, and Title IX. Reviewed over 3,000 admissions files annually, assessing academic promise and character and fitness for the legal profession.
- Created Yale Forward, the law school’s first diversity programming for admitted students, resulting in its most diverse entering class as of 2017.

Yale University-Wide Committee on Sexual Misconduct

2011–2017

Member

- Adjudicated disciplinary matters in compliance with Title IX; chaired hearings and prepared final reports for action by the Dean and Provost.

Additional Teaching Appointments

Wesleyan University, Frank Center for Public Affairs, Middletown, CT

2015–2017

Adjunct Lecturer

National Security Law

University of New Haven, Henry C. Lee College of Criminal Justice and Forensic Sciences, New Haven, CT 2011–2017

Adjunct Lecturer, National Security Program

National Security Law (2011–2013); Intelligence Missions, Policies, and Ethics: The Changing Role of the FBI and CIA Before and After 9/11 (2014, Summer 2017)

PROFESSIONAL CAREER: GOVERNMENT SERVICE

Federal Bureau of Investigation, New York, NY 2002–2005

Special Agent, Counterintelligence Division

- Conducted classified counterintelligence investigations with TS/SCI clearance. Performed fieldwork including source debriefings, surveillance, and light undercover operations.
- Received FBI Incentive Award for outstanding work in highly sensitive counterintelligence operation that reached the Oval Office via the President's Daily Brief.

U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, San Juan, PR 2000–2001

Law Clerk, The Honorable Juan R. Torruella, Chief Judge

Bar Admissions

State Bar of New York (2003); State Bar of Connecticut (2003)

PROFESSIONAL CAREER: MEDIA ENGAGEMENT AND PUBLIC PROFILE

Public Scholarship

[The Freedom Academy Substack](#)

2022–Present

Flagship public scholarship platform with approximately 100,000 subscribers. Publish at least weekly on law, intelligence, national security, and ethics. Covers current issues in law enforcement, intelligence, disinformation, democratic governance, and institutional accountability. One of the largest subscriber bases among legal and national security Substacks and designated “Best Seller.”

Selected Public Writing

(Full list and links available at www.asharangappa.com)

- [“How Trump Keeps Exploiting America’s Legal Loopholes.”](#) *TIME*, June 9, 2026 (coauthored)
- [“Anthropic v. the Pentagon: A Battle of Values.”](#) *CAFÉ Insider*, March 9, 2026
- [“What Americans Need to Know About the Bolton FBI Search.”](#) *New York Times*, August 23, 2025
- [“No, It’s Not Sedition. It’s the Law.”](#) *CAFÉ Insider*, Dec. 1, 2025
- [“Love or Hate James Comey, the Events That Led to His Indictment Mean Anyone Could Be Next.”](#) *San Francisco Chronicle*, September 26, 2025
- [“Federalizing the National Guard: A Primer and What Comes Next.”](#) *CAFÉ Insider*, June 11, 2025
- [“The April 2023 Indictment for Russian Election Interference and Threats to U.S. Democracy.”](#) *Just Security*, May 3, 2023
- [“The Missing Review of FBI’s January 6 Intelligence and Law Enforcement Failures.”](#) *Just Security*, November 10, 2022
- [“The Legacy of 9/11: Counterintelligence and Counterterrorism Spotlights and Blind Spots.”](#) *Just Security*, September 8, 2022
- [“Big Tech is the New Big Tobacco.”](#) *CAFÉ Insider*, August 31, 2021
- [“The U.S. Has No Rules for When the President is a National Security Threat.”](#) *Washington Post*, September 20, 2019
- [“Thank Progressives for the Nunes Memo.”](#) *New York Times*, February 2, 2018

- [“The Social Experiment Facebook Should Run,”](#) *The Atlantic*, October 4, 2017
- [“The Power to Pardon, the Power to Gain,”](#) *New York Times*, February 3, 2001

Broadcast and Online Media

<i>Just Security</i> , Editor and Contributor	2017–Present
<i>CAFÉ Insider</i> , Contributor	2020–Present
<i>It’s Complicated</i> (legal podcast), Co-Host	2022–2026
ABC News, Legal Contributor	2023–2025
CNN, Legal and National Security Analyst	2017–2022

Television Series and Documentaries

The History Channel, History’s Greatest Mysteries: The Death and Fortune of Pablo Escobar	2025
Netflix, How to Become a Cult Leader	2023
Netflix, How to Become a Mob Boss	2023
CNN, Watergate: Blueprint to a Scandal	2022
Netflix, How to Become a Tyrant	2021
The History Channel, The American Presidency with Bill Clinton	2021
The Smithsonian Channel, Ten Steps to Disaster: Twin Towers	2021
Active Measures	2018

Notable Podcast Appearances

<i>The Civic Forum with Rory Truex</i> , “Can the FBI Be Saved?”	2025
<i>Amicus with Dahlia Lithwick</i> , “When the Lawyers are Lawless”	2025
<i>The Ezra Klein Podcast</i> , “The Emergency is Here”	2025

SELECTED PUBLIC SPEAKING

Law Schools, Bar Associations, and Legal Organizations

- New York County Bar Association, The Rule of Law and the American Judiciary, Panelist (2026)
- Neiman-Sieroty Lecture on Civil Liberties, USC School of Law (2025)
- Autocracy in America Conference, NYU School of Law, Panelist (2024)
- McGrath-North CLE Ethics Seminar, Instructor (2024)
- International Academy of Trial Lawyers, Presenter (2024)
- Oklahoma Bar Association Women in Law Annual Conference, Keynote (2024)
- Bench and Bar CLE Seminar, U.S. District Court, Northern District of Mississippi, Presenter (2023)
- South Asian Bar Association of New York, Panelist (2022)
- Connecticut Legal Conference, Presenter (2021)
- Connecticut Bar Association Rule of Law Conference, Presenter (2019)
- State Bar of Texas Annual Conference, Keynote (2019)

Universities and Policy Institutions

- Dalhousie University 2025 Stanfield Conversations: Challenges to the Rule of Law, Panelist (2025)
- Miller Lecture on Human Values and Public Understanding, University of Wisconsin Green Bay (2025)
- Munich Dialogues for Democracy, Amerikahaus (2025)
- National Constitution Center Presidential Council Retreat, Panelist (2024, 2025)
- The University of Texas at Austin #Connexions Conference, Panelist (2023)

- Research Group on Constitutional Studies Lecture, McGill University (2023)
- Association of Professional and Practical Ethics Annual Conference, Presenter (2023)
- Dartmouth University, Roger S. Aaron '61 Lecture on Law and Business (2019)

National Security, Intelligence, and Emerging Technology

- U.S. Army Anti-Terrorism Training Seminar, Presenter (2023, 2024, 2026)
- Princeton University Cybersecurity Day, Presenter (2024)
- Yale Cyber Leadership Conference, Panelist (2018, 2019, 2022, 2023)
- Council on Foreign Relations Round Table: Russian Information Warfare, Panelist (2020)
- Yale Law School Day of Data Conference, Keynote (2019)

SELECTED SERVICE

Cambridge Disinformation Summit, Advisory Board	2025–Present
Museum of Political Corruption, Advisory Board	2025–Present
Truman National Security Project, Security Fellow	2023–Present
Council on Foreign Relations, Life Member	2021–Present
Association of Professional and Practical Ethics, Member	2021–Present
South Asian Bar Association of Connecticut, Advisory Board	2020–Present
International Career Advancement Program, Fellow	2022–Present
ABA Task Force on American Democracy, Education Sub-Committee	2023–2024
Fulbright Association, Connecticut Alumni Chapter, Board Member	2022–2023
Connecticut Society of Former Special Agents of the FBI, Treasurer	2016–2019

MEDIA PROFILES

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- [*Ms. Magazine*](#) (2026)
 - [*Golf Digest*](#) (2020)
 - [*ELLE*](#) (2019)
 - [*Princeton Alumni Weekly*](#) (2019)
 - *India Abroad* (2018)
 - [*Connecticut Law Tribune*](#), “Women in Law” Issue (2008)

HONORS AND AWARDS

Connecticut 100 Women of Color Legacy Awardee (2020)
 South Asian Bar Association of Connecticut Trailblazer Award (2019)
 Connecticut Bar Association Diversity Award (2019)
 Yale Public Voices Fellow (2016–2017)
 James W. Cooper Fellow, Connecticut Bar Foundation (2016)
 FBI Incentive Award for Outstanding Work (2005)
 Temple Bar Scholar, American Inns of Court (2001)

SKILLS AND CERTIFICATIONS

Languages: Fluent in Spanish and Kannada.
 Certified Enneagram Instructor (Enneagram Institute); Accredited Professional, International Enneagram Association.