

## Using the Nonprofit Legal Compendium

### Speaker Biographies

**Elizabeth Boris** is an Institute fellow at the Urban Institute and founding director of the Center on Nonprofits and Philanthropy, which she led from 1996 to 2015. The center researches the role and impact of nonprofit organizations and the policy issues that affect them. The center also hosts the National Center for Charitable Statistics, which builds and maintains the nation's largest research database on nonprofit organizations. Boris is actively involved as an adviser and board member for various organizations in the nonprofit sector.

**Teresa Harrison** is Professor of Economics and the Academic Director of the Center for Nonprofit Governance—Raj & Kamla Gupta Governance Institute at Drexel University's LeBow College of Business. Her research has focused on better understanding the dynamic interactions of nonprofits in markets where nonprofits provide valuable services to the community. This has included examining characteristics and consequences of competition for donations, location decisions, entry, exit, mergers and growth. Her work has been published in top economics and nonprofit journals and she has served as a keynote speaker and panelist discussing key policy issues related to the nonprofit sector.

**Jesse Lecy** is the director of the National Center for Charitable Statistics, a senior research associate, and a data scientist at the Urban Institute. He is also an associate professor in the School of Public Affairs at Arizona State University and teaches management, statistics, program evaluation, data science, geographic information systems, and urban policy. Lecy's research focuses on the life cycle of nonprofits and nongovernmental organizations, including the entrepreneurial and start-up process, environmental conditions that support scale and sustainability, and dimensions of competition that lead to organizational decline or failure.

**Cindy M. Lott**, a nonresident fellow in the Center on Nonprofits and Philanthropy at the Urban Institute, is a Clinical Professor of Philanthropic Studies, Director of the Professional Doctorate in Philanthropic Leadership, and Stead Policy Fellow at Indiana University's Lilly Family School of Philanthropy. Previously, she was an Associate Professor of Practice and Academic Director for Nonprofit Management Programs at Columbia University. Her teaching, research, and consulting span charitable regulatory policy, nonprofit management and ethics.

**Thiyaghessan Poongundranar** is a data scientist at the Urban Institute. He works with Urban's Technology and Data Science team and Center on Nonprofits and Philanthropy to provide analysis and support for research involving Urban's National Center for Charitable Statistics. Poongundranar has applied research experience in machine learning, deep learning, and natural language processing in the domains of political economy, public finance, and high-performance computing. He has also worked as a data journalist with Jom Media, where he covered online extremism in his home country, Singapore. Poongundranar holds a bachelor's degree in political science from the National University of Singapore and a master's degree in computational social science from the University of Chicago.