

**Lila Silverstein** is an appellate public defender with the Washington Appellate Project. Her most notable case is *State v. Gregory*, 192 Wn.2d 1 (2018) (with co-counsel Neil Fox). Lila commissioned a statistical study on race and the death penalty in Washington and [argued](#) the death penalty was unconstitutional because it was imposed in an arbitrary and racially biased manner. In 2018, the Washington Supreme Court [agreed](#) and invalidated Washington's capital punishment scheme.

Lila has also addressed systemic discrimination in other areas. She wrote significant sections of Washington's [General Rule 37](#), which protects against racial bias in jury selection, and she has consulted with advocates and judges in other states seeking to emulate Washington's rule.

For her work, Lila received the King County Bar Association's [Outstanding Lawyer of the Year Award](#), the William O. Douglas Award from the Washington Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, the Kathleen Taylor Civil Libertarian Award from the ACLU of Washington, and the [Distinguished Service Award](#) from the Civil Rights Section of the WSBA.