

# **Morris Ratner**

**Academic Dean and Professor of Law at UC Hastings College of the Law**

San Francisco, CA, US

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## **Description**

Professor Ratner (BA, Stanford University 1988; JD, Harvard Law School 1991) is the chief academic officer of UC Hastings.

Professor Ratner teaches civil procedure, legal ethics, and the business of law practice, and produces scholarship at the intersection of those fields. He joined the UC Hastings Faculty in 2012 after teaching at Harvard Law School as a visiting lecturer and then as a visiting assistant professor from 2009 to 2011. Professor Ratner was a litigator at the San Francisco-based plaintiffs'™ firm Lief, Cabraser, Heimann & Bernstein, LLP, where he was a partner for ten years and where he prosecuted product liability, environmental, mass personal injury, consumer, and human rights actions. Among other high-profile matters, Professor Ratner prosecuted and settled Holocaust-era slave labor, looted asset, dormant bank account and unpaid insurance claims against European companies, producing global settlements in those cases worth more than \$7.5 billion.

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## **Topics**

Civil Procedure, Legal Ethics , Law Practice Management, Complex Litigation

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## **Sample Talks**

**UC Hastings Social Justice Speaker Series- April 2014**

Presentation re Holocaust-era litigation: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0vXSHYI4BXY>

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## **Past Talks**

**Upcoming - Branstetter Litigation & Dispute Resolution Program's New Voices Workshop 2017**

Presenting Selected Paper: "Class Conflicts"

### **MDL Problems**

AALS Annual Meeting Litigation Section Program (Moderator)

**Towards Tomorrow's Legal Education - Implementing Change with a New Perspective and Vocabulary**  
International Association of Law Schools

### **Fordham Law Review Ethics Colloquium**

Civil Litigation Ethics at a Time of Vanishing Trials

**Aggregate Litigation Ethics - Panel**  
International Legal Ethics Conference VII

**The Quality of Legal Representation in U.S. Class Actions: The Problem of Conflicts**  
International Conference on the Resolution of Mass Disputes: Collective Redress, Class Actions and ADR

**Ethical Integrity Challenges Facing the Judiciary**  
Professional Ethical Integrity: Cornerstone for Rule of Law Reform Around the Globe, UC Hastings College of the Law Conference

**Compensating Victims of Man-Made Disasters – The American Experience**  
The Legal Impact of the Fukushima Disaster, UC Hastings College of the Law Conference

**A Monument Man in the Courtroom: Litigating the Holocaust**  
Inaugural Lecture, UC Santa Cruz/UC Hastings College of the Law Social Justice Speaker Series

**Battling Goliath: The Impact of Plaintiff-Side Litigation Against Corporate Defendants**  
Shaking the Foundations: The West Coast Progressive Lawyering Conference

**The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: Ethical Issues in Class-Action Settlements**  
ABA Annual Meeting

**Lessons from Chevron: Legal Ethics and Transnational Litigation**  
Lessons from Chevron: Stanford Journal of Complex Litigation Symposium

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## **Education**

**Harvard Law School**  
J.D. Law

**Stanford University**  
B.A. Economics

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## **Accomplishments**

**Selected Presenter, Vanderbilt Law School's Branstetter Litigation & Dispute Resolution Program 2017 New Voices Workshop**

The Branstetter Program supports research and curriculum in civil litigation and dispute resolution. Held annually, the Branstetter New Voices Workshop brings together junior scholars, senior scholars, and Vanderbilt faculty in the areas of civil justice. Each year, junior scholars are selected via a blind review process to present at the New Voices Workshop.

**Student Choice Award: Professor of the Year 2017**  
Conferred by the Associated Students of UC Hastings College of the Law

**"Outstanding Contribution to UC Hastings" Award 2017**

Conferred by UC Hastings College of the Law

**Co-winner of the sixth annual Fred C. Zacharias Memorial Prize for Scholarship in Professional Responsibility 2015**

Awarded by the AALS Section on Professional Responsibility for Class Counsel as Litigation Funders, 28 Geo. J. Legal Ethics 271 (2015)

**Rutter Award for Teaching Excellence 2015-2016**

The William and Sally Rutter Award for Teaching Excellence - Outstanding Professor of the Year 2015-2016

**Student Choice Award: Professor of the Year 2015**

Conferred by the Associated Students of UC Hastings

**Visionary Service Award**

Conferred by the UC Hastings College of the Law Board of Trustees.

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