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## **NY Times- Professor Reinert's Lawsuit Over Solitary Confinement Practices Gets a Victory for the Plaintiffs**

Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law

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### **Recommended Citation**

Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, "NY Times- Professor Reinert's Lawsuit Over Solitary Confinement Practices Gets a Victory for the Plaintiffs" (2017). *Cardozo News 2017*. 24.  
<https://larc.cardozo.yu.edu/cardozo-news-2017/24>

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## NY TIMES: PROFESSOR REINERT'S LAWSUIT OVER SOLITARY CONFINEMENT PRACTICES GETS A VICTORY FOR THE PLAINTIFFS



December 13, 2017

Professor Alexander Reinert, who is one of the attorneys representing a group of plaintiffs who filed a class action lawsuit against New York City, won a victory in the lawsuit this week. A federal magistrate judge in Brooklyn ruled that New York City will pay a total of \$5 million to the plaintiffs: 470 people who were put in solitary confinement, between Nov. 23, 2012, and Sept. 16, 2015. A policy that used to be in place at Rikers Island mandated that if those people who had been serving a stretch in solitary confinement before release were returned to the jail, the person would be forced back into solitary no matter how much time had passed.

The lawsuit that prompted the settlement, *Roy Parker et al. v. the City of New York*, deemed that the practice was inhumane and violated pretrial detainees' due process rights.

Reinert said in *The New York Times* that he believes this was the first case in the country in which a court awarded compensation to a class

### RELATED NEWS

August 23, 2019

[Michelle Adams Publishes Book Review in The New Republic \(/news/michelle-adams-publishes-book-review-new-republic\)](#)

Professor Michelle Adams' review, titled "The Integration Success Stories," analyzes Rucker C. Johnson's new book "Children of the Dream: Why School Integration Works."

August 20, 2019

[Professor Nash Published in Journal on Migration and Human Security \(/news/professor-nash-published-journal-migration-and-human-security\)](#)

Professor Lindsay Nash published a short essay in the Journal on Migration and Human Security (<https://cmsny.org/jmhs/>) (JMHS), a publication of the Center for Migration Studies.

August 20, 2019

[Professor Zelinsky Cited by Utah](#)

of pretrial detainees wrongfully held in solitary confinement. The number of people covered by the class action was limited by a three-year statute of limitations, he said.

Read the full story [here \(https://www.nytimes.com/2017/12/12/nyregion/rikers-settlement-solitary-confinement.html? r=0\)](https://www.nytimes.com/2017/12/12/nyregion/rikers-settlement-solitary-confinement.html?r=0).

Read more on WNYC. (<http://www.wnyc.org/story/rikers-settles-class-action-solitary-confinement-case/>)

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[Supreme Court \(/news/professor-zelinsky-cited-utah-supreme-court\)](#)

The Utah Supreme Court cited Zelinsky in *Steiner v. Utah State Tax Commission*.

August 5, 2019

[Professor Chris Buccafusco Talks to Rolling Stone and The Wall Street Journal about Katy Perry Copyright Case \(/news/professor-chris-buccafusco-talks-rolling-stone-and-wall-street-journal-about-katy-perry\)](#)

Professor Chris Buccafusco (<https://cardozo.yu.edu/directory/christopher-j-buccafusco>) spoke to *Rolling Stone* and *The Wall Street Journal* about the Katy Perry copyright case.

July 31, 2019

[Professor Sam Weinstein Comments on T-Mobile/Sprint Merger in NY Times and Wall Street Journal \(/news/professor-sam-weinstein-comments-t-mobilesprint-merger-ny-times-and-wall-street-journal\)](#)

Professor Sam Weinstein was quoted in *The New York Times* regarding the T-Mobile/Sprint merger. "There is a lot of criticism of the agencies that they are not doing enough about big tech and this is a way to respond to that criticism," he said.

