Policy, Law & Equity: A Professional Portfolio — Marco A. Ramos Jr.

Tulare County High-School Equity Capstone

Principal Researcher | 2023 – 2024

Challenge

- Teen birth rate 42/1,000 (CA avg 22) Adult illiteracy 41 % (CA avg 23 %)
- College-readiness scores 30/100 (best-funded) $\rightarrow 11/100$ (least-funded)
- Only 15 % bachelor's attainment; poverty 21.8 %

Data & Methods

- U.S. Census, CA DOE LCFF, County Health Rankings
- Stakeholder map: students, families, teachers, Board, local govt.
- Five policy options scored across six equity criteria (weighted matrix).

Key Actions

- ✓ Built county equity profile from multi-source data.
- ✓ Authored 30-page brief with reform roadmap; presented to superintendent.
- ✓ Conducted risk-benefit analysis for each stakeholder group.

Impact

- \rightarrow Matrix adopted by advocates for 2025 LCFF/LCAP budget testimony.
- \rightarrow Template shared with two additional Central Valley districts.

TNTP Program Evaluation Blueprint

Evaluation Lead | Spring 2024

Challenge Prove TNTP's model improves outcomes across 39 states.

Data & Methods

- \$58.7 M logic model Quasi-experimental matched design
- Propensity-score matching on SES, staffing, funding
- Outcome metrics: math, reading, science scores | Fidelity $\kappa = 0.82$

Key Actions

- ✓ Wrote 20-page evaluation plan + sample analysis code (R Markdown).
- ✓ Drafted classroom-observation rubric and handbook.
- ✓ Designed Tableau mock-ups for KPI dashboard.

Impact

 \rightarrow Rubric in beta test with 12 program managers.

Neoliberal Reform Comparative Study

Author | Fall 2023

Challenge Do school-choice reforms help or harm equity?

Data & Methods

- 25 peer-reviewed sources (2014-2023) across NYC, SF, AZ, TX, England, Japan.
- 78 coded themes (access, funding, segregation, achievement) | NVivo.
- 3-D Public Management analytical frame.

Key Actions

- ✓ Mapped causal chain: choice \rightarrow stratification \rightarrow outcomes.
- ✓ Built dashboard tracking segregation, grad rates, funding gaps.
- ✓ Presented findings at CSU-Long Beach Research Colloquium.

Impact

 \rightarrow Dashboard integrated into MPA coursework.

ABA Governance & OD Audit

Lead Analyst | 2024

Challenge ABA's \$103 M Fund for Justice & Education lacked board review.

Data & Methods

- Parsed three years of IRS 990s (Python/pandas).
- Rated governance via Holland's framework; simulated OD scenarios (RACI).
- Mapped 539 staff + 17,000 volunteers.

Key Actions

- ✓ Built interactive 990 workbook; scored board practices (13/20).
- ✓ Proposed 10-point reform plan: annual evaluations, term limits, KPIs.
- ✓ Briefed MPA faculty & peers.

Impact

- \rightarrow Cited in CSU-LB MPA syllabus (Spring 2025).
- \rightarrow Tools shared with ABA sections piloting agile governance.

CAMHPRO Legislative Campaign & Bill-Tracker

Legislative Campaign Assistant

Challenge

Advocates needed real-time intelligence and coordinated action on eight high-risk bills that threatened peer-run mental-health services statewide.

Data & Methods

- Tech stack: Google Sheets API \rightarrow LegInfo JSON \rightarrow Apps Script \rightarrow Looker Studio
- Live tags: topic, threat level, vote margins, authors, social reach
- 1,200-member alert list (Constant Contact) with high open rate

Key Actions

✓ Drafted multi-page opposition briefs for SB 27, SB 331, SB 820, SB 367, SB 823, AB 416, AB 255, SB 634, plus talking-point grids and "quick-read" memos for 30+ coalition partners.

✓ Built and maintain a live bill-tracker dashboard monitoring 8+ priority bills.

✓ Orchestrated a 48-hour "call-storm" (200 calls, dozens of Capitol visits) that galvanized statewide advocates.

✓ Managed an eight-county outreach Gantt chart—testimony prep, alert blasts, legislator scheduling with minimal oversight.

✓ Delivered primary testimony in Senate & Assembly hearings (2-min, 30-sec, 15-sec formats) and coordinated messaging with Disability Rights CA and peer organizations.

Impact

 \rightarrow Preserved **\$60 million** in peer-service and public-assistance funding.

Court-Based Legal Education Toolkit

Legal Researcher & Self-Help Assistant

Challenge

Thousands of self-represented litigants in rural Central Valley courts lacked clear, bilingual guidance on civil, housing, and family-law procedures.

Data & Methods

- Plain-language drafting via Westlaw/Lexis
- English/Spanish parallel text; field-tested in live workshops

Key Actions

✓ Guided 5,000+ pro-per litigants at the Self-Help Center, clarifying forms and court procedure.

✓ Assisted lead paralegal in producing six English/Spanish DIY toolkits (eviction, DV, name change, stepparent adoption, small-claims, fee waivers).

✓ Delivered community workshops

Impact

 \rightarrow Toolkits adopted by additional counties and linked on library websites for broader community access.

Let's Work Together

I merge policy analytics, legal training, and frontline advocacy to fuel tangible equity wins. Ready to: ✓ Draft legislation & policy briefs ✓ Translate data for decision-makers ✓ Train teams & lead strategic campaigns

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