

# SARAH COMEAU

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## School Justice Project

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Co-Founded with Claire Blumenson

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2013 Black Male Achievement Fellow



### BIG BOLD IDEA

**Protect and enforce the special education rights of older black male students involved in the D.C. juvenile justice system by providing free special education representation, legal advocacy, and rights-based trainings.**

### ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

The mission of the School Justice Project is to protect and enforce the special education rights of older students during incarceration and throughout reentry. As education attorneys, we provide direct representation and legal advocacy to court-involved youth ages 17-22 with special education needs to ensure they are afforded quality education and transition services. We envision a system wide overhaul that redefines the education landscape for these students. As the only organization of its kind, SJP aims to dismantle systemic barriers and force urban juvenile justice and school systems to address the unmet needs of this ignored population.

### PERSONAL BIO

Sarah Comeau, co-founder and co-executive director of the School Justice Project, has focused her legal career on indigent representation and the protection of civil and human rights. After law school, she was a post-graduate fellow in the Juvenile Services Program at the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia. She then was an associate at a District of Columbia law firm that specialized in special education advocacy, representing students and families of students involved in both the juvenile justice and abuse and neglect systems. During law school she represented youth and adults as a student defense attorney. Sarah received a BS from Ithaca College's Roy H. Park School of Communications. Sarah received her JD from American University's Washington College of Law (WCL), where she was Note & Comment Editor for the Journal of Gender, Social Policy & The Law.

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#### Organization/Fellow Location

Washington, United States

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#### Impact Location

North America

United States

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#### Organization Structure

Nonprofit

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