



Biography for Wendell Pritchett

Wendell Pritchett is a professor of law at the University of Pennsylvania, where he has been teaching since 2001. He served as Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at the law school from 2006 to 2008. During that time he oversaw the development of the law school curriculum, the creation of a junior faculty mentorship program, and the reorganization of student law journals. Pritchett is also a member of the faculty of the graduate programs of the School of Design and the History Department in the School of Arts and Sciences, and he has led or participated in many university wide initiatives. He is a founding member of the Penn Institute on Urban Research, was one of the principle investigators on a major federally-funded project to examine racial disparities in the treatment of prostate cancer, and served for three years on the Provost's Planning and Budget Committee, the primary advisory group to the chief academic officer. Before coming to Penn, Pritchett spent five years as assistant professor of history at Baruch College of the City University of New York.

Professor Pritchett received his B.A. from Brown University in 1986, a J.D. from Yale Law School in 1991, and his PhD. in History from the University of Pennsylvania in 1997. He has written two books and numerous articles on topics relating to urban history and policy, particularly in the areas of housing, race relations, land use, and economic development. His first book, *Brownsville, Brooklyn: Blacks, Jews, and the Changing Face of the Ghetto* (University of Chicago Press 2002), explores race relations and public policy in 20th century Brooklyn. His most recent book, *Robert Clifton Weaver and the American City: The Life and Times of an Urban Reformer* (University of Chicago Press, 2008), is a biography of the first African-American cabinet secretary, a leading thinker and practitioner of 20th century urban development.

During 2008, Pritchett served as Deputy Chief of Staff and Directory of Policy for Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter. Among other initiatives, he was responsible for the production of the City's Five Year Plan and Budget, the reorganization of the city's poverty programs, and the supervision of the operations of the Mayor's office. During 2007, Pritchett served as Chair of the Urban Policy Task Force for Senator Barack Obama's presidential campaign. Earlier in his career, Pritchett served as Director of District Offices for Congressman Thomas M. Foglietta (D-PA) and as an attorney representing non-profit organizations in the development of affordable housing. Over the past fifteen years, Pritchett has served in leadership positions in numerous non-profit organizations. He was Board Chair of Community Legal Services of Philadelphia

from 2005 to 2008 and helped expand the organization over that time from an annual budget of \$6 million to over \$10 million. Through several positions as an attorney, as well as his current roles as President of the Philadelphia Housing Development Corporation, Vice-Chair of the Redevelopment Authority of Philadelphia, and member of the Pennsylvania State Planning Board, he has used his extensive experience in policy analysis and development to promote economic opportunity in the Philadelphia region.