



The State Energy &
Environmental Impact Center
NYU School of Law

Getting the Lay of the Land: Environmental & Public Interest Law Career Info Session
Wednesday, November 8, 2023, 12:00pm – 1:00pm EST

Melanie Calero

Litigation Fellow, Natural Resources Defense Council

Melanie Calero has worked on cases to ensure access to safe drinking water and fight fossil fuel development. Prior to joining NRDC, Calero worked on complex commercial litigation as an associate at an international law firm in New York. She holds a bachelor's degree in environmental studies from New York University and a J.D. from Columbia Law School, where she was a James Kent Scholar and served as managing editor of the Columbia Journal of Race and Law. While in law school, Calero served as a judicial extern for Judge Laura T. Swain on the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York, a legal intern at the Environmental Defense Fund, and a student legal representative in the immigrants' rights clinic. She is based in NRDC's New York office.

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Lauren McCrea

Clean Energy Fellow, State Energy & Environmental Impact Center

Lauren McCrea (she, her) is an attorney with energy and environmental law experience with a dedication to serving the public. Prior to joining the Center, Lauren worked at the Delaware Department of Justice, where she focused on clean energy and climate issues. She earned a Juris Doctorate from Howard University School of Law. There, Lauren served as a student attorney in the Fair Housing Clinic. During her time at Howard Law she interned at the District of Columbia Public Service Commission in the office of then-Commissioner Willie Phillips. Also, she interned at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in the Office of Energy Projects within the Office of General Counsel. Lauren earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of Delaware. At Delaware, she was a Blue Hen Ambassador and a Ronald E. McNair Scholar.

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Tatiana Zapata

Legal Fellow, State Energy & Environmental Impact Center

Tatiana Zapata is a graduate of St. John's University School of Law. She was the Co-Founder and Vice President of the school's Environmental Law Society, as well as a student member of the NYCBA Committee on Environmental Law. Tatiana is a first-generation law school graduate and Colombian immigrant dedicated to advocating on behalf of historically marginalized communities. She previously worked as a legal intern at the Center before joining staff full time.

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