

**Andrew Ulysses Dwight Straw**  
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## **SUMMARY:**

- Staunch ADA reformer, confronted discrimination by judges, state and federal agencies, and local governments that piled snow into municipal sidewalks and handicap parking spaces.
- Civil rights advocate with 18 years of experience focusing on disability rights, free speech, immigration, personal injury, nonprofit law, sexual harassment, veteran rights, and corporate law.
- Advocate for poisoned family members of U.S. Marines stationed at NAS Jacksonville, FL. First Amendment federal lawsuit in Wisconsin for free speech national leader to protect right to wave a US flag on a public sidewalk. Lawsuit for handicap access: 5 N. Illinois local governments.
- ABA Commission on Disability Rights January 2014 “Spotlight” attorney with disabilities.
- Sued South Bend, Indiana, and South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg under Americans with Disabilities Act. Settled January 2017. Achieved settlement and FHWA supervision for City.
- After 6 years of advocacy and contacting every member of the Democratic National Committee, I convinced the Indiana Democratic Party to change its rules to stop discriminating based on mental disability.
- Served as Assistant Dean for International Programs at Indiana University-Maurer School of Law (2003).
- Worked as Statistical Analyst for the Chief Justice of Indiana (2000-2002).
- Court technology inventor who developed real-time domestic violence protective order database for the State of Indiana (2001): <https://mycourts.in.gov/porp/>
- Former Corporate Counsel to famous transportation engineer and urban planner Alan Manners Voorhees (1998 - 2000).
- Earned J.D. from Indiana University - Maurer School of Law.
- National Merit Scholar.

## **EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:**

### **Andrew U. D. Straw**

*Disability Rights Advocate (pro se)*

**8/2013-present**

- Passionate advocate for disability rights: municipal sidewalks and handicap parking spaces during winter.
- Obtained village-wide audit of parking lots in Streamwood, Illinois, which found about 150 handicap parking spaces missing or not made according to legal standards. 2013-2014
- Obtained settlement with South Bend, Indiana, in a case about handicap parking and sidewalks. 2017
- Sued Streamwood, Elgin, Glendale Heights, Bloomingdale, and Kane County, Illinois, regarding snow piles in sidewalks, curb cuts, and handicap parking. Kane County settled. 2016-2017

### **Andrew U. D. Straw, Esq.**

**3/2010 – 9/2017**

*Disability Rights Lawyer and Advocate*

- Passionate advocate for disability rights in state and federal agencies and courts.
- Negotiated settlements in employment law and disability rights cases.
- Opposed sexual harassment at South Bend Housing Authority and other civil rights claims.
- Suing Town of Campbell, Wisconsin, for arresting client who displayed a U.S. flag on a public sidewalk.

**Indiana University-Maurer School of Law**

**2/2003 - 5/2003**

*Assistant Dean for International Programs*

- Provided pastoral support and leadership to international graduate students in the Law School's international legal studies program. Managed program and student admissions. Hired by law school dean, Lauren Robel, then president of the Association of American Law Schools.

**Indiana Supreme Court.**

**8/2000 - 7/2002**

*Attorney and Statistical Analyst*

- Broke both of my legs and pelvis on way to this Court to work, and then the Court took away my handicap parking to force me to walk farther in pain and engaged in discriminatory acts for 16 years. *See, Straw v. Indiana Supreme Court, et. al.*, 17-1338 (7<sup>th</sup> Cir.); *Straw v. Indiana Supreme Court, et. al.*, 1:16-cv-3483-TWP-TAB; *Straw v. Indiana Supreme Court*, 470-2017-01490 (EEOC); *Straw v. Indiana Supreme Court*, 1:17-cv-2513-RYL-DML (S.D. Ind.).
- Proposed a new Disability Rights and Fairness Commission, 2016, in response to Court discrimination.
- Sued the Indiana Supreme Court before the 7<sup>th</sup> Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals to address discrimination and suspension of my law license as an ADA Title II violation. EEOC is investigating discrimination.
- Analyzed the case load data of all 400+ Indiana trial courts and wrote annual statewide Indiana Judicial Service Report of the judicial branch.
- Advocated for accessible technology for hearing and vision impaired court users.
- Planned new format of Indiana Supreme Court webpage.
- Invented protective order database, recognized by Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, the White House, and the Council for Excellence in Government. Implemented by Indiana Supreme Court in 2006.

**Alan M. Voorhees, Woodbridge, VA**

**8/1998 - 8/2000**

*Corporate Counsel to Famous Transportation Planner Alan Manners Voorhees*

- Corporate work for Autometric (aerospace/satellite--protects all US air traffic), Micros, Lizardtech, Cinecom, International Land Systems, Sylvan Internet.
- Advocated to Virginia Supreme Court, state legislative committees and court clerks for records reform. Served on Virginia State Bar Task Force on Technology.
- Provided counsel on projects at the Library of Congress, the Library of Virginia, the Virginia Historical Society, and Council for Excellence in Government in Washington, D.C.
- Clerked for Hon. Joseph E. Spruill, Jr., 1976 president of Virginia State Bar.

**Italian Foreign Ministry, Bologna, Italy**

**12/1995 – 1/1996**

*Communications System Adviser*

- Wrote educational software and instructions to teach Foreign Ministry telecommunications officers.

**Options for Better Living, Bloomington, IN**

**9/1992 - 8/1993**

*Assistant Manager*

- Planned and implemented daily activities and personal care for disabled adults in a group home.

**EDUCATION:**

- **University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand.**  
Graduate studies: Bioethics & Health Law, 2004. GPA Grade Equivalent: B+
- **Council for Excellence in Government, Washington, DC.**  
Advanced training on federal government leadership. Cohort: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Colleagues: GS-15 and SES officers, U.S. government.

- **Indiana University-Maurer School of Law, Bloomington, Indiana, USA.**  
J.D. - 12/1997. Dean's List, Fall 1997. GPA Grade Equivalent: B+  
Concentrated on administrative and political law and worked as the Dean's research assistant.
- **Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, USA.**  
Master's Degree - 12/1995. GPA Grade Equivalent: A  
Language Education (ESL/ EFL).
- **Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, USA.**  
Bachelor's Degree - 5/1992. GPA Grade Equivalent: B+  
Majors: English and Philosophy. Minor: Political Science.

### AFFILIATIONS:

- Disability Party, Founder (2/5/2013), National Chairman & Multiple State Chairman
- Ran for U.S. House (IN & IL), U.S. Senate (IN)
- Children of Camp LeJeune, Founder & Member, 2015-2017. Born on USMC base Camp LeJeune.
- Life Member, Indiana University Alumni Association
- United States International Council of People with Disabilities (USICD)
- Member, American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD)
- Member, National Federation of the Blind (NFB), Member # 35346
- Member, National Association of the Deaf (NAD)
- Federal Bar Association, Chicago
- Member, National Lawyers Guild
- Member, Virginia State Bar
- Member, Fourth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals Bar
- Member, Bar of U.S. District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin

### AWARDS/HONORS:

- National Merit Scholar
- National Science Olympiad, Gold Medal
- "Imagine E-government Award Competition National Finalist." Kennedy School of Government and Council for Excellence in Government recognized my domestic violence real-time FBI protective order database invention as one of the top 8 e-government ideas in the USA. 2001.
- American Bar Association Commission on Disability Rights: "Spotlight" disabled attorney, January 2014.
- "Parker-Powell Student Leader Award," 1996 Indiana University Student Association Fellowship.
- Law School Representative to Indiana University Student Government, Bloomington. 1995-1996.
- Law School Educational Policy Committee member, Bloomington, IN. 1996-1997.
- Complaint on appeal for the poisoning of myself and my mother, who died of cancer caused by U.S. Marine Corps base poisons, where my father trained for his U.S. Marine service in Vietnam. *Straw v. United States*, 17-2114 (Fed. Cir.). See also: *Straw v. United States*, 17-17573-GG (11<sup>th</sup> Cir.) Success will impact over 1 million U.S. Marines and their poisoned family members.

### LANGUAGES:

- English (Native), Italian (Fluent), German (Studied 5 years), French (Studied 1 year), Spanish (Novice)

## **POLICY/ACADEMIC EDITING**

- Edited books by University of Otago instructors: (1) Chinese folktales, and (2) Chinese human rights reform. Advised Ph.D. student and edited dissertation on Chinese administrative law and human rights reform in China. Edited Ph.D. dissertation on Chinese media culture and documentary film.
- Wrote legislation to address military base poisoning and suffering of dependents of U.S. Marines and others. Suggested public benefits and 100% health coverage.
- Wrote legislation to strengthen the ADA and other federal laws to protect disability rights and health privacy.
- Wrote legislation to make intentionally blocking accessible features like handicap parking or sidewalks, curb ramps, and curb cuts into a criminal act.
- Wrote legislation to force ABA to collect disability statistics in law admissions and anonymously collect such information on law school faculty.
- List of lawsuits filed: [www.andrewstraw.org](http://www.andrewstraw.org)