

Andrew Ulysses Dwight Straw
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SUMMARY:

- Experienced attorney and disability rights advocate. Worked on disability access cases before state and local civil rights agencies and state and federal courts. Obtained settlements.
- Civil rights advocate with 18 years of experience focusing on disability rights, free speech, immigration, personal injury, nonprofit law, sexual harassment, veterans rights, and corporate law.
- Advocated for poisoned family members of U.S. Marines stationed at Camp LeJeune, NC. Pursued First Amendment federal lawsuit in Wisconsin for free speech national leader to protect right to wave a US flag on a public sidewalk. Pursued lawsuit for handicap access: 4 N. Illinois local governments left snow in their sidewalks, blocking access to people with disabilities. Advocated for court corruption reform.
- ABA Commission on Disability Rights January 2014 “Spotlight” attorney with disabilities.
- Sued South Bend, Indiana, under Americans with Disabilities Act regarding municipal handicap parking and sidewalk access. Achieved settlement in 2017 and FHWA supervision for City.
- Served as Statistical Analyst for Indiana judicial branch; worked with every judge and justice in Indiana.
- Served as Assistant Dean for International Programs at Indiana University-Maurer School of Law (2003).
- Former Corporate Counsel to famous transportation engineer 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 precedent from Illinois Human Rights Commission that snow in business handicap spaces is discrimination.
- 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. Jan. 2017
- Sued Streamwood, Elgin, Glendale Heights, Bloomingdale, and Kane County, Illinois, regarding snow piles in sidewalks, curb cuts, and handicap parking. Kane County settled. 2016-2018
- Sued for First Amendment right to boycott a Court (2018) as a lawyer and for 5th Amendment rights under the U.S. Supreme Court certiorari system (2018) Sued North Carolina for its interference with military personnel and their dependents at Camp LeJeune, which interference caused pain and suffering and poverty to nearly 1 million U.S. Marines and their families disabled by poisons on the base.

Andrew U. D. Straw, Esq.

3/2010 – present

Disability Rights Lawyer and Human Rights 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.
- Sued 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 (www.aals.org).

Indiana Supreme Court, Indianapolis, IN

8/2000 – 7/2002

Statistical Analyst and court technology analyst

- Hired by Chief Justice of Indiana and State Court Administrator to provide statistical and court technology services to entire Indiana judicial branch.
- Worked with over 400 trial courts. Served Judicial Technology and Automation Committee (JTAC). Designed Court website and invented protective order database for White House & Harvard competition.

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, Council for Excellence in Government in Washington, D.C., and Voorhees College.
- 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

- **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:

- Member in [Good Standing, Virginia State Bar \(1999\)](#) – Member of VSB Diversity Conference (2018)
- Member, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit Bar (1999)
- Founder, Disability Party (2/5/2013)
- Children of Camp LeJeune, Founder (2015)
- Life Member, Indiana University Alumni Association
- Member, United States International Council of People with Disabilities (USICD)
- Member, American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD)
- Member, National Federation of the Blind (NFB), 2018 Member # 35346
- Member, National Association of the Deaf (NAD)
- Member, VFW Affiliate (2017-2018), #2000397781
- Founder, Indiana University College Democrats, 1994
- 3x Candidate for U.S. House (IN-2, IL-8), 2011-12, 2015-2016, 2018. Pushed for ballot access accommodations under ADA for federal candidates. See, *Straw v. ISBE*, 2019-147 (Vt.)
- Signed Term Limits Pledge (Max 12 Years for U.S. House or U.S. Senate) in 2012

AWARDS/HONORS:

- National Merit Scholar
- National Science Olympiad, Gold Medal
- "Imagine E-government Award Competition National Finalist." Harvard's 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.
- [Adjudicated](#) "public figure who works on disability rights issues."

LANGUAGES:

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

POLICY/ACADEMIC EDITING

- [Columnist](#) on disability issues related to democracy, Democracy Chronicles.
- 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. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MKojwUm0qwk>
- Wrote legislation to strengthen the ADA and to protect disability rights and health privacy.
- Wrote proposed legislation to make intentionally blocking accessible features a criminal act.

CRITICAL CURRENT CASES

Straw v. Wilkie, 18-7129 (U.S. CAVC) – 2nd appeal of Camp LeJeune Family Member Program Application

Straw v. North Carolina, 7:18-cv-74-D (E.D. N.C.) – attacking statute of repose applied to Camp LeJeune

Straw v. United States, 1:18-cv-278 (E.D. Va.) – Fifth Am. damages for court Due Process violations

Straw v. IL State Bd. of Elections, 141-4-19 Wrcv (Windsor Co. Sup. Ct., Vt.) – ADA in elections

Straw v. State of Indiana, 140-4-19 Wrcv (Windsor Co. Sup. Ct., Vt.) – suspension abuse

Straw v. Village of Streamwood, IL, 139-4-19 Wrcv (Windsor Co. Sup. Ct., Vt.) – ADA snow

Straw v. IN, ISBE, STREAMWOOD, 2019-147 (Vt.) – seeking forum for Midwest ADA violations because no forum exists in the 7th Circuit zone for me.

POLICE & ETHICS REPORTS RE: 7th Circuit & district judges, and dishonest attorneys.

- U.S. Marshal, US DOJ, JCD Comm., 2018

FOUND QUALIFIED OR HIGHLY QUALIFIED OR FINALIST IN PAST 5 YEARS

U.S Access Board (www.access-board.gov) – General Counsel

U.S. Marine Corps HQ, Quantico, VA – Attorney Advisor

U.S. Army Medical Command – Attorney Advisor

U.S. Army Ninth Signal Command – Attorney Advisor

U.S. DOJ, Wisconsin – Deputy U.S. Attorney

Library of Congress, Kluge Center – Director

Indiana Disability Rights (IPAS) – Executive Director (finalist)

LA Unified School District (600,000+ students) – ADA Coordinator (finalist)

SIGNIFICANT SETTLEMENTS

Mayor Pete Buttigieg, City of South Bend, Indiana

ADA Coordinator, City of South Bend, Indiana

American Bar Association

Kane County, IL

Elgin Housing Authority

Multiple Private Entities in Cook County, Illinois, who blocked handicap parking or did not provide any

ETHICS VICTORY, FULL FAITH & CREDIT

<http://www.vsb.org/docs/Straw-062217.pdf>

DEMOCRATIC PARTY ACTIVISM

U.S. House Candidate (FEC ID: H0VT01054), VT, 2020 Vermont Democratic Party Primary

Member, Vermont Democratic Party

My Brother, [Captain Jason Lee Straw \(ret\)](#), Ran as the Democrat for Sheriff of Hamilton Co., IN, in 2018

Direct Descendant of [American Founder Dr. Thomas Young](#) (named Vermont, provided VT constitution)

Activist – Advocated to Democratic National Committee to Change Indiana Democratic Party Rules to remove mental disability discrimination. The Indiana Rules Were Changed. 2017

Sued Indiana Democratic Party at Indiana Civil Rights Commission. Won **6-0**, then lost on reconsideration when IDP lawyer claimed there is a First Amendment right not to associate with people who have mental disabilities.

U.S. House Candidate, IN-2, 2011-2012

Ran for District Chair in May 2011 Against [Butch Morgan](#), Felon for Election Signature Forgery

Advocated [Disability Access](#) at District & St. Joseph County HQ (South Bend)

Fought [Sexual Harassment](#) at South Bend Housing Authority

Sued [Pete Buttigieg](#) & City of South Bend to Improve ADA Compliance City-Wide, 2016-2017

FHWA Agreed in a Letter of Findings from its DC Civil Rights Office

Campaign Manager, Dwight Fish for Indiana House, District 21, 2010

Indiana Democratic Convention Delegate, 2010

Democrats Abroad Oceania Voter Registration, Pre-primary 2008

Featured in [Otago Daily Times](#)

State Delegate to Indiana Democratic Convention

Democratic Precinct Captain, Elected 1998

Indiana University College Democrats (IUCD)

Co-founder, 1994, Wrote IUCD constitution, 1994. IUCD Membership Director

Democratic Perspective Columnist and Editorial Board Member, Indiana Daily Student

Internet Director, IN-8 Democratic U.S. House Candidate Rick McConnell, 1996

Created Petition Against Student Loan Cuts Proposed by U.S. Rep. John Hostettler (R-IN-8)

703 signatures, including all members of Bloomington, IN, Common Council

As Law School representative to IU Student Government (IUSA), I filed a bill to oppose Student loan cuts, and Bill 96-2-8 was passed 38-3-1.

OTHER

Regional Male Convener/Leader, Deep South Region, Green Party of Aotearoa New Zealand, 2004-2005

After Discrimination from Indiana Democratic Party, Including Official Exclusion from Party Meetings, Ran as a Green Party Candidate for U.S. House in 2012, served as Indiana Delegate to Green Party National Convention, Where I Advocated for ASL Interpreter for National Convention and a Disability Caucus at the National Level.