

## **Ronnie R. Gipson Jr., JD**

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### **EDUCATION**

J.D. University of San Francisco School of Law, Dec. 2004

Honors: CALI Award in International Environment & Trade Law

Activities: Survey Editor, USF Maritime Law Journal; President, Black Law Students' Association; and Vice President, Student Bar Association

B.A. Texas A & M University, Modern Languages (French), 1990

Honors: Distinguished Student (Fall 1989)

Activities: Vice President, Student Government External Affairs Committee

### **ACADEMIC POSITIONS**

Assistant Professor of Law, University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law, August 2020- Present—Torts, Remedies, Conflict of Laws, TIP

Visiting Assistant Professor of Law, University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law, August 2020- July 2021—Torts and Contracts

Assistant Professor of Law University of La Verne College of Law, July 2017- July 2020-- Torts, Criminal Law, International Business Transactions, International Law, Remedies, and Aviation Law

Visiting Assistant Professor Soongsil University Global Law Department, September 2015 – June 2017—Comparative Civil Procedure, Comparative Constitutional Law, Comparative Criminal Law, Comparative Criminal Procedure, International Law, and International Business Transactions

Adjunct Professor Golden Gate University School of Law, Spring 2013 and Fall 2014—Aviation Law

Adjunct Professor Golden Gate University School of Law, Spring 2012, Fall 2012, Spring 2013, and Fall 2013—Practical Legal Writing

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE-** Admitted to California Bar in 2005

Law Office of Ronnie R. Gipson Jr (Attorney)—January 2015 – August 2015

Higa & Gipson, PC-(Founding Shareholder) January 2010- December 2014

Burnham Brown-(Associate Attorney) October 2006- December 2009

Cox, Wootton, Griffin, Hansen & Poulos-(Associate Attorney) July 2005- August 2006

U.S. District Court Northern District of California-(Judicial Extern) to Magistrate Judge Maria Elena James August 2002- December 2002

## **AVIATION POLICY & LEGISLATIVE CONTRIBUTIONS**

Experimental Aircraft Association (Chair—Legal Advisory Council) 2011- Present: I provide policy and legislative guidance to the organization on a wide array of legislative matters that impact aviation. An exemplary noteworthy accomplishment is a substantive policy recommendation I provided in support of creating statutory immunity for Designated Pilot Examiners which is currently under consideration by Congress. I served as a member of this organization from 2011- 2020 and assumed the leadership role in 2021.

Aircraft Owners & Pilots Association (Attorney Panel Member) 2011- 2015: As part of a national team, I provided legal support to the organization’s members as well as policy and legislative guidance to the organization on aviation issues. For instance, I provided substantive policy recommendations on pilot medical certificate reforms which were incorporated into the 2016 FAA Reauthorization bill signed into law.

## **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

My scholarly interests sit at the intersection of International law and Aviation law. Aviation law provides a wide range of research issues because the discipline touches and incorporates almost every core law school subject. For instance, the legal issues that arise in the aviation law context routinely come from any of the following areas: Constitutional law; Contract law; Criminal law; Employment law; International law; Maritime law; Administrative law, and Tort law. With such a wide array of directions to explore, aviation law serves as the perfect springboard enabling me to delve into important and technologically cutting-edge topics for scholarly work.

I am particularly interested in how the legal structures and existing international agreements between sovereign states impacts the development of legal rules worldwide on the safe integration of unmanned aerial systems into the International Airspace System. In support of the latter research topic, I participated in a study funded by NASA that examined the psychological challenges encountered by pilots when integrating unmanned aerial systems into the United States’ National Airspace System. Currently, I am working on a book proposal that will assess the legal impact that emerging technology has on shifting the duty of care of air carriers when accidents occur from failures between the human and computer interface in the cockpit environment. In addition to the book proposal, I recently published an article that

examines the trespass and privacy rights issues that the transit of drones trigger when passing through airspace that is adjacent to a landowner's property.

## **INTERNATIONAL PUBLICATIONS**

“ASEAN—A Regional Trade Pact Model for States in the Global South,” *Wash. U. Global Studies Law Review* Vol. 20, Number 2 pp.391-429 (Spring 2021).

“The Chicago Convention Should Not be Used to Create Criminals,” *Annals of Air & Space Law*, vol. XLII pp. 1-31 (2017). [Published January 31, 2019].

“Understanding Why the Vacancy on the United States Supreme Court Caused by Justice Antonin Scalia’s Death Triggered a Constitutional Crisis,” *Korean Journal for the Study on the American Constitution*, vol. 27 no.1, pp. 37-66 (April 2016).

“Can Lufthansa Successfully Limit its Liability to the Families of the Victims of Germanwings flight 9525 Under the Montreal Convention?” *Journal of Korean Air & Space Law Policy*, vol.30 no.2, pp. 279-310 (December 2015).

## **DOMESTIC PUBLICATIONS & SOLICITED EXPERT OPINIONS**

“A Lasting Peace in Taiwan Requires Independence,” *Santa Barbara Lawyer*, Issue 593, p.14 (February 2022).

“Signposts Signify Troubled Waters Ahead for Taiwan- U.S. Relations,” *Attorney at Law Magazine Seattle*, (Nov. 18, 2021).

“Qualified Immunity for police officers must be eliminated,” *Daily Memphian* (May 7, 2021); and *Commercial Appeal*, (May 12, 2021).

“How Qualified Immunity Protects Police Officers Accused of Wrongdoing,” *The Conversation*, May 4, 2021.

“The 737 MAX is ready to fly again, but plane certification still needs to be fixed – here's how,” *The Conversation [Video Interview]* October 1, 2020).

“The Rise of Drones and the Erosion of Privacy and Trespass Laws,” *The Air & Space Lawyer American Bar Association*, vol. 33, Number 3, p. 1 (September 2020).

“The FAA’s Aircraft Approval Process for Design Changes Must Be Overhauled,” *Federal Bar Assoc. Inland Empire Bar Review*, Issue 20, p.11 (Spring 2019).

- This article was cited in the U. S. House of Representatives’ Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure’s Final Committee Report on The Design, Development & Certification of the Boeing 737MAX released on September 14, 2020.

“The threat to safety of pilotless airliners,” *Westlaw Aviation Journal*, vol.35 Issue 16 (Oct. 4, 2017).

“Pilotless airliners would pose big threat to safety,” *Inland Valley Daily Bulletin*, p.A24 (Sep. 17, 2017).

“The Need for Statutory Immunity to Protect Federal Appointees from Civil Suit,” *Journal of Transportation Law, Logistics and Policy*, vol.82 pp.15-30 (1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2015).

“Space Flight Accidents Should Be Investigated by the National Transportation Safety Board”, *Westlaw Aviation Journal* (December 2, 2014).

Subject Matter Expert Contributor, “The FAA’s Recent Notice and Amazon Drone Delivery”, *Westlaw Journal Computer and Internet* (July 15, 2014).

Policy Paper Submitted on behalf of the Experimental Aircraft Association to Senator J. Inhofe on the need for statutory immunity protection to Designated Pilot Examiners when performing functions identical to FAA Inspectors (October 2013).

Contributor, Legal Q & A Section of San Francisco Apartment Association Magazine (September 2009) addressing landlord’s need for compliance with local Health Code provisions when faced with bedbug infestation caused by tenants.

Contributor, Legal Q & A Section of San Francisco Apartment Association Magazine (August 2009) addressing landlord’s repair obligations when presented with warranty of habitability issues.

Contributor, Legal Q & A Section of San Francisco Apartment Association Magazine (July 2009) addressing landlord’s concerns for a subtenant who refuses to return possession to master tenant.

Contributor, Legal Q & A Section of San Francisco Apartment Association Magazine (April 2009) addressing landlord’s response to nuisance claims from tenants.

## **LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS**

Presenter, “Drones & Being A Good Neighbor” sponsored by EAA Legal Advisory Council on July 28, 2021, at Air Venture in Oshkosh, WI

Presenter, “International Aviation Accident Investigations Under ICAO Annex 13,” Pericles Law Institute on September 8, 2020, in Moscow, Russia via Internet link.

Presenter, “Drone Law: New Rules New Rules and Legal Best Practices for the Use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems,” National Business Institute CLE Seminar April 20, 2020, in Eau Claire, WI via Internet link.

Chair & Moderator for Keynote Speech by Eduardo Angeles, at the Aviation Law Symposium—developing and Managing City/County Airports sponsored by the University of La Verne Law Review in La Verne, California on January 24, 2020

Panelist, “Teaching Abroad: For Visitorships, Sabbaticals, Retirement and Summer Programs,” sponsored by the Association of American Law Schools Arc of Career Program on January 5, 2020, in Washington D.C.

Presenter, “BREXIT’s Impact on Global Trade and Regional Security” sponsored by the University of La Verne College of Law on October 9, 2019, in Ontario, CA

Presenter, “Hot Topics in Aviation Law” sponsored by EAA Legal Advisory Council on July 27, 2019, at Air Venture in Oshkosh, WI

Presenter, “International Free Trade Thrives through the Use of Regional Trade Pacts” Athens Institute for Education and Research in Athens, Greece on July 15, 2019

Presenter, “737 MAX Grounding by the FAA Explained” University of La Verne College of Law on March 19, 2019, in Ontario, CA

Presenter, “Drone Law: What You Need to Know Now! New Rules and Legal Best Practices for the Use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems,” National Business Institute CLE Seminar Feb. 2019, in Eau Claire, WI.

Panel Moderator, “Representing an Airmen in Government Investigations After an Accident/Incident” sponsored by the EAA Legal Advisory Council on July 27, 2018, in Oshkosh, WI

Presenter, “Decriminalizing Pilot Error” University of Sharjah Conference on Contemporary Issues in Air & Space Laws in Dubai, United Arab Emirates on February 22, 2017

Presenter, “Can Lufthansa Successfully Invoke Article 20 of the Montreal Convention to Limit its Liability to the Families of the Victims of Germanwings flight 9525?” Godang 5<sup>th</sup> International Conference in Seoul, Korea on November 25, 2015

Presenter, “Demystifying the FAA Enforcement Process” sponsored by the FAA Wings Program at California Airways on May 23, 2015, in Hayward, CA

Presenter, “Understanding the FAA Enforcement Process” sponsored by the Salinas Owners and Pilots Association on April 14, 2015, in Salinas, CA

Presenter, “Risk Awareness: Understanding Pilot & Aircraft Owner Liability to Passengers” sponsored by San Carlos Flight Center on October 11, 2014, in San Carlos, CA

Presenter, “The FAA Enforcement Process and the Pilot’s Bill of Rights” sponsored by the Tracy Airport Association on September 9, 2014, in Tracy, CA

Panelist, “Ramp Checks, Customs & Border Patrol Stops, and FAA Calls” sponsored by EAA on August 1, 2014, at Air Venture 2014 in Oshkosh, WI

Presenter, “Understanding the FAA’s Enforcement Process” sponsored by the Experimental Aircraft Association on June 5, 2014, and April 10, 2014, San Francisco Bay Area Airports

Presenter, “Effective Motion Writing for Young Lawyers” CLE Credit sponsored by the San Francisco Bar Association on March 11, 2014

Presenter, “Effective Motion Writing for Young Lawyers” sponsored by the Asian American Bar Association on September 18, 2013

Panelist, “Implementation of the Pilots Bill of Rights” sponsored by EAA on August 2, 2013, at Air Venture 2013 in Oshkosh, WI

Panelist, “Avoiding Liability When Buying General Aviation Aircraft” sponsored by EAA on July 26, 2012, at Air Venture 2012 in Oshkosh, WI

Presenter, “The Pilots Bill of Rights Impact on the FAA Enforcement Process” sponsored by the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association on October 2, 2013, August 30, 2012, and September 20, 2011, San Francisco Bay Area & Sacramento Airports

## **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

Chartered Institute of Arbitrators London (Member) 2018- Present

Asian American Bar Association, Member 2005-2015

Charles Houston Bar Association, Member 2005-2007

International Air & Transportation Safety Bar Association, Member 2010-2015

Aircraft Owners & Pilots Association, Panel Counsel- 2006-2015

Experimental Aircraft Association, Chair of the Legal Advisory Council- 2021- Present

Experimental Aircraft Association, Member of the Legal Advisory Council- 2011-2021