



**TITLE:** The Rural America Our Legal System Has Left Behind

**SESSION DATE:** October 7, 2021

**SESSION TIME:** 10:00 AM – 11:15 AM

**SESSION DESCRIPTION:**

People living in rural communities face unique legal needs and challenges, including access to legal resources and court systems. That legal isolation has been further exacerbated over the last year by the pandemic. Cassie Chambers, acclaimed author of *Hill Women*, will share her thoughts and experiences on these topics, as well as the predicaments for legal services organizations in addressing these concerns. She will also discuss some successful collaborative partnerships in Kentucky between policymakers and the judiciary around helping low-income folks access court systems.

**SPEAKER:**



***Cassie Chambers—Author of *Hill Women****

Cassie Chambers Armstrong is an Assistant Professor of Law at the University of Louisville, Brandeis School of Law. Her research focuses on access to justice, particularly in regards to rural courts. Professor Armstrong is a 2015 graduate of Harvard Law School, where she was President of the Legal Aid Bureau. She subsequently was selected to be a Skadden Fellow and, with that award began her career as a legal aid attorney at the Louisville Legal Aid Society and, subsequently, the Kentucky Equal Justice System. In those roles she provided legal services to low-income clients in rural areas and designed systems to promote access to justice.

Professor Armstrong received a B.A. from Yale College, *summa cum laude*, in 2010, an M.P.H. from Yale in 2011 and an M.Sc. in Public Management and Governance from the London School of Economics in 2012.

She is a native Kentuckian, having grown up in eastern Kentucky. Her book, *Hill Women: Finding Family and a Way Forward in the Appalachian Mountains* was published by Random House in 2020.

She was elected to Louisville Metro Council in June 2020, and lives in Louisville, Kentucky, with her husband and two sons.

**PRODUCERS:**

***Professor Ellen Wright Clayton***

***Hon. Martha Craig “Cissy” Daughtrey***

***Mary Taylor Gallagher***