

# KEITH A. PORCARO

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## *Current Work*

### **Fellow**

#### **Berkman Klein Center for Internet & Society at Harvard University**

September 2017 – present

- Conducts research on data governance, trusts, and digital interfaces to legal systems.

### **Adjunct Professor of Law**

#### **Georgetown University Law Center**

September 2017 – present

- Teaches practicum on Criminal Justice Technology, Policy, and Law.

### **Co-founder/Principal**

#### **Digital Public**

January 2017 – present

- Researches, develops, and implements digital civic trusts, a model for communities and organizations to protect and govern their digital assets.

#### *Select Writing*

- [This one weird trick prevents cancer research from going up in smoke](#), Medium, 2016.
- [The Civic Trust](#) (with Sean McDonald), Medium, 2015.
- [In Trust, Data. Or: Why Ello is Answering the Wrong Question](#), 2014

#### *Select Presentations*

- RightsCon 2016 – *Trusts for Digital Governance* (with Sean McDonald)

#### *Recognition*

- Echoing Green 2014 – Data Trusts A legal model for using trusts for governance and ownership of user data.

## *Past Positions*

### **CTO / General Counsel**

#### **SIMLab (formerly FrontlineSMS)**

January 2014 – September 2017

#### *Past positions:*

Head of Technology and Development / General Counsel (October 2015 – October 2016)

Legal Project Director (January 2014 – September 2015)

- Led technology initiatives for DC-based nonprofit. Worked with governments, libraries, legal aid organizations, social service providers, and other organizations use technology to build more accessible, responsive, and resilient systems and services.
- Leads Google Impact Award-funded project to build a process tracking system to facilitate the delivery of ~85,000 titles to landless families in Odisha, India (joint project with Landesa).
- Developed American human services portfolio, building technology projects with legal and social service providers. Clients include Duke Law School, Bay Area Legal Aid, Legal Aid of Nebraska, KIPP

Delta, Mississippi Access to Justice Commission, Nonprofit Risk Management Center, and DC Public Library.

- Designed and coded technology prototypes, including legal aid lookup tools and serverless rules engines.
- Conducted technology trainings for civil society organizations in Iraq, Myanmar, and India.
- Leads SIMLab's in-house legal duties.
- Managed spin-off of FrontlineSMS into separate social enterprise.

#### *Select Publications*

- [Building Public Service Ecosystems](#), Medium, 2017
- [Making Public Services Explorable](#), Medium, 2016
- [Whispering When Everyone is Listening: Technology Deployments in High-Risk Environments](#). (with Laura Walker Hudson). Communications technology and humanitarian delivery: challenges and opportunities for security risk management, European Interagency Security Forum, 2014
- [Worse Than Food, Better than Nothing](#). Engineering For Change, 2015.

#### *Media*

- ABA Journal, June 2016 – “10 Questions: Crafting tech solutions for legal aid”

#### *Select Presentations*

- Legal Services Corporation - 2017 Technology Innovation Grants Conference
  - *How I learned to stop worrying and love evaluations*
  - *Rapid Fire Technology Talk – Making Legal Services Explorable*
- Legal Services Corporation - Technology Innovation Grants 2016 Conference
  - *Thinking in Ecosystems*
  - *Rapid Fire Technology Talk – Making Complexity Friendly*
- 2015 World Bank Land and Poverty Conference – The Digital Land Lab
- 2015 World Bank Law, Justice, and Development Week

#### *Recognition:*

- USAID Harnessing the Data Revolution for Resilience – Early Impact Finalist

#### *Additional Projects*

- *Friendly* – Form builder and document assembly tool for non-coders.
- *Mush* – Transmit files over SMS, without the internet.

**Chief Operating Officer**, Uncharted Play (New York, NY) August 2012 – January 2013

**Content Strategist / Manager Legal & Ops**, Reboot September 2011 – August 2012

#### *Education*

**Juris Doctor, Duke University School of Law, May 2011**

Publications: “Private Ordering & Orphan Works: Our Least Worst Hope?” (2010 Duke L. & Tech. Rev. 015)  
Technical Editor, Duke Law & Technology Review | Pro Bono Certificate

**BSFS, International Politics (International Development), Georgetown University School of Foreign Service, May 2008**

Mandarin immersion program, Harbin Institute of Technology, Harbin, China

**Licensed to practice law in California (#281464).**

Languages: Mandarin (intermediate proficiency)

Technical Competencies: Python, Ruby, Elixir, Elm, Groovy, JavaScript, HTML/CSS