



SUFFOLK  
UNIVERSITY  
LAW SCHOOL

# LIT LAB



LEGAL  
INNOVATION &  
TECHNOLOGY

Legal Innovation & Technology Lab Affiliates Program



Through its new **Affiliates Program**, the **LIT Lab** provides members with connections to experts and law students working with emerging legal services technologies, while growing the LIT Lab's capacity to serve disadvantaged communities.



The **Legal Innovation & Technology Lab** (LIT Lab) is a collaboration between Suffolk Law's Clinical Program and Institute on Legal Innovation and Technology. At the core of the nation's **#1-ranked legal technology program**, the LIT Lab:

- Expands the public's access to urgently needed legal services, information, and ultimately, to justice.
- Enables law firms, courts, legal services providers, and corporate legal departments to become more efficient and effective through innovation and technology.





The LIT Lab's  
**achievements** have  
attracted significant  
media coverage,  
including stories by  
*The New York Times*,  
*NBC News Boston*,  
and *The Chronicle  
of Higher Education*.

## LIT LAB INITIATIVES

The LIT Lab develops cutting-edge innovations to benefit its partners, clients, and diverse communities, while educating future lawyers. To carry out its work, the LIT Lab integrates the pedagogy and service-oriented mission of Suffolk Law's Clinical Programs, which are regularly ranked in the top 15 of all clinical programs across the nation.

Through the LIT Lab, students gain experience in research and development focused on legal tech and data science. The LIT Lab's achievements have been highlighted by national media, such as *The New York Times*, *NBC News Boston*, and *The Chronicle of Higher Education*.

### Those achievements include:

**THE DOCUMENT ASSEMBLY LINE PROJECT:** The LIT Lab is leading an international team of volunteers to create open-source, mobile-friendly, accessible versions of online court forms and pro se materials in multiple languages. Underserved communities gain more control over legal processes through access to dozens of easy-to-use guided interviews and forms which are housed at [CourtFormsOnline.org](https://CourtFormsOnline.org).

Created by the LIT Lab during the COVID-19 pandemic, when there was no physical access to courts, these forms (and the tools behind them) will continue to be valuable for millions of people, including rural and low-income litigants. For example, this technology can support domestic violence survivors who apply for abuse prevention orders, allowing them to upload evidence and draft affidavits without having to visit a courthouse. Tools developed by the project also help litigants to locate appropriate courts for legal matters.

**SPOT:** This AI-powered legal issues spotter is made freely available by the LIT Lab to non-profit organizations. When you provide a simple, non-technical description of a problem to Spot, it responds with a list of possible legal issues. For example, a person might type, "I'm getting kicked out of my apartment," and Spot could help connect that person with eviction-related resources in the relevant jurisdiction. Legal aid providers and non-profits can use Spot to address the public's legal needs by helping to screen and direct potential clients. Spot can also aid researchers who wish to mine unlabeled historic texts, such as small claims filings or internet forums, so that they can understand the mix of issues that confront a community. Support for this project was provided by The Pew Charitable Trusts.



## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP LEVELS FOR AFFILIATES

**SILVER: \$10,000**

Entry level membership for individuals as well as companies and firms.

**GOLD: \$20,000**

Recommended for smaller companies and firms.

**PLATINUM: \$40,000**

Recommended for large companies and firms.

## LEADERSHIP AND STAFF

The LIT Lab's Director is David Colarusso. He works with the Lab's small team, which includes nationally recognized leaders in the legal technology field, three of whom have been named by Fastcase as among the legal industry's "smartest, most courageous innovators, techies, visionaries, & leaders." Quinten Steenhuis is a Practitioner in Residence in the Legal Innovation and Technology Lab. Quinten works on projects addressing social justice and access to justice with technology focusing on the topic of housing and evictions.

## BECOME AN AFFILIATE OF THE LIT LAB

Affiliates contribute to the LIT Lab's mission by supporting advances in research, curriculum, and program development, including projects that increase access to justice and facilitate the creation of open-source tools.





**The Document  
Assembly Line Project**

has expanded into other jurisdictions, most recently Louisiana and Illinois. Support for this project was provided by The Pew Charitable Trusts.

**BENEFITS**

SILVER  
GOLD  
PLATINUM

Public recognition as a LIT Lab Affiliate (print as well as online), including recognition in the LIT Lab's community-serving initiatives	✓	✓	✓
Regular updates about current and future LIT Lab activities, including student/faculty projects	✓	✓	✓
Passes to the annual LIT Con event, which brings together leaders in legal tech, clinical education, and access to justice, along with the opportunity to nominate speakers and suggest topics for the event		✓	✓
Opportunities to meet with LIT Lab students to offer mentorship and discuss possible employment		✓	✓
Participation in the LIT Lab's annual planning meeting, including previews and demonstrations of student/faculty projects			✓

**\* The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation** made a recent gift to the LIT Lab's initiative to increase access to essential legal services.



**FOR MORE  
INFORMATION VISIT  
OUR WEBSITE:**  
<https://suffolklitlab.org/>

**CONTACTS:**

**GABRIEL TENINBAUM**

*Assistant Dean of Innovation, Strategic  
Initiatives, & Distance Education  
and Professor of Legal Writing*

Office: 617-305-6208

Email: [gteninbaum@suffolk.edu](mailto:gteninbaum@suffolk.edu)

**NANCY P. GALINDO-RODRIGUEZ**

*Director, Corporate Relations  
and Sponsorships*

Office: 617-573-8454

Email: [npgalindo@suffolk.edu](mailto:npgalindo@suffolk.edu)





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