This book seeks to illuminate what we call the cultural lives of cause lawyers by examining their representation in various popular media (including film, fiction, mass-marketed nonfiction, television, and journalism), the work they do as creators of cultural products, and the way those representations and products are received and consumed by various audiences. By attending to media representations and the culture work done by cause lawyers, we can see what material is available for citizens and others to use in fashioning understandings of those lawyers. This book also provides a vehicle for determining whether, how, and to what extent cause lawyering is embedded in the discourses and symbolic practices around which ordinary citizens organize their understanding of social, political, and legal life.

This book brings together research on the legal profession and work that takes up the analysis of popular culture. Contributors include scholars of popular culture who turn their attention to cause lawyers and experts on cause lawyering who in turn focus their attention on popular culture. This is a joining of perspectives that is both long overdue and fruitful for both kinds of scholarship.

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The Cultural Lives of Cause Lawyers

Edited by

Austin Sarat
Amherst College

Stuart Scheingold
University of Washington
To my son Ben,

in celebration of his many gifts and the joy he brings to my life (A.S.)
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Acknowledgments

We are grateful to the scholars whose work is collected in this book and with whom we have collaborated. Some are veterans of the cause lawyering project; others are newcomers to it. Yet, each of them made important contributions to the conceptualization of the project as well as to its execution. We are also grateful to Greg Coy, the Dean of the Faculty of Amherst College, for his generous financial support and interest in our work. Almost a decade ago, Amherst College provided a congenial setting for our first cause lawyering conference. We were delighted to have the chance to return. Finally, we owe a debt of gratitude to whatever twist of fate brought the two of us to think about cause lawyering. Our joint work, as organizers, editors, and authors, has been, and remains, for both of us, a treasure.
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