

## Bio for Kayla K. Brochu

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Kayla K. Brochu (née Bakshi) is a veteran human rights lawyer, human trafficking expert, and child protection advocate. She currently serves as a Professorial Lecturer on Human Trafficking at the George Washington University, Elliott School of International Affairs and operates a law practice centered on human rights and children's security in the United States. Ms. Brochu also advises philanthropic organizations, including the M. Night Shyamalan Foundation and provides subject matter expertise for multiple public interest organizations and private enterprises. She serves as *pro bono* counsel to foster children in Philadelphia as well.

Previously, Ms. Brochu served as a federal prosecutor for the United States Department of Justice (DOJ). There, she specialized in human trafficking, civil rights, and child exploitation cases. She led prosecutions of hundreds of cases to vindicate the rights of vulnerable victims including many foreign nationals. She earned numerous awards for her exceptional success on cases and at trial, including commendations from the Attorney General of the United States, The Federal Bureau of Investigation, The Department of Homeland Security, multiple United States Attorney's offices, and victim advocacy groups. Recognized at DOJ as an outstanding communicator, Ms. Brochu was selected to teach the highly regarded child-trafficking course at the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, to coach cadets at the FBI Academy on techniques for interviewing traumatized victims, and to represent the United States with delegations from more than 30 different countries.

While at DOJ, Ms. Brochu initiated crucial improvements. On human trafficking cases, she pioneered the use of neuroscience in working victims and witnesses who suffered trauma. She also instituted practices to better access traffickers' assets through forfeiture and money laundering charges and for prosecutors to demand prompt restitution for victims. Ms. Brochu drew early attention to the need for enhanced legal safeguards for undocumented foreign victims of human trafficking who work with law enforcement. **In a different vein, while at DOJ, Ms. Brochu became a subject matter expert on the convergence of technology, trafficking, and child exploitation, which encompasses such topics as user-generated pornography sites, e-currency, the dark-web, encryption, and content-moderation policy.**

**Ms. Brochu took that knowledge to her next role at the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime in Vienna, Austria, where she served as an expert consultant on the subject of technology-facilitated sexual abuse of children.** For that role, she documented not only the previous decade of law enforcement of child exploitation and trafficking crimes which involved novel technology, but also worked with industry leaders to prepare law enforcement for the years ahead. As part of this work, she harnessed the knowledge of public and private experts from around the world through multiple convenings. Based on that work and independent research, she authored the United Nations' authoritative *Comprehensive Study on the Effects of New Information Technologies on the Abuse and Exploitation of Children* (2014). While working for the United Nations, Ms. Brochu also served as the representative for North America on the Child Protection Model Law Global Initiative led by the International Center for Missing and Exploited Children. She also served as a subject matter expert for the United States' first large-scale study of labor trafficking within the United States that was published as *Understanding the Organization, Operation, and Victimization Process of Labor Trafficking in the United States*. (2014).

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Ms. Brochu earned a *Juris Doctorate* from Harvard Law School along with a Master of Business Administration from Harvard Business School. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from the University of Virginia. She is a member of the legal bar associations for California, Pennsylvania, and Washington D.C. She is admitted to practice in multiple Federal District and Circuit Courts as well as the Supreme Court of the United States.

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