Judge Richard Gergel is a United States District Judge who sits in Charleston, South Carolina. He is a native of Columbia, South Carolina and is a graduate of Duke University and the Duke University School of Law. He is the author of Unexampled Courage: The Blinding of Sgt. Isaac Woodard and the Awakening of President Harry Truman and Judge J. Waties Waring and co-authored with his wife, Dr. Belinda Gergel, In Search of the Tree of Life: The Early Jews of Columbia, South Carolina.

Attorney Robert Rosen is a shareholder in the Rosen Law Firm, LLC in Charleston, South Carolina. He received his B.A. degree in history from the University of Virginia in 1969, his M.A. degree in History from Harvard University in 1970, and his J.D. degree from the University of South Carolina School of Law in 1973. He is the author of A Short History of Charleston, the bestselling history of the city, Confederate Charleston: An Illustrated History of the City and the People During the Civil War, and The Jewish Confederates, all published by the University of South Carolina Press; Charleston: A Crossroads of History with Isabella Leland; Saving the Jews: Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Holocaust.

Avi Dresner is the son of the legendary civil rights activist Rabbi Israel “Sy” Dresner, who passed away on January 13, 2022, at 92 years old. Rabbi Dresner, often referred to as “the most arrested rabbi in America,” was a close friend of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and was actively involved in recruiting other rabbis to join the civil rights struggle. Rabbi Dresner was involved in the early freedom rides in 1961 and in Dr. King’s major civil rights campaigns in St. Augustine, Florida, Albany, Georgia, and Selma, Alabama. Avi is a freelance writer and journalist and is actively engaged in promoting the legacy of his father and is the co-executive producer of an upcoming documentary film titled “The Rabbi and the Reverend” that tells the story of Dr. King’s and his father’s close collaboration.

Dr. Gary Phillip Zola is the Executive Director of The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives (AJA) and the Edward M. Ackerman Family Distinguished Professor of the American Jewish Experience & Reform Jewish History at Hebrew Union College–Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR) in Cincinnati where he received both his rabbinic ordination and his Ph.D. in American Jewish History. He specializes in 19th-century American Judaism and the history of American Reform Judaism. He has written dozens of scholarly articles and numerous books including We Called Him Rabbi Abraham: Lincoln and American Jewry and Isaac Harby of Charleston, a major biographical study on the life of one of the founders of the first organized effort to reform Judaism in the United States. His most recent publication is New Perspectives in American Jewish History, co-edited with Mark A. Raider and published by Brandeis University Press, a commemorative volume in honor of their teacher, Dr. Jonathan D. Sarna.