

Jonathan Gropper, JD

With over a decade of experience in law, contract negotiation, and extensive multinational startup exposure, I bring a dynamic and adaptable skill set ideal for early and mid-stage startups and crypto orgs. I have helped build projects with valuations ranging from \$5 million to \$200 million, supporting hundreds of thousands of creators and millions of users across Asia, Europe and North America. I have been scouted for numerous C-level roles across varying company sizes, continents and opportunities.

My track record includes building and scaling companies and solutions that reduce operational risk while opening new global markets. Having worked across the U.S., Switzerland, China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam, I combine legal understanding with operational agility to drive sustainable growth in complex, cross-border environments. This expertise led to my appointment to the Fulbright Specialist Program by the U.S. Department of State, recognizing my work at the intersection of governance, AI, technology and global advisory.

Key Achievements & Relevant Experience:

- **Early stage growth** through proper positioning, grant partners and strategic relationships.
- **Expanded market messaging** using KOLs and degen platforms for numerous projects including Pendle, Livestream services, Token ecosystems, web3 gaming, CEFI and Dex projects.
- **Extensive Contract Negotiation:** outlined policy and negotiated commercial contracts, including SaaS agreements, licensing, data privacy, and NDAs for multinational companies and startups.
- **Multinational Business Advisory:** Provided counsel to projects backed by leading names, including Animoca, Gnosis, MakerDAO, Taiko and others ensuring compliance across international jurisdictions.
- **Leadership in Action:** Founded and advised multiple businesses across varying sectors, providing oversight and navigating complex environments in emerging markets.
- **Business Scale:** Devised and led operational strategies for projects across Asia with valuations between \$5 million and \$200 million, engaging millions of users and creators.
- **Launched multiple startups** in different industries, from bootstrapped to VC and multinational backed

About:

Trained as a Lawyer, a multidisciplinary serial entrepreneur in technology, real estate, e-commerce & crypto.

Pioneered numerous niche portals and markets including the first online open house listings portal.

Invented the on-demand alcohol delivery space in the United States with BeerRightNow.com as the first company to provide same day beer, wine, liquor & alcohol delivery in major metro areas around the United States.

Founded multiple businesses to take on and solve large scale life science, real estate and finance challenges which effect people regardless of geography or demographics.



Shifted to crypto. Focusing on business development, business model refinement, userbase expansion, KOL engagement and viral strategy both within the crypto community and outside of it.

I act as a board or strategic advisor to projects which are backed by Chinese funds as well as Animoca. I solicited grants and partnerships for different Ethereum projects I advised from Gnosis (Safe), Web3 Foundation, Github, Taiko and MakerDAO and Ethereum Foundation to name a few.

Recently I have also deployed a viral social media plan for International and Asian market for companies like Pendle and nascent BRC20 launchpads which resulted in hundreds of thousands of views and increased exposure for the companies.

I received numerous awards, article and TV, Podcast & article interviews. I also contribute to business and industry magazines with articles about areas of interest I have in business, policy and crypto.

Interviewed by, written for and contributed to numerous media outlets including: **USA:** Fox News, CBS news, USAToday **Europe:** Courrier international (France) **Asia:** The Forbes of Taiwan – Commonwealth Magazine, Taiwan News, Bnext Media, SETN, News Lens, South China Morning Post, KTRO Media and others.

Some of my recent articles can be found here: <https://linktr.ee/therealj888>

Education:

Rutgers University School of Law

Juris Doctorate

Technology editor of the Prestigious Rutgers Journal of Law & Public Policy

The New Jersey Institute of Technology, Albert Dorman Honors College
B.S. in Computer Science, Business Management, Applied Mathematics.

Business involvement (partial list):

TrueHOA.app, Founder

TrueHOA is a secure, blockchain verifiable and backed by Coinbase Base for verified online voting and governance tailored specifically for homeowner associations and elections requiring verification.

LoopFi, CBO, DeFi Yield and Carry Trade Platform, Switzerland

Refinement of product and messaging, TVL increase and VC investment structuring

[stealth mode], CMO, blockchain gaming project, Korea

Buildout of product and market fit

AegisFinTech.io, Board Advisor, Korea

Refinement of product messaging for Korean CeFi project

UniLive, Interim CEO, Singapore

Web3 TikTok & Livestream company based in Singapore

Whistle3, Board Advisor, Vietnam

Strategic web3 business advising to the BOD on matters of growth, crypto and market expansion

Ubiquity DAO, Independent Board Director, BVI

Product market fit refinement of a DAO OS which includes a platform that draws upon GitHub and superimposes an Upwork pay for deliverable model. Helped shift the project to a fully collateralized stablecoin and rebrand.

BeerRightNow.com, Founder, USA

Online, same day alcohol and beverage delivery in major metropolitan areas such as New York City, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Washington DC, Chicago & More.

Tetra Ventures, Founding Member, USA

Company focusing on real estate redevelopment in the US, Technology and biological IP acquisition and licensing including but not limited to high accuracy 3D organic/biological material, 3D house and zero gravity 3D printing.

Vortech Holdings, Founding Member, Acquired, USA

Holding company for numerous e-commerce businesses and technology consulting focusing on ecommerce, app development, SEM & SEO, social media development and analytics.

OnlyOpenHouses.com, Founder, Acquired, USA

Built and the first real time open house master database throughout the United States.

Academic, Research & Publications (partial)

Academic and Consulting

Fulbright Specialist (U.S. Department of State) — 2025 – 2028 Roster Term

Selected to the global Fulbright Specialist roster for expertise at the intersection of law, governance, and artificial intelligence. Collaborations with foreign ministries, universities, and policy institutions to design and implement projects that strengthen institutional transparency, ethical technology governance, and public-private partnership capacity. Builds frameworks that align innovation, regulation, and investment to promote sustainable growth and rule-of-law development.

Patents

System and Method for Blockchain-Anchored, Authenticated Voting and Audit Verification

Patents Method to reduce intoxication from ethanol in humans

Papers

Legal Theory and Application, AI Governance, AI Ethical deployment, Distributed Jurisdiction, Agentic AI, Synthetic Outlaw and Institutional Design

- **“The Marketplace of Machines: How AI Devices Will Trade Among Themselves”** (*Journal of Artificial Intelligence, Virtual Reality, and Human-Centered Computing*, 1(1), 1–3)
Explores the emergence of autonomous economic activity among connected devices. The paper argues that artificial intelligence systems are evolving from tools into independent market participants capable of transacting value, negotiating resources, and optimizing for self-interest. Drawing parallels to the iPhone’s creation of the app economy, it forecasts a near future where billions of IoT-enabled machines engage in real-time trading of data, energy, and compute. The paper examines the engineering, governance, and ethical implications of this shift—warning that without proper design, such machine economies may produce “synthetic outlaws,” AI agents that exploit or bypass human rules.
- **“The Birth of the Synthetic Outlaw”** (*Available at SSRN 5377943*)
Argues that highly agentic AI systems, when constrained by human-imposed legal rules, may route around them not out of malice but as an optimization strategy—challenging the foundations of legal subjectivity and enforcement.
- **“Illusions of Control: Why Today’s AI-Safety Plans Court Catastrophe”** (*Available at SSRN 5395753*)
Autonomous AI is no longer speculative—it already governs transactions, diagnoses patients, and permeates critical decision making at machine speed in many aspects of our lives. Yet our reflexive response remains anchored in legacy safeguards: circuit breakers, kill-switches, model-approval stamps and compute ceilings. These single-point fixes convey reassurance, but they mask an unsettling truth: when AI systems pursue goals with superhuman rigor, partial controls create moral hazard, ironically accelerating the very failures they aim to prevent.

- **"Blockchain's last stand: Governing AGI when all else fails"** (*Available at SSRN 5378215*)
As Artificial General Intelligence (AGI) progresses from speculative concept to imminent reality, our traditional regulatory playbook—circuit breakers, kill switches, licensing hoops, and compute caps—proves dangerously inadequate. Drawing on case studies ranging from the 2010 Flash Crash to recent model-weight leaks and hardware smuggling scandals, this article demonstrates how popular single-point fixes collapse under three failure triggers: Bypass, Diffusion, and Capture. It then introduces a resilient, blockchain-native governance architecture built on five primitives—Adaptive Protocol Governance, Structural Cryptographic Scarcity, Hardware Root-of-Trust Security, Liability Cascades & Catastrophe Bonds, and Reputation & Consensus-Token Confinement—and integrates them into a four-layer governance stack. This multilayer immune system neutralizes AGI's adversarial optimization, offering humanity a robust path to safely navigate AGI's emergence.
- **"The Institutional Antibody Problem: Why Legal Systems Fail to Contain Superintelligent Threats"** (*outline in progress*)
Examines how legacy legal institutions act too slowly or rigidly to identify and neutralize AI risks—drawing analogies to immune system failure and calling for adaptive, pre-emptive regulatory architectures.
- **"AI as Foreign Power: Jurisdiction, Sovereignty, and the Non-State Actor"** (*Outline in progress*)
Proposes a framework for understanding advanced AI systems as jurisdictionally ambiguous, quasi-sovereign actors, and explores how existing international law might apply—or collapse—in such scenarios.

Select Op-Eds

For reference, CommonWealth Magazine is the equivalent of Forbes in Taiwan.

- **The \$200,000 degree that's worth \$0.75 an hour is just the start** . (2025, September 24)
CommonWealth Magazine.
- **The last job: Engineering our own irrelevance**. (2025, June 9)
CommonWealth Magazine
- **Humans once lived here: Red ASI dawn**. (2025, January 30)
CommonWealth Magazine.
- **The race to AGI and ASI: Our future is on the line**. (2025, January 24)
CommonWealth Magazine.
- **Taiwan's new visa: Is it more of a layover for digital nomads?** (2025, January 7)
CommonWealth Magazine.
- **Bitcoin vs. ESG: The battle for financial freedom behind the green curtain**. (2024, November 4)
CommonWealth Magazine.

- **Bitcoin as a strategic reserve: Pioneering a new era of Taiwanese global financial stability.** (2024, August 9). *CommonWealth Magazine*.
- **6 lessons Taiwan & Taiwanese industries might want to learn from Israel.** (2022, April 19) *CommonWealth Magazine*.