Joshua S. Sellers

University of Texas School of Law
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Academic Appointments

University of Texas School of Law **2023-Present**
Professor of Law
COURSES: Constitutional Law I, Election Law, Law and Politics Colloquium

Arizona State University, Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law **2017-2023**
Associate Professor of Law (with tenure)
COURSES: Constitutional Law I, Civil Procedure, Election Law, Congress and the Courts, The New Deal

University of Oklahoma College of Law Oxford Summer Program (Brasenose College) **2017**
Associate Professor of Law
COURSES: Legislation & Regulation

University of Oklahoma College of Law **2015-2017**
Associate Professor of Law
COURSES: Civil Procedure I, Civil Procedure II, Election Law, Legislation & Regulation

Syracuse University Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs **2014-2015**
Michael O. Sawyer Post-Doctoral Fellow in Law and Politics
COURSES: Constitutional Law I (Undergraduate), Constitutional Law II (Undergraduate), Election Law (Undergraduate)

SUNY – Finger Lakes Community College **2012**
Adjunct Instructor
COURSES: Introduction to American Government (Undergraduate)

Honors and Awards

Berlin Prize, American Academy in Berlin **2022**

- The Berlin Prize fellowships are awarded annually to American or US-based scholars, writers, composers, and artists who represent the highest standards of excellence in their fields. Fellows spend a semester at the Academy's Hans Arnhold Center in Berlin

Education

University of Chicago Law School **2008**
J.D.
Articles Editor, *University of Chicago Law Review*
Appellate Advocacy Clinic (Seventh Circuit oral argument)
Norval Morris Public Interest Fellowship

University of Chicago Department of Political Science **2014**
Ph.D.
DISSERTATION TITLE: The "Crown Jewel" at a Crossroads: Appraising the Contemporary Political Function of the Voting Rights Act
DISSERTATION COMMITTEE: Bernard E. Harcourt (Chair), Adam B. Cox, Gerald N. Rosenberg, Robert Gooding-Williams

University of Chicago Department of Political Science **2005**
M.A.

University of Michigan-Ann Arbor **2001**
B.A., Political Science and Afroamerican and African Studies
University Honors
Varsity Track and Field (captain)

Judicial Clerkship

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, Miami, FL **2008-2009**
Judge Rosemary Barkett

Publications

A Voting Rights Catastrophe, The Regulatory Review (Jul. 14, 2026), https://www.theregreview.org/2026/07/14/series-a-voting-rights-catastrophe/

Regulatory Responses to Electoral Challenges and Democratic Deficits, *in* REGULATION IN A TURBULENT ERA (Cary Coglianese & Daniel E. Walters eds. forthcoming 2026)

Texas Primary Election Highlights the Hazards of Unnecessary Election Changes, STATE COURT REPORT (Mar. 24, 2026), https://statecourtreport.org/our-work/analysis-opinion/texas-primary-election-highlights-hazards-unnecessary-election-changes

Nationalization Nonsense: America's Decentralized Elections and Trump's Election Interference, Verfassungsblog (Feb. 17, 2026), https://verfassungsblog.de/us-voting-trump-nationalization/

Political Realignment and the Prospect of Electoral Reform, NYU Law Democracy Project (Oct. 28, 2025), https://democracyproject.org/posts/political-realignment-and-the-prospect-of-electoral-reform

The Texas Gambit, Verfassungsblog (Aug. 10, 2025), https://verfassungsblog.de/texas-gerrymandering-us/

The U.S. President's Electoral Power Play, Verfassungsblog (Apr. 11, 2025), https://verfassungsblog.de/the-u-s-presidents-electoral-power-play/

Originalism, Election Law, and Democratic Self-Government 76 FLA. L. REV. 1613 (2024)

Political Parties and Primary Elections, *in* THE OXFORD HANDBOOK OF AMERICAN ELECTION LAW (Eugene Mazo ed. 2024)

Comparative Voter Registration: Lessons from Abroad for Improving Access and Accuracy in the United States, White Paper, Institute for Responsive Government (2024), https://responsivegov.org/research/comparative-voter-registration-lessons-from-abroad-for-improving-access-and-accuracy-in-the-united-states/

Electoral Adequacy, 132 YALE L.J. FORUM 352 (2022)

American Democracy's Polycrisis, 36 Berlin Journal 60 (2022)

How Bad Could Things Get for the Voting Rights Act? The Supreme Court Just Gave Us a Preview, HARV. L. REV. BLOG (April 13, 2022) (with G. Michael Parsons), https://blog.harvardlawreview.org/how-bad-could-things-get-for-vra/

"Unrules" in Election Law, 47 Administrative & Regulatory Law News 10 (Fall 2021) (symposium)

Race, Reckoning, Reform, and the Limits of the Law of Democracy, 169 U. PA. L. REV. 1995 (2021)

Constructing the Right to Vote, 96 N.Y.U. L. REV. 1127 (2021) (with Justin Weinstein-Tull)

Brnovich *and Its Implications*, The Regulatory Review (September 20, 2021), https://www.theregreview.org/2021/09/20/sellers-brnovich-implications/

Democracy on a Shoestring, 74 VAND. L. REV. 1079 (2021) (with Roger Michalski)

- Selected for the AALS 2021 Distinguished Scholarship in Election Law Award
- Reviewed by G. Michael Parsons, *The Price of Free Elections*, 74 VAND. L. REV. EN BANC 335 (2021)

Preempting Politics: State Power and Local Democracy, 72 STAN. L. REV. 1361 (2020) (with Erin A. Scharff)

- Honorable Mention for the AALS 2020 Distinguished Scholarship in Election Law Award

Political Participation, Expressive Association, and Judicial Review, 69 AM. U. L. REV. 1617 (2020) (symposium)

- Reprinted in the *First Amendment Law Handbook* (2020-2021 ed.)

Election Law and White Identity Politics, 87 FORDHAM L. REV. 1515 (2019)

"Major Questions" Moderation, 87 GEO. WASH. L. REV. 930 (2019)

Politics as Pretext, 62 HOW. L.J. 687 (2019) (symposium)

Contributions, Bribes, and the Convergence of Political and Criminal Corruption, 45 FLA. ST. U. L. REV. 657 (2018)

Legislating Against Lying in Campaigns and Elections, 71 OKLA. L. REV. 141 (2018) (symposium)
State of the Vote: Your "Right" Revealed, Oklahoma Humanities Magazine (Fall 2016 ed.)

The Irony of Intent: Statutory Interpretation and the Constitutionality of Section Two of the Voting Rights Act, 76 LA. L. REV. 43 (2015) (symposium)

Shelby County *as a Sanction for States' Rights in Elections*, 34 ST. LOUIS PUB. L. REV. 367 (2015)

Book Review, THE CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS, MINORITY VOTING RIGHTS, AND THE U.S. SUPREME COURT, by Christina R. Rivers, 23 *Law and Politics Book Review* 42 (2013)

Service (Texas)

Academic Fellowship Program Committee (Chair), 2025-2026

Colloquia and Lectures Committee, 2024-2025

Faculty Advisor, Texas Journal on Civil Liberties & Civil Rights, 2025-Present

Faculty Advisor, American Constitution Society, 2024-Present

Faculty Advisor, Election Law Club, 2024-Present

Faculty Advisor, Hargrave Society, 2024-Present

Appointments Committee, 2023-2024

Service (ASU)

Appointments Committee, 2019-2021

Colloquium Committee, 2017-2019; 2020-2021 (co-chair)

Faculty Advisory Council, 2020-2021

Faculty Advisor, American Constitution Society, 2017-2023

Faculty Advisor, Black Undergraduate Law Society, 2019-2023

Additional Employment

Jenner & Block LLP, Washington, DC **2009-2012**
Associate Attorney (Litigation)

Sidley Austin LLP, Washington, DC **2007**
Summer Associate

Southern Center for Human Rights, Atlanta, GA **2006**
Legal Intern

Democratic National Committee, Washington, DC **2002**
Aide to Chairman Terry McAuliffe

Selected Presentations

University of Texas Tower Fellows Program, 2026

State Bar of Texas, Legislative & Campaign Law Section, 2026

University of Mississippi School of Law, Democracy Conference, 2026

Florida State University College of Law, Election Law Conference, 2025

Cardozo School of Law, Faculty Workshop, 2025

Northwestern Pritzker School of Law, Public Law Colloquium, 2025

Moritz College of Law, Ohio State University, OSLJ Symposium, 2025

Ninth Circuit Mid-Winter Judicial Conference, Election Law Panel, 2025

Vanderbilt University, American Political History Conference, 2024

San Antonio Bar Association, Law Day Keynote, 2024

William & Mary Law School, Faculty Enrichment Series, 2024

University of Florida Levin College of Law, 42nd Dunwoody Lecture in Law Panelist, 2024

Institute for Responsive Government, 2024

Women Vote! Austin, Election 2024 Lecture, 2024

Carl-Schurz-Haus, Election 2024 Lecture, 2024

The Baker Institute for Public Policy, Presidential Elections Program, 2023

Louisiana State University, Constitution Day Lecture, 2023

Arizona Humanities/National Endowment for the Humanities (multiple locations), 2021-2023

Carl-Schurz-Haus, Democratic Vistas Festival, 2022

Purdue University, American Political History Conference, 2022

William & Mary Law School, Election Law Society, 2022

University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School, Faculty Workshop, 2022

Duke University School of Law, Civil Rights Enforcement Colloquium, 2022

Fred W. Smith National Library for the Study of Mt. Vernon, Constitutions and Their Creation in the Age of Washington: A Symposium in Honor of Gordon S. Wood, 2021

Eighth Circuit Judicial Conference, 2021

Arizona Governance and Policy Academy, 2021

Harvard Law School, Law and Politics Workshop, 2021

Northwestern Pritzker School of Law, 2020

American Constitution Society Arizona Lawyer Chapter, 2020

State Bar of Arizona, Arizona Election Law Seminar, 2020

Duke University School of Law, Culp Colloquium, 2019

Howard University School of Law, 15th Annual Wiley A. Branton Symposium, 2018

Law and Society International Meeting (Toronto), 2018

Stanford Law School, Culp Colloquium, 2018

Law and Society International Meeting (Mexico City), 2017

University of Houston Law Center, 2017

Professional Activities and Memberships

American Law Institute, 2023-Present
- Adviser, RESTATEMENT OF THE LAW, ELECTION LITIGATION
- Member

Association of American Law Schools Section on Election Law, 2017-2018 (Secretary), 2021-2022 (Treasurer), 2022-2023 (Secretary), 2023-2024 (Chair-Elect), 2024-2025 (Chair)

Peer Reviewer: Yale Law Journal, Harvard Law Review, Stanford Law Review

Local Solutions Support Center, Professor Panel, 2024-Present

Emerging Scholars Program/Culp Colloquium, Mentor, 2016-Present

American Bar Foundation, Fellow, 2021-Present

States United Democracy Center, Consultant, 2021-2022

Arizona Center for Law in the Public Interest, Board Member, 2019-2023

Maryland Bar (2010)

District of Columbia Bar (2011)