

DANIEL L. CHEN

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EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley, School of Law

Juris Doctor, May 2016

- Honors: Order of the Coif; American Jurisprudence Award for Highest Grade in Negotiations, Contemporary Issues in Constitutional Law, and Supreme Court Seminar; Prosser Award for Second-Highest Grade in Conflict of Laws; and Boalt Hall Fellowship (merit-based scholarship)
- Activities: Supervising Editor, *California Law Review*; President, Christians at Boalt; Co-President, Berkeley Federalist Society; Student Liaison, Berkeley Law Admissions Committee; and Research Assistant to Professor John Yoo, Professor Jesse Choper, and Professor Charles D. Weisselberg
- Publications: Charles D. Weisselberg, Daniel Chen, and Sameera Mangena, *Motorists, Motels, Mistakes, and More: Criminal-Law Cases in the Supreme Court's 2014-2015 Term*, 51 Court Review 132 (2015)
Daniel Chen, *Kennedy v. Bremerton School District: The Final Demise of Lemon and the Future of the Establishment Clause*, 21 Harvard Journal of Law and Public Policy Per Curiam 1 (2022)
Daniel Chen, *An "Equal and Compleat Liberty": Reclaiming Religious Freedom in Our Divided Times*, University of St. Thomas Law Journal (forthcoming, 2026)

University of California, Berkeley

Bachelor of Arts, *magna cum laude*, in Political Science, Minor in Public Policy, May 2013

- Honors: Honors Thesis - "Authoritarianism and Democratization in East Asia: A Study of Civil Society"; Phi Beta Kappa; Departmental Highest Honors; UC Berkeley's Regents' and Chancellor's Scholarship; Millennial Values Fellowship – Berkley Center for Religion, Peace & World Affairs at Georgetown University
- Activities: President, Pi Sigma Alpha Political Science Honors Society

EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Professor, Pepperdine Caruso School of Law, Malibu, CA Jan. 2023 – Present

- Teach advanced law-and-religion seminar, with a doctrinal emphasis on the Free Exercise Clause and Establishment Clause
- Directly represent clients in religious liberty litigation and file amicus briefs in the U.S. Supreme Court and appellate courts

Counsel, The Becket Fund for Religious Liberty, Palo Alto, CA Oct. 2020 – Present

- Litigate RFRA, RLUIPA, Free Exercise, and Establishment Clause cases in state and federal courts across the country
- Draft merits and amicus briefs before the U.S. Supreme Court, obtaining emergency relief in *Agudath Israel of America v. Cuomo*, *South Bay United Pentecostal Church v. Newsom*, and *Gateway City Church v. Newsom*, and *Tandon v. Newsom*
- Achieve favorable summary judgment and qualified immunity ruling at the Eighth Circuit in two challenges to government restrictions on religious leadership requirements for student groups on public university campuses
- Obtain dismissal and affirmance on appeal for a religious educational institution in first-in-the-nation litigation construing the scope of Title IX's statutory religious exemption

Law Clerk, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California, San Jose, CA Sept. 2019 – Sept. 2020

- Managed case dockets and handled administrative issues from the filing of complaints to trial and judgment
- Drafted orders addressing subjects including statutes of limitations and tolling doctrines, municipal liability, personal and subject matter jurisdiction, issue and claim preclusion, class action settlements, and awarding attorney's fees

Associate, Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP, San Francisco, CA Oct. 2017 – Aug. 2019

- Represented social-media companies in litigation arising from allegations that the companies facilitated terrorist operations, obtaining dismissal in multiple federal district courts and affirmance on appeal
- Successfully defended the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) in an Establishment Clause challenge to federal programs funding USCCB efforts to protect undocumented immigrants from sex trafficking and abuse
- Drafted amicus briefs in state supreme courts, United States Courts of Appeal, and the United States Supreme Court on issues including religious discrimination in state funding, the ministerial exception, cruel and unusual punishment, and excessive fines
- First-chaired a Rule 30(b)(6) deposition, drafted an opposition brief persuading the district court to deny summary judgment, and secured a favorable monetary settlement on behalf of a client in a 42 U.S.C. § 1983 prisoner civil rights action

Law Clerk, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit, St. Louis, MO Aug. 2016 – Aug. 2017

- Reviewed *Anders* briefs, *en banc* petitions, 28 U.S.C. § 2255 habeas petitions, and requests for certificates of appealability
- Authored bench memoranda regarding issues such as statutory interpretation, Fourth Amendment searches and seizures, Fourteenth Amendment violations, federal evidentiary rules, federal sentencing guidelines, and Rule 12(b)(6) motions to dismiss