

JOEL S. JOHNSON

Pepperdine Caruso School of Law
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY, RICK J. CARUSO SCHOOL OF LAW, Malibu, CA
Associate Professor of Law, August 2022-

Interests: Criminal Law and Procedure, Constitutional Law, Statutory Interpretation, Torts

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA SCHOOL OF LAW, Charlottesville, VA

J.D. 2015, Order of the Coif

Honors: Faculty Award for Academic Excellence (first in class at graduation)
Hyde Award (highest all-around award given at graduation)
Davis Award (selected by faculty member for excellence in constitutional law)
Raven Society (elected to the University's oldest honor society)

Activities: *Virginia Law Review*, Articles Development Editor; Supreme Court Litigation Clinic
Research Assistant, Professor A. E. Dick Howard

BELMONT UNIVERSITY, Nashville, TN

B.A. 2011, *magna cum laude*, Philosophy, Film Studies, Honors Program

SCHOLARSHIP

The Vagueness-Avoidance Canon (in progress)

[Vagueness and Federal-State Relations](#), 90 U. CHICAGO L. REV. __ (2023) (forthcoming)

[Dealing with Dead Crimes](#), 111 GEORGETOWN L.J. __ (2022) (forthcoming)

[Vagueness Attacks on Searches and Seizures](#), 107 VIRGINIA L. REV. 347 (2021)

[Changing the Vocabulary of the Vagueness Doctrine](#), 101 VIRGINIA L. REV. 2051 (2015) (with Peter Low)

- Cited in *United States v. Bronstein*, 849 F.3d 1101 (D.C. Cir. 2017)

Note, [Benefits of Error in Criminal Justice](#), 102 VIRGINIA L. REV. 237 (2016)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, CRIMINAL DIVISION, APPELLATE SECTION, Washington, D.C.
Attorney, 2021–2022

PAUL, WEISS, RIFKIND, WHARTON & GARRISON LLP, Washington, D.C.
Associate in Supreme Court and Appellate Practice, 2019–2020

WILLIAMS & CONNOLLY LLP, Washington, D.C.
Associate, 2017–2019; *Summer Associate*, 2014

THE HON. ROBERT D. SACK, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, New York, NY
Law Clerk, 2016–2017

THE HON. T.S. ELLIS, III, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, Alexandria, VA
Law Clerk, 2015–2016

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ORAL ARGUMENTS

United States v. Romero-Lobato, 9th Cir. 20-10280 (May 18, 2022)

[Representing](#) government as appellee (beginning at 17:40)

United States v. Shelton, 6th Cir. No. 20-6348 (Dec. 9, 2021)

[Representing](#) government as appellee (beginning at 12:40)

United States v. Davis, 5th Cir. No. 20-30593 (Oct. 4, 2021)

[Representing](#) government as appellee (beginning at 11:22)

Harris v. Maryland, Md. Ct. Spec. App. No. 18-3433 (Jan. 13, 2020)

[Representing](#) defendant as appellant (beginning at 0:57)

BRIEFS

Concepcion v. United States, 142 S. Ct. 2389 (2022)

Merits [brief](#) for government

Van Buren v. United States, 141 S. Ct. 1648 (2021)

Amicus [brief](#) for over 40 media entities

Carr v. Saul, 141 S. Ct. 1352 (2021)

Merits [brief](#) for petitioner; cert [petition](#) and [reply](#)

Goldman Sachs v. Arkansas Teacher Retirement System, 141 S. Ct. 1951 (2021)

Cert [petition](#) and [reply](#)

Seila Law v. CFPB, 140 S. Ct. 2183 (2020)

Merits [brief](#) and [reply](#) for petitioner

Obduskey v. McCarthy & Holthus LLP, 139 S. Ct. 1029 (2019)

Merits [brief](#) for respondent and [brief](#) in opposition to cert

Musta v. Mendota Heights Dental Center, U.S. No. 21-676

Government's CVSG [brief](#) at certiorari stage

Acevedo v. United States, U.S. No. 21-7116

Government's [brief](#) in opposition to cert

Knights v. United States, U.S. No. 21-198

Government's [brief](#) in opposition to cert

Campbell v. United States, U.S. No. 20-1790

Government's [brief](#) in opposition to cert

Lechuga v. United States, U.S. No. 20-745

Government's [brief](#) in opposition to cert

Sanders v. United States, U.S. No. 20-8053

Government's [brief](#) in opposition to cert

Rodriguez v. United States, U.S. No. 20-7491

Government's [brief](#) in opposition to cert

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BRIEFS CONT'D

Ivers v. United States, U.S. No. 20-7304
Government's [brief](#) in opposition to cert

Davis v. United States, U. S. No. 20-6448
Government's [brief](#) in opposition to cert

Figueroa-Serrano v. United States, U.S. No. 20-7528
Government's [brief](#) in opposition to cert

Mastin v. United States, U.S. No. 20-518
Cert [petition](#)

OTO, LLC v. Kho et al., U.S. No. 19-875
Cert [petition](#) and [reply](#)

Crown Asset Management LLC v. Barbato, U.S. No. 19-100
Cert [petition](#) and [reply](#)

Eli Lilly & Co. v. Erfindergemeinschaft UroPep GbR, U.S. No. 18-1515
Cert [petition](#) and [reply](#)

Suhl v. United States, U.S. No. 17-1687
Cert [petition](#) and [reply](#)

Henry v. Weiss, U.S. No. 17-1210
Cert [petition](#) and [reply](#)

United States v. Romero-Lobato, 9th Cir. 20-10280
Appellee [brief](#) for government

United States v. Newby, 4th Cir. No. 21-4018
Appellee [brief](#) for government

United States v. Shelton, 6th Cir. No. 20-6348
Appellee [brief](#) for government

United States v. Davis, 5th Cir. No. 20-30593
Appellee [brief](#) for government

United States v. Cardenas, 5th Cir. No. 20-10708
Appellee [brief](#) for government

In re Tribune Co., 2d Cir. No. 19-449
Merits [brief](#) for appellees

United States v. Gramins, 2d Cir. No. 18-2007
[Petition](#) for rehearing en banc for defendant-appellee

United States v. Greebel, 2d Cir. No. 18-2667
Reply [brief](#) for defendant-appellant

Harris v. Maryland, Md. No. 20-18, Md. Ct. Spec. App. No. 18-3433
Cert [petition](#) and [reply](#); merits [brief](#) and reply [brief](#) for defendant-appellant

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BAR AND COURT ADMISSIONS

Virginia; District of Columbia

Supreme Court of the United States; Second Circuit Court of Appeals; Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals; Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals; Eastern District of Virginia