

ZACHARY L. HENDERSON
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ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor of Law, SMU Dedman School of Law (2026-Present)

Thomas Edison Innovation Law and Policy Fellow, The IP Policy Institute (2025–2026)

Visiting Assistant Professor and Shashi and Dipanjan “DJ” Deb Faculty Scholar, UC Law San Francisco (2024–2026)

Senior Research Scholar, Center for Innovation; AI Law & Innovation Institute

EDUCATION

The University of Chicago Law School, J.D. (honors), 2018

Chicago Journal of International Law, Executive Articles Editor

Dillard Award, Jessup 2018 (3rd best brief internationally out of ~700 schools)

Awards for best brief, best oralist, or both at multiple regional/national moots

Edmund A. Spencer Merit Scholar

Donald E. Egan Scholar Award (to a graduate who has “a reputation for integrity”)

The University of Arkansas, B.A. (magna cum laude), 2013

Non-Traditional Student Leadership Award (campus-wide; awarded to one graduating student who has demonstrated integrity and leadership)

Betty Moore Brown Endowed Scholarship (merit award)

Leo and Nola Van Scyoc Award in English (merit award)

Felix C. McKean Memorial Award in Writing (competitive writing prize)

English Honor society, Charter Vice President

PUBLICATIONS

- *Agentic AI and the God of the Gaps*, Harvard Journal of Law & Technology (forthcoming)
- *Rethinking Robot Liability*, 67 B.C. L. REV. 479 (2026)
- *AI and Probabilistic Dispute Resolution*, 2025 WIS. L. REV. 215 (2025)
- *A Comprehensive Consideration of the Structural Error Doctrine*, 85 MO. L. REV. 965 (2020)

Notable citations:

- *Pulczynski v. Minnesota* (Supreme Court of Minnesota)
- *United States v. Gonzalez-Aros* (United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit)
- *Elizabeth T. v. O'Malley* (Federal District Court for the Southern District of California)
- *People v. Chambliss* (Appellate Court of Illinois, Fifth District)
- Petition for Writ of Certiorari, *Deveraux v. Montana* (United States Supreme Court)
- Petition for Writ of Certiorari, *Parrish v. Skrmetti* (United States Supreme Court)

- Other state and federal court briefs and documents
- [*Harnessing Law and Economics to Disincentivize Corporate Misbehavior*](#), 105 CORNELL L. REV. Online 141 (2020)

WORKS IN PROGRESS

- *Invisible Variables*
 - Investigating a critical unexplored pathology of certain regulatory regimes, and examining that pathology through a case study of U.S. medical device regulation
- *National Security Technologies and Constitutional Authority*
 - Exploring the federalism implications of state legislation of technologies critical to national security
- *AI and Deliberation (with Robin Feldman)*
 - Rejecting proposed efforts to use AI to further deliberation and the democratic process, and arguing for the need to clearly define categories of human activity in which AI should and should not be permitted
- *Fractional Voting (with John Martin)*
 - Proposing a novel mode of weighted voting that complies with “one person, one vote” while simultaneously being less manipulable and obviating the utility of gerrymandering

PRESENTATIONS, SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS, AND APPEARANCES

2026

- Host, *The A to Z of AI Podcast* (Seasons 2 & 3)
- Invited Present and Publish– *When AI Acts: Legal Frameworks for the Agentic Future* (Harvard Law School; co-sponsored by Iowa Innovation, Business, and Law Center, and Harvard Journal of Law & Technology)
- Moderator – UC Law SF “Markets and Machines” Symposium

2025

- Host, *The A to Z of AI Podcast* (Season 1)
- Presented *Rethinking Robot Liability* at more than a dozen law schools around the country
- Invited Panelist – *AI and the Tech Frontier* (14th Annual Transatlantic Law Forum, Oslo, Norway)
- ABC News television interview – *AI and Jobs*
- Invitee – *AI Policy Discussion Group* (Commonwealth Club)
- Presenter – *National Security Technologies and Legislative Authority* (Junior Scholars Conference, Northeastern Law School)
- Moderator – UCLJ “Chronically Online” Symposium

2024

- KQED radio interview – *AI and homelessness*

- Invitee – World Economic Forum — Summit on Trustworthy Technology, CTT
- Presenter – *AI and Probabilistic Dispute Resolution*, (AALS ADR Works-in-Progress Conference)
- Invited Panelist – Center for Business Law Roundtable on Financial Policy & Regulation

2023

- Mainstage speaker – *The Future of the GC Role?* (TechGC Digital Health Offsite)
- Roundtable discussion lead – *Building a Framework for Integrity* (TechGC Integrity Summit)

2022

- Podcast guest – *Equity at Startups: What does it all mean?* (A Whole New Level)
- Podcast guest – *Leveling Up: The Learning Never Stops* (The Defense Never Rests)
- Panelist – *Mitigating Litigation Costs of Outside Counsel* (Law Trades)
- Podcast guest – *Equity Crowdfunding for Startups: Challenges, Ethics, and Rewards* (A Whole New Level)

2021

- Panelist – *FDA's Digital Health Center of Excellence: Working with the FDA on Digital Health* (Food and Drug Law Institute)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Civil Procedure, Fall 2025 (UC Law SF) (4.61/5.00)
- Civil Procedure 2: Law and Process, Spring 2025 (UC Law SF) (4.47/5.00)
- LSAT Instructor in large classrooms, 2014 – 2020
 - Taught 40+ full-term classes to thousands of students
 - Promoted to the instructor training team

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

General Counsel, Company Officer, and Data Protection Officer, Levels Health (2021–2024)

Litigation Associate, Kirkland & Ellis, LLP (2020–2021)

Law Clerk, United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit (2018–2020)

Summer Associate (Kirkland & Ellis, LLP) (Summer 2017)

Kirkland & Ellis Diversity Fellow, 2016

Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP

1L Scholar and Summer Associate, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP (Summer 2016)