

**UNITED STATES SENATE
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY**

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR NON-JUDICIAL NOMINEES

PUBLIC

1. **Name:** State full name (include any former names used).

Aaron Francis Reitz

2. **Position:** State the position for which you have been nominated.

Assistant Attorney General for the Justice Department's Office of Legal Policy

3. **Address:** List current office address. If city and state of residence differs from your place of employment, please list the city and state where you currently reside.

Office Address:

167 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Residence:

Austin, Texas

4. **Birthplace:** State date and place of birth.

May 22, 1987, New Haven, CT

5. **Education:** List in reverse chronological order each college, law school, or any other institution of higher education attended and indicate for each the dates of attendance, whether a degree was received, and the date each degree was received.

<i>Institution</i>	<i>Attendance</i>	<i>Degree Rec'd</i>	<i>Date Received</i>
Univ. of Texas School of Law Austin, TX	Aug. 2014–May 2017	JD	May 20, 2017
Texas A&M University College Station, TX	Aug. 2005–Aug. 2009	BS	Aug. 14, 2009
Blinn College Bryan, TX	May 2009–June 2009	n/a (college credit courses)	n/a
San Antonio College San Antonio, TX	Aug. 2004–June 2006	n/a (college credit courses)	n/a

6. **Employment Record:** List in reverse chronological order all governmental agencies, business or professional corporations, companies, firms, or other enterprises, partnerships, institutions or organizations, non-profit or otherwise, with which you have been affiliated as

an officer, director, partner, proprietor, or employee since graduation from college, whether or not you received payment for your services. Include the name and address of the employer and job title or description.

The following employment record excludes all military service, which spans periods of both active and reserve duty. For my record of military service, see Section 7 below. Further, all the employment listed below has been paid; I have not been employed on an unpaid basis since graduating college.

<i>Employer</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Dates</i>
U.S. Senate	Chief of Staff to Sen. Ted Cruz	167 Russell Bldg. Washington, DC 20510	May 2023–present
Ted Cruz for Senate	Senior Advisor	4801 Woodway Dr. Floor 2 Houston, TX 77056	May 2023–present
Office of the Attorney General of Texas	Deputy Attorney General for Legal Strategy	300 W. 15th St. Austin, TX 78701	Oct. 2020–May 2023
Ken Paxton Campaign	Senior Advisor	P.O. Box 3467 McKinney, TX 75070	Oct. 2020–Mar. 2023
Jefferson Cano	Associate Attorney	112 E. Pecan St. Suite 1650 San Antonio, TX 78205	Aug. 2020–Sep. 2020
Cleveland Terrazas PLLC	Associate Attorney	4611 Bee Caves Rd. Austin, TX 78746	Dec. 2019–Aug. 2020
Cobb & Counsel	Associate Attorney	401 Congress Ave. Suite 1540 Austin, TX 78701	May 2019–Dec. 2019
HEB Grocery Store	Night Shift Grocery Stocker	5808 Burnet Rd. Austin, TX 78756	Nov. 2018–June 2019
Supreme Court of Texas	Law Clerk to Justice Jimmy Blacklock	201 W. 14th St. Austin, TX 78701	Jan. 2018–May 2019
Bracewell LLP	Associate Attorney; Summer Associate	711 Louisiana St. Suite 2300 Houston, TX 77002	Sep. 2017–Jan. 2018; July–Aug. 2016
Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP	Summer Associate	111 W. Houston St. Suite 1800 San Antonio, TX 78205	May–June 2016
Jones Day	Summer Associate	717 Texas St. Suite 3300 Houston, TX 77002	May–July 2015

7. **Military Service and Draft Status:** Identify any service in the U.S. Military, including dates of service, branch of service, rank or rate, serial number (if different from social security number) and type of discharge received, and whether you have registered for selective service.

I registered for the Selective Service on June 2, 2005. My Selective Service Number is 87-0512928-9.

I am in the United States Marine Corps. My Department of Defense Identification Number is *****0297

Reverse chronology of service:

<i>Dates</i>	<i>Type of Service</i>	<i>Notes</i>
Nov. 2018–present	Selected Marine Corps Reserve	n/a
Mar. 2015–Nov. 2018	Individual Ready Reserve	n/a
Mar. 2014–Mar. 2015	Selected Marine Corps Reserve	n/a
Aug. 2009–Mar. 2014	Active Duty	Honorable Discharge

Reverse chronology of rank:

<i>Dates</i>	<i>Rank</i>
Sep. 2020–present	Major
Nov. 2013–Aug. 2020	Captain
Aug. 2011–Oct. 2013	First Lieutenant
Aug. 2009–Aug. 2011	Second Lieutenant

Reverse chronology of unit and billet assignments:

<i>Dates</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Billet</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Component</i>
May 2024–present	1st Battalion, 23rd Marines	Excess ¹	Ellington Field, Houston, TX	Reserve
Oct. 2022–May 2024	Command & Staff College	Student	Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base, Fort Worth, TX	Reserve
Dec. 2020–Oct. 2022	1st Battalion, 23rd Marines	Battalion Logistics Officer (S-4)	Ellington Field, Houston, TX	Reserve
Nov. 2018–Dec. 2020	Combat Logistics Battalion 453	Maintenance Detachment Officer-in-Charge	Dyess Air Force Base, Abilene, TX	Reserve

¹ I am currently in an “excess billet” with this unit, meaning I have completed Command & Staff College and am awaiting assignment to my next USMC Reserve Unit.

Mar. 2014–Mar. 2015	Combat Logistics Battalion 453	Maintenance Detachment Officer-in-Charge	Dyess Air Force Base, Abilene, TX	Reserve
June 2013–Jan. 2014	5th Marine Regiment	Regimental Motor Transport Officer	Camp Pendleton, CA	Active
Feb. 2011–June 2013 ²	2d Battalion, 4th Marines	Embedded Training Team Logistics Officer (S-4); Battalion Motor Transport Officer	Musa Qala, Helmand Province, Afghanistan; Camp Pendleton, CA	Active
Oct. 2010–Feb. 2011	Logistics Officers Course	Student	Camp Johnson, NC	Active
Mar. 2010–Oct. 2010	The Basic School	Student	Quantico, VA	Active
Nov. 2009–Mar. 2010	Officer Selection Office	Officer Recruiter	Austin, TX	Active

8. Honors and Awards: List any scholarships, fellowships, honorary degrees, academic or professional honors, honorary society memberships, military awards, and any other special recognition for outstanding service or achievement.

Military Awards Listed in Order of Precedence:

- Navy & Marine Corps Achievement Medals (two: Feb. 2012, Dec. 2023)
- Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation (Jan. 2023)
- Selected Marine Corps Reserve Medal (Nov. 2021)
- Afghanistan Campaign Medal (Oct. 2011)
- Sea Service Deployment Ribbon (Oct. 2011)
- NATO Medal-ISAF Afghanistan (Dec. 2011)
- Global War on Terrorism Service Medal (approx. Oct 2011)
- National Defense Service Medal (approx. Aug. 2009)
- Letters of Appreciation (two: Dec. 2009, Mar. 2014)
- Honor Graduate, Logistics Officer Course (Feb. 2011)

² My tenure with 2/4 included a deployment to the northern Helmand Province from Aug. 2011 through Feb. 2012.

Academic and Professional Honors:

- Texas A&M Assoc. of Former Students “12 Under 12 Young Alumnus” Award (Nov. 2021)
- Austin Way Magazine “The List” (Dec. 2016)
- Alliance Defending Freedom Gustavson Award (July 2016)
- Federalist Society James Madison Award for 2015–16 Student Chapter of Year (spring 2016)
- Hutcheson Moot Court Competition Quarterfinalist (spring 2015)
- *Texas Review of Law & Politics* Conservative Student of the Year (spring 2015)
- Texas A&M University: Liberal Arts Honors, University Honors, Magna Cum Laude, and Distinguished Naval Graduate (Aug. 2009)
- Texas A&M Corps of Cadets Castleberry Award (spring 2008)
- Texas A&M Assoc. of Former Students Buck Weirus Spirit Award (spring 2006)
- Texas A&M Corps of Cadets General O.R. Simpson Honor Society (2005–09)

Fellowships:

- Club for Growth Foundation Fellowship (2023)
- James Wilson Institute Fellowship (2018)
- Claremont Institute Marshall Fellowship (2018)
- Alliance Defending Freedom Blackstone Legal Fellowship (2015)
- Koch Summer Fellowship (2014)
- John Jay Institute Fellowship (2014)

Honorary Society Memberships:

- University of Texas Friar Society (inducted fall 2016)
- Phi Beta Kappa (elected July 2010)

Scholarships:

- University of Texas School of Law:
 - o Several miscellaneous scholarships from the Law School, which, according to the Texas Law Financial Aid Office, total around \$86,000.00
 - o I was also a recipient of the post-9/11 G.I. Bill, which is not a scholarship, per se, but is an educational benefit.
- Texas A&M University:
 - o Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC)
 - o According to Texas A&M’s Assistant Vice President for Scholarships & Financial Aid, I received a number of unspecified university and Corps of Cadets scholarships through a sort of “clearinghouse” called Scholarship America.

9. **Bar Associations:** List all bar associations or legal or judicial-related committees, selection panels or conferences of which you are or have been a member, and give the titles and dates of any offices which you have held in such groups.

Federalist Society: member since Nov. 2014

10. Bar and Court Admissions:

- a. List the date(s) you were admitted to the bar of any state and any lapses in membership. Please explain the reason for any lapse in membership.

Admitted to the State Bar of Texas in Nov. 2017

- b. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice, including dates of admission and any lapses in membership. Please explain the reason for any lapse in membership. Give the same information for administrative bodies that require special admission to practice.

U.S. Supreme Court, admitted Dec. 2020

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, admitted July 2021

U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas, admitted Apr. 2021

U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas, admitted Apr. 2021

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas; admitted Dec. 2020

U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas; admitted May 2021

11. Memberships:

- a. List all professional, business, fraternal, scholarly, civic, charitable, or other organizations, other than those listed in response to Questions 9 or 10 to which you belong, or to which you have belonged, since graduation from law school. Provide dates of membership or participation and indicate any office you held. Include clubs, working groups, advisory or editorial boards, panels, committees, conferences, or publications.

Texas Public Policy Foundation Liberty Leadership Council; general member from 2017 through 2021, and Chairman of the Austin, TX chapter from Jan. 2019 through Oct. 2021

Saint Thomas More Society at Saint Mary Cathedral, Austin, TX; general member from approximately 2018 through 2023

Cub Scout Pack 25 at the Regents School of Austin; Pack Cubmaster during 2019–20 and 2020–21 school years

Texas A&M Association of Former Students; member in 2013 and 2021

Texas A&M Corps of Cadets Association; member in 2009, 2013, and 2023

- b. Indicate whether any of these organizations listed in response to 11 (a) above currently discriminate or formerly discriminated on the basis of race, sex, religion or national origin either through formal membership requirements or the practical implementation of membership policies. If so, describe any action you have taken to change these policies and practices.

The Cub Scouts and Corps of Cadets at various points in history have admitted only men or boys to their ranks. Neither institution observes that practice anymore, except for a few units within the Corps of Cadets. I have not taken any action to change these policies or practices one way or the other.

12. Published Writings and Public Statements:

Note: for all writings and statements warranting a separately-saved PDF version, I have created Google Drive and provided a link to the Committee.

- a. List the titles, publishers, and dates of books, articles, reports, letters to the editor, editorial pieces, or other published material you have written or edited, including material published only on the Internet. Supply four (4) copies of all published material to the Committee.

Ted Cruz, *Unwoke: How to Defeat Cultural Marxism in America* (2023) (“The following reviewed portions of the book and provided very helpful edits: Aaron Reitz...I appreciate their help, friendship, and insight.” at p. 295); there is no electronic or PDF version of the book, so physical copies of the book can be provided upon request

Aaron Reitz, *From Soft Liberalism to Iron-Fisted Leftism in Today’s U.S. Military*, NEWSWEEK (Mar. 19, 2021), <https://www.newsweek.com/soft-liberalism-iron-fisted-leftism-todays-us-military-opinion-1576950>

Aaron Reitz, *Texas Needs a Back the Blue Act, Not a George Floyd Act*, AUSTIN AMERICAN-STATESMAN (Sep. 4, 2020), <https://www.statesman.com/story/opinion/columns/your-voice/2020/09/04/opinion-texas-needs-back-blue-act-not-george-floyd-act/42536343>

Aaron Reitz, *Texas Should Throw Out Austin’s Homelessness Rules*, AUSTIN BUS. J. (Aug. 20, 2020), <https://www.bizjournals.com/austin/news/2020/08/20/viewpoint-austin-homelessness-rules-preemption.html>

Aaron Reitz, *Take a Stand Against California Model for Texas Cities*, AUSTIN AMERICAN-STATESMAN (Nov. 12, 2019), <https://www.statesman.com/story/opinion/columns/your-voice/2019/11/12/opinion-take-stand-against-california-model-for-texas-cities/2306643007>

39 HARVARD J. OF L. & PUB. POL’Y, Issue No. 1 (2016)³; comprised of the following articles:

- https://journals.law.harvard.edu/jlpp/wp-content/uploads/sites/90/2010/01/39_1_Epstein_F.pdf
- https://journals.law.harvard.edu/jlpp/wp-content/uploads/sites/90/2010/01/39_1_Kelly_F.pdf
- https://journals.law.harvard.edu/jlpp/wp-content/uploads/sites/90/2010/01/39_1_Kregor_F-1.pdf
- https://journals.law.harvard.edu/jlpp/wp-content/uploads/sites/90/2010/01/39_1_McGinnis_F.pdf

³ I served as an Executive Editor for this issue of the *Harvard Journal of Law & Public Policy*.

- https://journals.law.harvard.edu/jlpp/wp-content/uploads/sites/90/2010/01/39_1_Melamed_F.pdf
- https://journals.law.harvard.edu/jlpp/wp-content/uploads/sites/90/2010/01/39_1_Turner-Brim_F.pdf

21 TEX. REV. OF L. & POL., Issue No. 1 (2016)⁴; comprised of the following articles:

- <https://www.trolp.org/blog/?category=Vol+21+No+1>

21 TEX. REV. OF L. & POL., Issue No. 2 (2016–17); comprised of the following articles:

- <https://www.trolp.org/blog/?category=Vol+21+No+2>

21 TEX. REV. OF L. & POL., Issue No. 3 (2017); comprised of the following articles:

- <https://www.trolp.org/blog/?category=Vol%2021%20No%203>

- b. Supply four (4) copies of any reports, memoranda or policy statements you prepared or contributed in the preparation of on behalf of any bar association, committee, conference, or organization of which you were or are a member. If you do not have a copy of a report, memorandum or policy statement, give the name and address of the organization that issued it, the date of the document, and a summary of its subject matter.

None

- c. Supply four (4) copies of any testimony, official statements or other communications relating, in whole or in part, to matters of public policy or legal interpretation, that you have issued or provided or that others presented on your behalf to public bodies or public officials.

Testimony before the Texas Senate Committee on Border Security; Austin, TX; Mar. 23, 2023; <https://senate.texas.gov/videoplayer.php?vid=18878&lang=en> (testimony begins at approximately 30 seconds and ends at approximately 24 minutes)

Tex. Att’y Gen. Op. No. KP-0411 (whether a legislator or a member of the public may inspect or obtain copies of anonymous voted ballots)

Tex. Att’y Gen. Op. No. KP-0401 (whether certain medical procedures performed on children constitute child abuse)

Tex. Att’y Gen. Op. No. KP-0372 (authority of the Behavioral Health Executive Council to adopt a rule prohibiting certain discriminatory conduct by licensed social workers)

Tex. Att’y Gen. Op. No. KP-0431 (applicability of Texas’s minimum wage laws to minor league baseball players when playing baseball for one of eight minor league teams in Texas)

⁴ I served as Editor in Chief for Volume 21 of the *Texas Review of Law & Politics*, which was comprised of three issues.

Tex. Att’y Gen. Op. No. KP-0439 (constitutionality of legislation creating a Texas Education Savings Account program for Texas children)

Testimony before the Texas Senate Committee on State Affairs regarding the Second Amendment; Austin, TX; Feb. 26, 2020; <https://fb.watch/xiOfNgQBLj/>

- d. Supply four (4) copies, transcripts or recordings of all speeches or talks delivered by you, including commencement speeches, remarks, lectures, panel discussions, conferences, political speeches, and question-and-answer sessions. Include the date and place where they were delivered, and readily available press reports about the speech or talk. If you do not have a copy of the speech or a transcript or recording of your remarks, give the name and address of the group before whom the speech was given, the date of the speech, and a summary of its subject matter. If you did not speak from a prepared text, furnish a copy of any outline or notes from which you spoke.

Speech; Bastrop County Conservatives on the state of Ted Cruz’s re-election efforts; Bastrop, TX; Sep. 16, 2024; no recording, transcript, or notes available

Speech; Sun City Republican Party on the state of Ted Cruz’s re-election efforts; Georgetown, TX; July 25, 2024; no recording, transcript, or notes available

Panel; Republican Attorneys General Association Retreat; The Greenbrier, WV; July 28, 2024; no recording, transcript, or notes available, but my remarks surveyed the instances in which the Biden Administration had violated traditional American principles of Law and Order

Panel; Republican Attorneys General Association Retreat; Houston, TX; Apr. 18, 2024; no recording, transcript, or notes available, but my remarks surveyed the instances in which the Biden Administration was harming the American energy sector

Speech; Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America Texas Legislative Breakfast; Austin, TX; Feb. 7, 2023; no recording, transcript, or notes available, but I wrote this in a contemporaneous social media post: “Spoke at the SBA Pro-Life America Texas Legislative Breakfast this morning. Got to showcase all the heroic pro-life initiatives and litigation Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton has been leading for years—especially over the past two since Biden was inaugurated—and announce our latest Texas-versus-Biden lawsuit”; social media post here: <https://www.facebook.com/share/1FT1rkAxip/?mibextid=wwXIfr>

Speech; City of Lakeway Veterans Day Ceremony; Lakeway, TX; Nov. 11, 2022; transcript of speech available here: <https://www.facebook.com/share/1FuCB9Yknt/?mibextid=wwXIfr>

Panel: “The Systematic Dismantling of American Border Security”; America First Policy Institute; Washington, DC; May 19, 2022; https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vc2f_zpqvYo
Panel: “Biden’s Border Crisis: Time for States to Step Up”; Texas Public Policy Foundation Policy Orientation; Austin, TX; Jan. 19, 2022; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xzeqic8axYM>

Panel: “Red America in Defiance”; American Moment Podcast: “Moment of Truth”; Nov. 22, 2021; https://youtu.be/PDIaTicWjUk?si=kJBYWoxSRcn_3cMA

Panel: “Immigration Federalism: What Can States Do to Secure Their Borders?”; Heritage Foundation; Washington, DC; Oct. 13, 2021; <https://www.heritage.org/border-security/event/immigration-federalism-what-can-states-do-secure-their-borders>

Panel: Costs of the Covid-19 Shutdown; Texas Public Policy Foundation; Austin, TX; Apr. 29, 2021; no recording, transcript, or notes available

Panel; Republican Attorneys General Association Retreat; Atlanta, GA; Apr. 19, 2021; no recording, transcript, or notes available, but my remarks surveyed the instances in which the Biden Administration had enabled an immigration and border-security crisis
Speech; Austin Young Republicans; Austin, TX; Mar. 4, 2021; no recording, transcript, or notes available, but according to a contemporaneous social media post I made at the time, I talked “about four big fights we at the Texas Attorney General’s Office are in: the fight for election integrity, the fight against far-left urban government, the fight against Big Tech, [and] the fight against Joe Biden”; I am no longer able to find this post at the time of submitting the SJQ despite a diligent search

Speech; Texas Public Policy Foundation; Feb. 23, 2021; no recording, transcript, or notes available, but according to a contemporaneous social media post I made at the time, I talked “about this year’s legislative session”; I am no longer able to find this post at the time of submitting the SJQ despite a diligent search

Remarks at Press Conference in Williamson County, TX regarding a homeless encampment; Feb. 10, 2021; <https://www.facebook.com/reel/256067365899613>

Speech; Young Conservatives of Texas regarding my race for State House; Austin, TX; Feb. 3, 2021; no recording, transcript, or notes available

Remarks at Press Conference in Austin, TX regarding Covid-19 shutdowns and restrictions; Dec. 31, 2020; <https://www.facebook.com/share/r/1DRtTvXxRr/?mibextid=wwXifr>

Panel; North Shore Republicans Candidate Forum; Lago Vista, TX; Feb. 11, 2020; <https://fb.watch/xiODUrInya/>

Remarks; Direct to Video: “Why I’m a Texas Republican”; Feb. 6, 2020; <https://fb.watch/xiODUrInya/>

Speech; University of Texas Chapter of the Young Conservatives of Texas regarding my race for State House; Austin, TX; Jan. 29, 2020; no recording, transcript, or notes available

Panel; The Trailer Park Show; Austin, TX; Jan. 27, 2020; <https://fb.watch/xiP5wdN7Ma/>

Panel; Austin American-Statesman Endorsement Interview for Texas House District 47 Republicans; Jan. 14, 2020; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gjTmw7wdvhQ>

Speech; Rally on the steps of State Capitol; Dec. 14, 2019; <https://fb.watch/xiQn4gYPWC/>

Speech; Lakeway Men's Breakfast Club regarding my race for State House; Lakeway, TX; Dec. 11, 2019; no recording, transcript, or notes available

Speech; Lake Travis Republican Club regarding my race for State House; Lakeway, TX; Nov. 19, 2019; no recording, transcript, or notes available

Panel; Steiner Ranch Conservatives regarding my race for State House; Austin, TX; Oct. 29, 2019; <https://fb.watch/xiRpDopDre/>

Speech; Travis County Republican Party regarding my race for State House; Austin, TX; Oct. 15, 2019; no recording, transcript, or notes available

Speech; Travis County Republican Party regarding my race for State House; Austin, TX; July 16, 2019; <https://www.facebook.com/100001105926365/videos/2450374225009418/>

Speech; Travis County Republican Party regarding my race for State House; Austin, TX; June 18, 2019; no recording, transcript, or notes available

Speech; Texas Boys State Annual Meeting; Austin, TX; June 12, 2019; no recording, transcript, or notes available, but I do have this summary from a contemporaneous Facebook post: "Texas Boys State (and later Texas Bluebonnet Girls State) was founded in 1935 to counter the swelling tide of socialism in America. Its mission was and still is to train our country's top student leaders in the privileges and responsibilities of citizenship in a constitutional republic. Over the course of nearly 85 years, Boys and Girls State have each become two of the most prestigious educational programs for rising high school seniors. I was honored to speak with these guys last night about how we too are facing another swelling tide of socialism in America today. Fighting against that trend is one of the many reasons why I'm running for state representative. After a few very encouraging hours with these young men, I'm confident that we have what it takes to succeed in this fight. But my most important piece of advice? Enjoy your hair while you have it, boys!"; I am no longer able to find this post at the time of submitting the SJQ despite a diligent search

Panel: How to Get a Judicial Clerkship; University of Texas School of Law; Austin, TX; Apr. 23, 2019; no recording, transcript, or notes available

Speech; Texas Public Policy Foundation; Austin, TX; Nov. 19, 2018; no recording, transcript, or notes available, but my contemporaneous social media post at the time says I talked about "why faith in the core conservative values of liberty, personal responsibility, and free markets is waning—especially among young people—and what we can do to restore it."; I am no longer able to find this post at the time of submitting the SJQ despite a diligent search

Speech; Federalist Society National Lawyers Convention: Alumni of the University of Texas School of Law Luncheon; approx. Nov. 2018; no recording, transcript, or notes available

Remarks; James Wilson Institute Promotional Video; produced approx. Aug. 2018; <https://www.facebook.com/share/v/15ypNW9UKW/?mibextid=wwXlfr>

Speech; *Texas Review of Law & Politics* 2017 Jurist of the Year Banquet; Austin, TX; approx. Apr. 2017; no recording, transcript, or notes available, but this was my farewell speech as outgoing Editor in Chief of the *Review*

Speech; *Texas Review of Law & Politics* 2016 Jurist of the Year Banquet; Austin, TX; approx. Apr. 2016; no recording, transcript, or notes available, but this was my welcome speech as the new Editor in Chief of the *Review*

- e. List all interviews you have given to newspapers, magazines or other publications, or radio or television stations, providing the dates of these interviews and four (4) copies of the clips or transcripts of these interviews where they are available to you.

Quote provided; The Dallas Morning News, Whistleblower accused Ken Paxton aides of sexually harassing female employees; Aug. 22, 2023; “There have been zero complaints against me for anything even approximating ‘sexual harassment’ during my time at the Agency. No women left the executive team because of anything like that. Indeed, I hired, retained, and promoted many women to the executive team, and recommended the same throughout the Agency. Slandering someone like this is unconscionable.”; note further that the Office of the Attorney General is quoted saying, “[h]aving conducted a diligent search for any complaints related to [the reporter’s] question, the Office of the Attorney General has found no record of any such complaint against...Aaron Reitz,” and the reporter concedes that “none” of the documents in the outlet’s possession “mention[] alleged sexual harassment.”;

<https://www.dallasnews.com/news/politics/2023/08/23/ken-paxton-whistleblower-accuses-webster-reitz-sexual-harassment>

Quote provided; The Washington Post, The controversial article Matthew Kacsmark did not disclose to the Senate; Apr. 15, 2023; full quote subsequently spliced in article: “TROLP received a draft of ‘The Jurisprudence of the Body’ from the First Liberty Institute, where now-Judge Kacsmark was our chief point of contact during much of the editing and cite-checking process. Kacsmark was the placeholder until final authors were named by First Liberty. Because of their work on the article, Mr. Butterfield and Ms. Taub rightfully received credit as authors.”; <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2023/04/15/matthew-kacsmark-law-review>

Interview; America First with Dr. Sebastian Gorka (Newsmax); Apr. 25, 2021; I am unable to find any recording of this interview, but according to a contemporaneous social media post I made at the time, the interview was “to discuss the disappointing and dangerous hard-left turn of our military’s top brass.”; I am no longer able to find this post at the time of submitting the SJQ despite a diligent search

Interview; America First with Dr. Sebastian Gorka (Rumble); approx. Apr. 20, 2021; https://rumble.com/vfttg1-america-woke-military.-aaron-reitz-with-sebastian-gorka-on-america-first.html?fbclid=IwY2xjawH_vO9leHRuA2FlbQIxMAABHU515sWiMouBg9iGW5ZpeAiBcq3fz93opIFmAO_zVgkeK5wVF4LMyzOamg_aem_Dy1n2TO2ViqiZ1PtopRNKQ

Interview; Tucker Carlson Tonight (Fox News); Mar. 26, 2021; <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/marine-corps-reservist-warns-biden-woke-pentagon>

Interview; Come & Talk It Show with Michael Cargill; Jan. 19, 2020; <https://fb.watch/xiPk4735qZ/>

Interview; Texas Young Republicans' Big Texas Podcast; Jan. 14, 2020; <https://youtu.be/e8iFFihMd9U?si=Udji7vs1sjC6T-i6>

Interview; Honest Austin: "Texas House Candidate for Western Travis Says He'll Rein in Local Governments"; approx. Nov. 25, 2019; no transcript or copy of the original article is available, as the outlet appears to have gone under, but I made the following contemporaneous social media post at the time: "We spoke about a wide range of issues like my background, reasons for running, why my opponent Democrat Vikki Goodwin is so out of step with HD-47, and my thoughts on a few hot topics in Texas. The bottom line for me is this: 'What primary [and general] voters want is a legislator who is committed...to providing a meaningful state check and balance to what is reasonably perceived as out-of-control, unaccountable [big-city] government.' Banning SF-style homeless ordinances statewide, closing loopholes in our anti-sanctuary city laws, strengthening the ban on taxpayer-aided abortions, requiring third-party independent audits of city funds, making local government more transparent, preempting local mandatory paid sick leave, ending tax-payer funded lobbying, and erecting a strong school-choice program that allows parents dissatisfied with their kids' education to move elsewhere easily and affordably. That's what I want to see happen in the 2021 session, and you can count on me to capably lead the way on all these fronts!"; I am no longer able to find this post at the time of submitting the SJQ despite a diligent search

Interview; Stew and The Nunn Show; Oct. 24, 2019; <https://fb.watch/xiRGUJpYrP/>

Interview; Raging Elephants Radio with Doc Greene; approx. June 24, 2019; no transcript or recording appears available, as the show seems to have been taken down, but I offered the following summary on my campaign Facebook page: "Check out the first hour of this radio show in which I discuss my pro-tax-cut, pro-2nd Amendment, pro-life, pro-border-security, pro-voting-integrity conservative Republican agenda. I tell you what I think about this past legislative session and what I hope we'll accomplish in 2021. And—yep, we went there—whether Muslims can be good, loyal Americans. (Spoiler! Yes, they can.)"; I am no longer able to find this post at the time of submitting the SJQ despite a diligent search

Interview; The Texan Podcast; June 3, 2019; https://thetexan.news/podcast/video-aaron-reitz-candidate-for-hd-47-on-the-texan-s-podcast/article_55b24dc9-307a-5204-9d02-b81c64aa6b5a.html

- f. If applicable, list all published judicial opinions that you have written, including concurrences and dissents. Supply the citations for all published judicial opinions to the Committee.

None

13. Public Office, Political Activities, and Affiliations:

- a. List chronologically any public offices you have held, other than judicial offices, including the terms of service and whether such positions were elected or appointed. If appointed, please include the name of the individual who appointed you. Also, state chronologically any unsuccessful candidacies you have had for elective office or unsuccessful nominations for appointed office

From October 2020 through May 2023, I served as a political appointee under Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton. I first served briefly as the Special Counsel to the First Assistant, and then for the rest of my tenure as Deputy Attorney General for Legal Strategy. I have one unsuccessful candidacy for elected public office: From around May 2019 to March 2020, I ran for the Texas House of Representatives, House District 47. I lost in March 2020 in the Republican primary.

- b. List all memberships and offices held in and services rendered, whether compensated or not, to any political party or election committee. If you have ever held a position or played a role in a political campaign, identify the particulars of the campaign, including the candidate, dates of the campaign, your title and responsibilities

For about a year after I lost the above-mentioned race for State House, I served as a neighborhood precinct chair for the Travis County Republican Party.

I have also served as a Senior Advisor on two statewide political campaigns in Texas: Ken Paxton in the 2022 reelection cycle for Texas Attorney General and Ted Cruz in the 2024 reelection cycle for U.S. Senator. In the former, I was Senior Advisor from October 2020 through March 2022. In the latter, I began my role as Senior Advisor in May 2023 and continue to serve in this capacity to the present day. My primary responsibilities in each role include advising the candidate, general consultants, campaign staff, and political communications teams on issues, strategies, and tactics to maximize electoral success.

14. Legal Career:

- a. **Describe chronologically your law practice and legal experience after graduation from law school including:**

- i. whether you served as clerk to a judge, and if so, the name of the judge, the court and the dates of the period you were a clerk;

I clerked for Justice Jimmy Blacklock, Supreme Court of Texas, from January 2018 to May 2019.

- ii. whether you practiced alone, and if so, the addresses and dates;

I have never practiced alone.

- iii. the dates, names and addresses of law firms or offices, companies or governmental agencies with which you have been affiliated, and the nature of your affiliation with each.

<i>Employer</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Dates</i>
Bracewell LLP	Associate Attorney	711 Louisiana St. Suite 2300 Houston, TX 77002	Sep. 2017–Jan. 2018
Supreme Court of Texas	Law Clerk to Justice Jimmy Blacklock	201 W. 14th St. Austin, TX 78701	Jan. 2018–May 2019
Cobb & Counsel	Associate Attorney	401 Congress Ave. Suite 1540 Austin, TX 78701	May 2019–Dec. 2019
Cleveland Terrazas PLLC	Associate Attorney	4611 Bee Caves Rd. Austin, TX 78746	Dec. 2019–Aug. 2020
Jefferson Cano	Associate Attorney	112 E. Pecan St. Suite 1650 San Antonio, TX 78205	Aug. 2020–Sep. 2020
Office of the Attorney General of Texas	Deputy Attorney General for Legal Strategy	300 W. 15th St. Austin, TX 78701	Oct. 2020–May 2023
U.S. Senate	Chief of Staff to Sen. Ted Cruz	167 Russell Bldg. Washington, DC 20510	May 2023–present

- iv. Whether you served as a mediator or arbitrator in alternative dispute resolution proceedings and, if so, a description of the 10 most significant matters with which you were involved in that capacity.

I have not served as a mediator or arbitrator.

- v. Whether you have held any judicial office, including positions as an administrative law judge, on any U.S. federal, state, tribal, or local court and if so, please provide the name of the court, the jurisdiction of that court, whether the position was appointed or elected, and the dates of your service.

I have not held any judicial office.

b. Describe:

- i. the general character of your law practice and indicate by date when its character has changed over the years, and
- ii. your typical clients and the areas at each period of your legal career, if any, in which you have specialized.

I began my legal career in corporate law in 2017 drafting and reviewing contracts, researching and writing on regulatory compliance, and conducting due diligence. In 2018, I transitioned to a clerkship on the Texas Supreme Court as (now-Chief) Justice Jimmy Blacklock’s inaugural law clerk. I spent a term and a half with him before launching my race for State House in the spring of 2019 and joining a small litigation firm. I spent the next year and a half in general commercial litigation serving general business clients: conducting legal research, drafting pleadings and motions, preparing depositions, managing discovery, and conducting document review.

In late 2020, I had the opportunity to join the Texas Attorney General’s Office, where I—to quote from my outgoing press release—served as “offensive coordinator” and “led some of the Agency’s most consequential lawsuits and legal initiatives, including those related to securing our border, protecting energy and agriculture jobs, ensuring reliable and transparent elections, holding Big Tech and woke corporations accountable, stopping Covid-19 regulatory abuse, curtailing the Department of Justice’s illegal overreach, and defending religious liberty and gun rights.” Link to Press Release here: <https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/news/releases/deputy-legal-strategy-aaron-reitz-departs-attorney-generals-office-serve-us-senators-chief-staff>

Most recently, beginning in the spring of 2023 as Senator Cruz’s Chief of Staff, I oftentimes serve in a general counsel role alongside our Chief Counsel: I research legal matters as they arise and provide counsel to the Senator and staff.

About 70% of my nearly eight years practicing law has been in litigation and appeals. About 20% has been in a general counsel-type role. And about 10% has been in corporate law. Nearly all of this occurred within the context of civil and administrative proceedings; very little of it was in criminal proceedings, except to the extent my work overlapped with the Criminal Divisions at the Texas Attorney General’s Office.

c. Describe the percentage of your practice that has been in litigation and whether you appeared in court frequently, occasionally, or not at all. If the frequency of your appearances in court varied, describe such variance, providing dates

i. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:

1. Federal courts: 70%
2. state courts of record: 25%
3. other courts: 0%
4. administrative agencies: 5%

ii. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:

1. civil proceedings: 95%
2. criminal proceedings: 5%

d. State the number of cases in courts of record, including cases before administrative law judges, you tried to verdict, judgment or final decision (rather than settled), indicating whether you were sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel

I appeared in court occasionally. As a junior attorney, I prepared my law partners for court but did not often appear myself. Then, at the Texas Attorney General's Office, I was an executive manager over litigation teams, and so rarely appeared myself.

The heart of my experience as a litigator was during my nearly three years at the Texas Attorney General's Office. During that time, I initiated, directed, supervised, and managed our Agency's most politically sensitive litigation efforts, so my name appeared on virtually all motions and pleadings I was involved in, even if only tangentially.

Most of my practice was a civil motions practice, from which appeals often followed. As a result, none of my cases were before juries, and could rarely be considered "trials."

1. What percentage of these trials were:
 - a. Jury: 0%
 - b. Non-jury: 100%

e. Describe your practice, if any, before the Supreme Court of the United States. Supply four (4) copies of any briefs, amicus or otherwise, and, if applicable, any oral argument transcripts before the Supreme Court in connection with your practice

I was admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court in December of 2020.

Note: PDFs of each of the following filings are available in the Google Drive link I provided to the Committee.

Reply in Support of Motion for Preliminary Injunction and Temporary Restraining Order or, Alternatively, for Stay and Administrative Stay, *Texas v. Pennsylvania*, No. 22O155, 2020 WL 7321939 (U.S. Dec. 11, 2020), *denied*, 141 S. Ct. 1230 (2020)

Motion to Enlarge Word-Count Limit and Reply in Support of Motion for Leave to File Bill of Complaint, *Texas v. Pennsylvania*, No. 22O155, 2020 WL 7321938 (U.S. Dec. 11, 2020), *denied*, 141 S. Ct. 1230 (2020)

Application for a Stay Pending Certiorari, *Arizona v. Mayorkas*, No. 22A544, 2022 WL 17834185 (U.S. Dec. 19, 2022), *cert. granted*, 143 S. Ct. 478 (2022)

State's Reply in Support of Their Application for a Stay Pending Certiorari, *Arizona v. Mayorkas*, No. 22A544, 2022 WL 17881618 (U.S. Dec. 21, 2022), *cert. granted*, 143 S. Ct. 478 (2022)

Brief for Petitioners, *Arizona v. Mayorkas*, No. 22-592, 2023 WL 363968 (U.S. Jan. 18, 2023), *cert. granted*, 143 S. Ct. 478 (2022)

Reply Brief for Petitioners, *Arizona v. Mayorkas*, No. 22-592, 2023 WL 2189063 (U.S. Feb. 17, 2023), *cert. granted*, 143 S. Ct. 478 (2022)

State Applicants' Reply in Support of Emergency Application for an Administrative Stay and Stay of Administrative Action, and Alternative Petition for Writ of Certiorari Before Judgment, *Nat'l Fed'n of Indep. Bus. v. Occupational Safety & Health Admin.*, Nos. 21A244, 21A247, 2022 WL 2288314 (U.S. Jan. 3, 2022), *cert. granted*, *Nat'l Fed'n of Indep. Bus. v. Dep't of Lab., Occupational Safety & Health Admin.*, 595 U.S. 109 (2022)

15. Litigation: Describe the ten (10) most significant litigated matters which you personally handled, whether or not you were the attorney of record. Give the citations, if the cases were reported, and the docket number and date if unreported. Give a capsule summary of the substance of each case. Identify the party or parties whom you represented; describe in detail the nature of your participation in the litigation and the final disposition of the case. Also state as to each case:

- a. the date of representation,
- b. the name of the court and the name of the judge or judges before whom the case was litigated; and
- c. the individual name, addresses, and telephone numbers of co-counsel and of principal counsel for each of the other parties.

(1) *Case Name: Texas v. United States*

Citation: 6:21-cv-3 (S.D. Tex., Victoria Div., Judge Drew Tipton)

Representation and involvement: I represented the State of Texas

Summary of case and procedural history: On January 20, 2021, DHS published a 100-day pause of all removals of aliens. Texas filed suit challenging the action as unlawful and sought a TRO, which was granted on January 26, 2021. A preliminary injunction was issued on February 23, 2021.

Final disposition of the case: Challenged agency action expired on its own terms and parties stipulated to dismissal.

Month and year the case began: January 2021

Month and year the case was brought to final resolution: May 2021

Co-Counsel on the Case: Patrick K. Sweeten, Todd Lawrence Disher, William Thomas Thompson, Ryan Daniel Walters (Each of these attorneys was or is currently with the Office of the Attorney General of Texas. The best single point of contact for all of them is Ryan Walters, head of the Special Litigation Division, at ryan.walters@oag.texas.gov, 512-463-2100, 300 W. 15th Street, Austin, TX 78701)

(2) *Case Name: Texas and Louisiana v. United States*

Citation: 6:21-cv-16 (S.D. Tex., Victoria Div., Judge Drew Tipton); Nos. 21-40618 & 22-40367 (Fifth Circuit); No. 22-58 (U.S. Supreme Court)

Representation and involvement: I represented the State of Texas

Summary of case and procedural history: On January 20, 2021, DHS published priorities for arrest and detention of criminal aliens. On April 4, 2021, Texas and Louisiana filed suit challenging the priorities as unlawful; on April 27, 2021, the States filed a motion for a preliminary injunction. On August 19, 2021, the court granted a preliminary injunction. DHS appealed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit and sought a stay of the preliminary injunction, which was granted on September 15, 2021. The stay was vacated by the en banc Fifth Circuit on November 30, 2021. DHS issued new enforcement priorities on September 30, 2021, and the States amended their complaint and filed a new motion for preliminary injunction. The court consolidated the motion with a bench trial, which was held on February 23 and 24, 2022. On June 10, 2022, the district court ruled in favor of the States and vacated the updated enforcement priorities. DHS appealed and sought a stay from the Fifth Circuit, which that court denied on July 6, 2022. The Supreme Court granted certiorari on July 28, 2022.

Final disposition of the case: On June 23, 2023, the Supreme Court reversed, finding the States lacked Article III standing to challenge the enforcement priorities.

Month and year the case began: April 2021

Month and year the case was brought to final resolution: August 2023

Co-Counsel on the Case: Patrick K. Sweeten, William Thomas Thompson, Ryan Daniel Walters, Eric Alan Hudson, Leif A. Olson, Judd E. Stone II, Lanora Christine Pettit, Eric Alan Hudson, Ryan Daniel Walters, Kathryn Cherry, Benjamin D. Wilson (Each of these attorneys was or is currently with the Office of the Attorney General of Texas. The best single point of contact for all of them is Ryan Walters, head of the Special Litigation Division, at ryan.walters@oag.texas.gov, 512-463-2100, 300 W. 15th Street, Austin, TX 78701); for co-plaintiff Louisiana: Elizabeth Baker Murrill, Joseph Scott St. John, Benjamin Wallace (constituentservices@ag.louisiana.gov, 225-326-6079, 1885 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802)

(3) *Case Name:* Texas v. Yellen

Citation: 2:21-cv-79 (N.D. Tex., Amarillo Div., Judge Matthew J. Kacsmaryk)

Representation and involvement: I represented the State of Texas

Summary of case and procedural history: On May 3, 2021, Texas, Louisiana, and Mississippi challenged a provision of the American Rescue Plan Act that precluded States from cutting taxes. On April 8, 2022, the district court granted the States' motion for summary judgment and enjoined enforcement of the statutory provision. On June 25, 2024, the Fifth Circuit affirmed the judgment. Defendants sought no further review in any court.

Final disposition of the case: On June 25, 2024, the Fifth Circuit affirmed; on August 19, 2024, the mandate was issued to the district court.

Month and year the case began: May 2021

Month and year the case was brought to final resolution: August 2024

Co-Counsel on the Case: Judd E. Stone II, Ryan Daniel Walters, Lanora Pettit (Each of these attorneys was or is currently with the Office of the Attorney General of Texas. The best single point of contact for all of them is Ryan Walters, head of the Special Litigation Division, at ryan.walters@oag.texas.gov, 512-463-2100, 300 W. 15th Street, Austin, TX 78701); for co-plaintiff Louisiana: Elizabeth Baker Murrill (constituentservices@ag.louisiana.gov, 225-326-6079, 1885 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802); for co-plaintiff Mississippi: Michael Patrick Clendenen, Justin Lee Matheny (601-359-3680, P.O. Box 220, Jackson, MS 39205)

(4) *Case Name: Texas v. EEOC*

Citation: 2:21-cv-194 (N.D. Tex., Amarillo Div., Judge Matthew J. Kacsmaryk)

Representation and involvement: I represented the State of Texas

Summary of case and procedural history: Texas challenged a guidance document issued by EEOC that purported to require employers to allow bathroom, dress code, and pronoun usage by employees based on gender identity rather than biological sex. In its amended complaint, Texas added a challenge to an HHS guidance document that purported to forbid Texas from applying its child-abuse laws to hormonal and surgical mutilation of children. On October 1, 2022, the district court granted in part Texas's motion for summary judgment and vacated both guidance documents.

Final disposition of the case: The challenged guidance documents were vacated. Defendants did not appeal.

Month and year the case began: September 2021

Month and year the case was brought to final resolution: October 2022

Co-Counsel on the Case: Ryan Daniel Walters, William Thomas Thompson, Amy S. Hilton, Ethan Quinn Szumanski, Leif A. Olson (Each of these attorneys was or is currently with the Office of the Attorney General of Texas. The best single point of contact for all of them is Ryan Walters, head of the Special Litigation Division, at ryan.walters@oag.texas.gov, 512-463-2100, 300 W. 15th Street, Austin, TX 78701)

(5) *Case Name: Abbott v. Biden*

Citation: 6:22-cv-3 (E.D. Tex., Tyler Div., Judge J. Campbell Barker); No. 22-40399 (5th Circuit)

Representation and involvement: I represented the State of Texas and Governor Abbott

Summary of case and procedural history: Texas challenged the federal COVID-19 vaccine mandate's application to Texas National Guard. On June 24, 2022, the district court denied Texas's motion for preliminary injunction. Texas appealed, and on June 12, 2023, the Fifth Circuit reversed the denial of preliminary injunction and remanded to the trial court for further proceedings.

Final disposition of the case: On January 3, 2024, the district court issued an order adopting a joint stipulation of dismissal due to the federal government's rescission of the vaccine mandate.

Month and year the case began: January 2022

Month and year the case was brought to final resolution: January 2024

Co-Counsel on the Case: Amy Snow Hilton, Leif A. Olson, Christopher D. Hilton, Lanora Christine Pettit, Ryan Baasch, Christopher D. Hilton, Leif A. Olson (Each of these attorneys was or is currently with the Office of the Attorney General of Texas. The best single point of contact for all of them is Ryan Walters, head of the Special Litigation Division, at ryan.walters@oag.texas.gov, 512-463-2100, 300 W. 15th Street, Austin, TX 78701)

(6) *Case Name: Texas and Missouri v. Biden*

Citation: 2:21-cv-67 (N.D. Tex., Amarillo Div., Judge Matthew J. Kacsmaryk); Nos. 21-10806 & 23-10143 (5th Circuit); No. 21-954 (U.S. Supreme Court)

Representation and involvement: I represented the State of Texas

Summary of case and procedural history: Texas and Missouri challenged the termination of the Remain-in-Mexico program (Migrant Protection Protocols, or MPP). On July 22, 2021, the district court held a bench trial. On August 13, 2021, the court ruled in favor of the States and vacated the termination of MPP and permanently enjoined DHS to implement MPP until it had

sufficient capacity to detain all aliens subject to mandatory detention. DHS appealed and sought a stay. The Fifth Circuit denied a stay. It later affirmed the trial court's ruling. The Supreme Court granted certiorari and reversed, remanding to the trial court to determine whether a later attempt to terminate MPP was arbitrary and capricious. On December 15, 2022, the trial court stayed the later attempt to terminate MPP on the grounds that it was arbitrary and capricious. DHS appealed to the Fifth Circuit, but the court dismissed the appeal with the mandate returning to the trial court on July 17, 2023. The parties filed cross-motions for summary judgment, with briefing complete on October 6, 2023.

Final disposition of the case: ongoing

Month and year the case began: April 2021

Month and year the case was brought to final resolution: Ongoing

Co-Counsel on the Case: for Texas: Patrick K. Sweeten, William Thomas Thompson, Ryan Daniel Walters (Each of these attorneys was or is currently with the Office of the Attorney General of Texas. The best single point of contact for all of them is Ryan Walters, head of the Special Litigation Division, at ryan.walters@oag.texas.gov, 512-463-2100, 300 W. 15th Street, Austin, TX 78701); for co-plaintiff Missouri: D. John Sauer, Jesus A. Osete, Michael E. Talent, Joshua M. Divine (573-751-3321, 207 W. High St., P.O. Box 899, Jefferson City, MO 65102)

(7) *Case Name:* Missouri and Texas v. Biden

Citation: Nos. 6:21-cv-52 and 7:21-cv-272 (consolidated) (S.D. Tex. McAllen Div., Judges Michaela Alvarez and Drew Tipton); Nos. 22-40110, 24-40526, 24-40447 (5th Circuit)

Representation and involvement: I represented the State of Texas

Summary of case and procedural history: Texas and Missouri challenged DHS's refusal to use appropriated funds for border-wall construction as mandated by Congress. DHS filed a motion to dismiss, and the States filed a motion for preliminary injunction. On February 22, 2022, the district court stayed proceedings in the case, and the States appealed that action as a constructive denial of their preliminary injunction motion. On July 29, 2022, the Fifth Circuit dismissed that appeal as moot. On August 3, 2022, the district court granted DHS's motion to dismiss all of the States' claims and the States appealed. On June 16, 2023, the Fifth Circuit reversed the dismissal of the States' claims and remanded to the trial court to rule on the States' pending motion for preliminary injunction.

Final disposition of the case: On March 8, 2024, the district court granted the States' motion for preliminary injunction, and on May 29, 2024 the court converted that into a final judgment and permanent injunction. DHS did not appeal.

Month and year the case began: November 2021

Month and year the case was brought to final resolution: May 2024

Co-Counsel on the Case: Ryan Daniel Walters, Munera Al-Fuhaid, Judd E. Stone II, Ryan Baasch (Each of these attorneys was or is currently with the Office of the Attorney General of Texas. The best single point of contact for all of them is Ryan Walters, head of the Special Litigation Division, at ryan.walters@oag.texas.gov, 512-463-2100, 300 W. 15th Street, Austin, TX 78701); for co-plaintiff Missouri: D. John Sauer, Maddie McMillian Green, Jeff Philip Johnson, Jesus A. Osete, Joshua M. Divine, Michael E. Talent, Samuel C. Freedlund, Jeff Philip Johnson (573-751-3321, 207 W. High St., P.O. Box 899, Jefferson City, MO 65102)

(8) *Case Name: United States v. Texas*

Citation: 3:21-cv-00173 (W.D. Tex., El Paso Div., Judge Kathleen Cardone) (lead case); 3:21-cv-178 (W.D. Tex., El Paso Div. Judge Kathleen Cardone) (non-lead consolidated case); 22-50212 (5th Cir.)

Representation and involvement: I represented the State of Texas and Governor Abbott, in his official capacity.

Summary of case and procedural history: Texas is defending GA-37, an emergency order Gov. Abbott issued in 2021. The district court consolidated two cases that challenge the constitutionality of GA-37, one brought by the United States and the other by a consortium of immigrant advocacy groups. The federal suit is the lead case. The Court denied Texas's motions to dismiss, and limited appeal was taken to the Fifth Circuit on the question whether the Governor was immune to private plaintiffs' suit. The Fifth Circuit reversed on that question, leading the Court to dismiss private plaintiffs' claims against Gov. Abbott. Currently, private plaintiffs' claims are only live against the State, while the United States has live claims against both Gov. Abbott and the State. The parties have filed cross motions for summary judgment.

Final disposition of the case: The district court has not entered final judgment. The parties' cross motions for summary judgment were fully briefed as of December 23, 2024 and are pending.

Month and year the case began: The United States filed on July 30, 2021, and private plaintiffs filed August 4, 2021. The case was consolidated on August 26, 2021.

Month and year the case was brought to final resolution: Ongoing

Co-Counsel on the Case: Zachary L. Rhines, Kyle S. Tebo, Munera Al-Fuhaid, Jacob Przada, Amy Snow Hilton, Patrick Sweeten, Johnathan Stone, Judd E. Stone II, Amy Pletscher, Daniel L. Abrahamson, Susanna Dokupil, William Thompson, William Wassdorf, Evan Scott Greene (Each of these attorneys was or is currently with the Office of the Attorney General of Texas. The best single point of contact for all of them is Ryan Walters, head of the Special Litigation Division, at ryan.walters@oag.texas.gov, 512-463-2100, 300 W. 15th Street, Austin, TX 78701)

(9) *Case Name: Texas v. EPA*

Citation: 3:23-cv-17 (S.D. Tex., Galveston Div., Judge Jeff Brown); 23-40306 (5th Cir.)

Representation and involvement: I represented the State of Texas

Summary of case and procedural history: On January 18, 2023, EPA published the WOTUS Rule which purported to extend EPA jurisdiction over waters that the Supreme Court had previously determined were not waters of the United States. Texas and some Texas agencies filed suit that same day, arguing that the Rule was unconstitutional and lacked statutory authority, that it was arbitrary and capricious, that the EPA's claimed power to define its own jurisdiction violated the Major Questions Doctrine, that it violated Texas's sovereignty, and that it violated due process by establishing criminal penalties without adequate notice of what behavior was criminalized.

Final disposition of the case: The district court granted a preliminary injunction against the Rule in March 2023. EPA then amended the Rule, and Texas's challenge against it continues.

Month and year the case began: January 2023.

Month and year the case was brought to final resolution: In July 2023, the court granted EPA's motion to stay pending the new rule. The case has continued against the new rule. However, the challenge to the original rule was arguably brought to final resolution in July 2023.

Co-Counsel on the Case: Jessica Amber Ahmed, Katie Hobson, Carl Myers, Shelby Elisabeth Thompson, Mark Andrew Steinbach, Logan Harrell, Phillip Ledbetter, Zachary Logan Harrell

(Each of these attorneys was or is currently with the Office of the Attorney General of Texas. The best single point of contact for all of them is Ryan Walters, head of the Special Litigation Division, at ryan.walters@oag.texas.gov, 512-463-2100, 300 W. 15th Street, Austin, TX 78701); for co-plaintiff Idaho, added to case in February 2023: David Dewhirst, Joshua N. Turner, Lincoln Davis Wilson, Brent R. King, Michael Allen Short, Scott L. Campbell (AGLabrador@ag.idaho.gov, 208-334-2400, 700 W. Jefferson Street, Suite 210, P.O. Box 83720, Boise, Idaho 83720); for private co-plaintiffs consolidated with Texas's case in February 2023: Brett E. Legner, James Brian Danford Jr., Kevin Scott Ranlett, Timothy S. Bishop (blegner@mayerbrown.com, 312-701-8090, 71 South Wacker Drive, Chicago, IL 60606)

(10) Case Name: Texas v. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Citation: 21-60743 (5th Cir.), 23-1300 (SCOTUS)

Representation and involvement: I represented the State of Texas

Summary of case and procedural history: On September 13, 2021, NRC issued a license for storage of spent nuclear fuel in the Permian Basin. Texas filed a petition for review of NRC's action two days later, arguing that NRC lacked statutory authority to issue the license or, in the alternative, that NRC lacked authority to issue a license for permanent storage. We also argued that granting the license was arbitrary and capricious and violated the National Environmental Policy Act.

Final disposition of the case: Not yet final. The Fifth Circuit granted our petition for review in August 2023, and denied en banc rehearing 7-9 in March 2024. NRC appealed and the case will be argued at SCOTUS on March 5, 2025 by Texas Solicitor General Aaron Nielson.

Month and year the case began: September 2021

Month and year the case was brought to final resolution: Ongoing.

Co-Counsel on the Case: Aaron Nielson (SCOTUS), Ryan Baasch, Lanora Pettit, Michael Abrams, Ryan Walters (Each of these attorneys was or is currently with the Office of the Attorney General of Texas. The best single point of contact for all of them is Ryan Walters, head of the Special Litigation Division, at ryan.walters@oag.texas.gov, 512-463-2100, 300 W. 15th Street, Austin, TX 78701)

16. Legal Activities: Describe the most significant legal activities you have pursued including significant litigation which did not progress to trial or legal matters that did not involve litigation. Describe fully the nature of your participation in these activities. List any client(s) or organization(s) for whom you performed lobbying activities and describe the lobbying activities you performed on behalf of such client(s) or organizations(s). (Note: As to any facts requested in this question, please omit any information protected by the attorney-client privilege.)

I have not acted as a lobbyist or engaged in lobbying activities on behalf of clients

My most significant legal activities during my tenure as Senator Cruz's Chief of Staff is in a sort of general counsel role alongside our Chief Counsel. I regularly advise on legal matters that arise with respect to legislation, Senate Ethics and Rules Committee issues, and duties inherent in the Senator's role as member of the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Prior to this post, my most significant legal activities are enumerated in my Texas Attorney General's Office resignation letter. It is linked here⁵, but I lay it out in full for ease of access and because it provides a thematic summary of the issues I worked on between 2020 and 2023:

April 26, 2023

Dear Attorney General Paxton,

With gratitude toward you and your leadership, pride for what we've accomplished, and some sadness in the knowledge that our chapter has come to a close, I hereby submit my resignation as Deputy Attorney General for Legal Strategy effective May 12, 2023.

Serving under you and alongside some of the best people I know for over two and a half years has been an honor and adventure. We've done great, patriotic work together, and I'm thankful to you for letting me provide a helping hand.

Together we've sued the Biden Administration nearly 50 times since January 2021 and secured an 80% win rate fighting the nation's most consequential legal battles. We've reinvigorated federalism. And we've held the line against the lawless federal government's worst excesses.

Together we've done our part to secure the Texas-Mexico border, successfully curbing Biden's efforts to halt deportations, dissolve the Remain-in-Mexico program, end border wall construction, abuse parole and asylum law, and flood the nation with illegal aliens.

Together we've defended against the menace of Big Tech through history's largest antitrust and consumer protection lawsuits. We've investigated entities that push harmful content on our nation's youth and demanded answers from those who erode the First Amendment by canceling conservative voices.

Together we've pushed back against woke corporations by thwarting their Environmental, Social, and Governance agenda, and we've held accountable Wall Street and Silicon Valley interests that want to destroy the Second Amendment and Texas's oil and gas industry.

Together we've protected precious unborn children by defending Texas's pro-life laws and blocking the Biden Administration's attempts to undermine the U.S. Supreme Court's historic Dobbs decision.

Together we've safeguarded the integrity of the ballot box by remaining ever vigilant against the left's attempts to corrupt Texas elections in 2020 and 2022, as well as

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<https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/sites/default/files/images/press/Aaron%20Reitz's%20Departure%20Letter.pdf>

by giving the public more power to hold crooked elections administrators accountable through increased transparency.

Together we've resisted radical LGBTQ activists' attempts to push their sexual agenda on kids, declaring with legal and moral clarity that all efforts to "trans" Texas youth are, in fact, child abuse under state law.

Together we've shown the whole country that you are the most effective Attorney General in America, and that you're a man—a good and decent man—who will always stand by Law and Order, the Constitution, and Truth.

We'll keep fighting this war together. But now it's my time to fight it on a different front.

Thank you for the opportunity you've given me. Thank you for your friendship and mentorship too. God bless you, my colleagues on the executive team, and all the wonderful men and women who serve you and Texas in the Office of the Attorney General.

Very respectfully,
Aaron Reitz

17. Teaching: What courses have you taught? For each course, state the title, the institution at which you taught the course, the years in which you taught the course, and describe briefly the subject matter of the course and the major topics taught. If you have a syllabus of each course, provide four (4) copies to the committee.

None.

18. Deferred Income and Future Benefits: List the sources, amounts and dates of all anticipated receipts from deferred income arrangements, stock, options, uncompleted contracts and other future benefits which you expect to derive from previous business relationships, professional services, firm memberships, former employers, clients or customers. Describe the arrangements you have made to be compensated in the future for any financial or business interest.

None.

19. Outside Commitments During Service: Do you have any plans, commitments, or agreements to pursue outside employment, with or without compensation, during your service? If so, explain

I intend to continue my service in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve.

20. Sources of Income: List sources and amounts of all income received during the calendar year preceding your nomination and for the current calendar year, including all salaries, fees,

dividends, interest, gifts, rents, royalties, licensing fees, honoraria, and other items exceeding \$500 or more (if you prefer to do so, copies of the financial disclosure report, required by the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, may be substituted here).

See forthcoming OGE financial disclosure report.

21. Statement of Net Worth: Please complete the attached financial net worth statement in detail (add schedules as called for)

See attached Statement of Net Worth.

22. Potential Conflicts of Interest:

- a. Identify the family members or other persons, parties, affiliations, pending and categories of litigation, financial arrangements or other factors that are likely to present potential conflicts-of-interest when you first assume the position to which you have been nominated. Explain how you would address any such conflict if it were to arise.

None.

- b. Explain how you will resolve any potential conflict of interest, including the procedure you will follow in determining these areas of concern.

If I am confirmed, any potential conflict of interest will be resolved in accordance with the terms of an ethics agreement that I have entered into with the Department's designated agency ethics official. If confirmed, I will continue to consult with the Department of Justice's ethics office and will recuse myself from any matter in which recusal is required.

23. Pro Bono Work: An ethical consideration under Canon 2 of the American Bar Association's Code of Professional Responsibility calls for "every lawyer, regardless of professional prominence or professional workload, to find some time to participate in serving the disadvantaged." Describe what you have done to fulfill these responsibilities, listing specific instances and the amount of time devoted to each. If you are not an attorney, please use this opportunity to report significant charitable and volunteer work you may have done

My legal career for the past five years has been devoted to public service. What's more, as a federal employee, I am not able to engage in the outside practice of law—even if it's pro bono. Nevertheless, the heart of my career is public service: in Texas, in Washington, and with the Marine Corps Reserve, in which I stand ready to defend our nation against its enemies.
