

Noah Smith-Drelich

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Chicago-Kent College of Law, Jul. 2020 – present
Assistant Professor of Law

Columbia Law School, Jul. 2018 – Jun. 2020
Academic Fellow

EDUCATION

Stanford Law School, J.D., 2012
Stanford Law Review, Articles Editor (Vol. 64)
Stanford Law & Policy Review, Editor in Chief (Vol. 23); Managing Editor (Vol. 22)

Stanford University, M.S., Environment and Resources (Health and Human Environment track), 2012

Williams College, B.A., Philosophy and English, Concentration in International Studies, 2007
Student Leader of the Year, 2004 – 2005

TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

Torts, Civil Procedure, Constitutional Torts, Complex Litigation, Travel Rights, Health Law

ARTICLES

False Positive Law, 111 MINN. L. REV. __ (forthcoming 2026)

Is Bivens Dead?, 61 GA. L. REV. __ (forthcoming 2026)

The Forgotten Fundamental Right to Free Movement, 119 NW. U. L. REV. 811 (2025)

The Anti-Discriminatory Right to Travel, 100 IND. L. J. 1063 (2025)

Food Tax Substitution Effects, 26 FL. TAX REV. 1 (2024) (faculty edited)

Race and the New School Milk Requirements, 14 CAL. L. REV. O. 48 (2023)

Funding the Police, 84 OHIO ST. L. J. 717 (2023)

The Constitutional Right to Travel Under Quarantine, 94 S. CAL. L. REV. 1367 (2022)

Travel Rights in a Culture War, 101 TEXAS L. REV. O. 21 (2022)

The Constitutional Tort System, 96 IND. L. J. 571 (2021)

Performative Causation, 93 S. CAL. L. REV. 379 (2020)

Buying Health: Assessing the Impact of a Consumer-Side Vegetable Subsidy on Purchasing, Consumption and Waste, 19 PUB. HEALTH NUTRITION 520 (2016) (peer reviewed)

Curing the Mass Tort Settlement Malaise, 48 LOYOLA L.A. L. REV. 1 (2014)

BOOKS

CONSTITUTIONAL TORTS, 6th ed. (Carolina Academic Press 2025) (with Sheldon Nahmod, Michael L. Wells, and Fred Smith, Jr.)

CLERKSHIPS

United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, Sept. 2013 – Sept. 2014

Law Clerk to the Honorable Edmond E. Chang

United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, Aug. 2012 – Aug. 2013

Law Clerk to the Honorable Jay S. Bybee

PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

Seventh Circuit Judicial Council, Jan. 2025 – present

Rules Reporter

Appointed by the Honorable Diane S. Sykes in her capacity as Chief Judge

Review all changes to local rules within the Seventh Circuit pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 332(d)(4)

Pro Bono Lawsuit: Thunderhawk v. County of Morton, 1:18-cv-00212, Jan. 2017 – present

Lead Counsel

Civil liberties class action related to Standing Rock, filed in the Federal District of North Dakota

Covered by the AP News, NPR, Reuters, The Intercept, Indian Country Today, and many other publications

Currently in discovery

ACLU of North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming, Nov. 2017 – Apr. 2018

Staff Attorney

Managed the ACLU's litigation within region, developed new cases, negotiated policy changes with officials

Korein Tillery, Saint Louis, Missouri, Oct. 2014 – Jan. 2017

Attorney

Authored numerous dispositive briefs in federal and state trial and appellate courts

Authored U.S. Supreme Court amicus brief on behalf of Senator Grassley (*UHS v. Escobar*)

Secured over \$4.5 billion in settlements as a member of small teams in cases of national interest

Native Amicus Briefing Project, Aug. 2013 – Jan. 2017

Board Member (with Maggie Blackhawk, Seth Davis, Jacqueline De León, Tom Pack, and Laura Jacobsen)

Assisted with NABP's mission of fostering a greater understanding of federal Indian law in the courts

Coordinated, nationwide, law student pro bono tracking programs, 2013-2015

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Chicago-Kent College of Law, Jul. 2020 – present

Assistant Professor of Law

Teaching: Torts, Civil Procedure, Constitutional Torts, and Constitutional Litigation Practicum

Grants: AAJ Robert L Habush Endowment grant for empirical *Bivens* research (2026-2028)

RES-MATCH grant for collaborative research on food taxes, commodities (2023, 2024, 2026)

Innovation Funds grant to develop and teach Constitutional Litigation Practicum (2022)

Columbia Law School, New York, NY, Jul. 2018 – Jun. 2020

Legal Research and Writing

Taught two sections of legal writing class each year

Royal University of Law and Economics, Phnom Penh, Cambodia, Jun. 2010 – Aug. 2010
Public International Law (co-taught with Anees Ahmed) and *Legal Writing*
Planned and taught two classes in the English Language Based Bachelor of Laws Program

Crazy Horse School, Pine Ridge Reservation, Aug. 2007 – May 2009
7th-12th Grade English Instructor
Constructed curriculum and lesson plans, teaching a range of English and Language Arts classes
Motivated students to achieve three years of reading and writing growth in each year

Oglala Lakota College, Pine Ridge Reservation, Jan. 2009 – May 2009
Adjunct Professor
Designed curriculum, planned lessons, and taught American Government evening class

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Advisory Board to the Annual Section 1983 Civil Rights Litigation Conference (2024 – present)
AALS Pro Bono Honor Roll (2023)
Professor of the Year, elected by the Student Bar Association (2022)
College Excellence in Teaching Award, selected by the Dean (2022)

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS AND TALKS

Is Bivens Dead?

Civil Procedure Workshop, Richmond Law School (June 2025)
Federal Courts Junior Scholars Workshop, Cornell Law School (May 2025)
National Conference of Constitutional Law Scholars, Arizona Law School (March 2025)

False Positive Law

Chicagoland Junior Scholars Conference, Loyola Chicago Law School (Sept. 2024)
Richmond Junior Faculty Forum, Richmond Law School (May 2024)

The Forgotten Fundamental Right to Free Movement

National Conference of Constitutional Law Scholars, Arizona Law (Feb. 2024)
Richmond Law School Junior Faculty Forum, Richmond Law (May 2023)
Symposium on Substantive Due Process, with the National Civil Justice Institute, SMU Law (Apr. 2023)

The Anti-Discriminatory Right to Travel

Equality Law Scholars Forum, Boston University School of Law (Nov. 2023)

Food Tax Substitution Effects

Consumer Law Scholars Conference, University of California Berkeley School of Law (Mar. 2024)
Stanford, Penn, and Northwestern Junior Faculty Forum in Law & STEM, Northwestern Law (Oct. 2022)
Chicagoland Junior Scholars Conference, Loyola Chicago Law School (Sept. 2022)
Central States Law School Association Annual Conference, Washburn School of Law (Sept. 2022)
Health Law Professors Conference, Loyola Chicago Law School (June 2019)
Postdoctoral Symposium, Columbia University (Dec. 2018) (best poster winner)

Travel Rights in a Culture War

Health Law Professors Conference, Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, ASU (June 2022)

Funding the Police

Civil Procedure Workshop, Cardozo School of Law (May 2022)

The Constitutional Right to Travel Under Quarantine

Health Law Professors Conference, Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, ASU (June 2022)
Midwest Law & Society Retreat, University of Wisconsin Law School (Nov. 2021)
ACS Constitutional Law Scholars Forum (March 2021)

The Constitutional Tort System

Faculty Workshop, J. Reuben Clark Law School, BYU (April 2020)
Civil Procedure Workshop, University of Texas School of Law (Oct. 2019)
Midwest Law and Economics Association, Villanova Law School (Oct. 2019)
New York City Torts Workshop, NYU School of Law (Sept. 2019)
European Association of Law and Economics Annual Conference, Tel Aviv University (Sept. 2019)
Federal Courts Junior Scholars Workshop, University of Arkansas School of Law (Sept. 2019)

Performative Causation

Civil Procedure Workshop, Stanford Law School (Nov. 2018)

Buying Health: Assessing the Impact of a Vegetable Subsidy on Purchasing, Consumption and Waste

Food Summit, Stanford University (Oct. 2013)
Invited seminar presenter, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University (Feb. 2013)

Guest Lecturer:

BYU Law School, Civil Procedure (2020, 2021, 2022)
Columbia Law School, Torts (2020), Legal Methods (2021)
St. Louis University, First Amendment Law (2021)

Panelist or Presenter:

Section 1983 Civil Rights Litigation Conference: *Remedies* (2023, 2024, 2025, 2026)
Chicago-Kent Law Review Symposium: *Teaching Law in a Time of Change and Conflict* (2023)
Northwestern Law School ACS, *Haaland v. Brackeen* and the Future of Federal Indian Law (2022)
PBS Chicago (WTTW), Black Voices/Latino Voices – conversation on abortion rights (7/1/2022)
Constitutional Democracy Project, Professional Development Conference, Chicago-Kent (2021)
Chicago Bar Association, Young Lawyers Section – Civil Rights Committee Seminar CLE (2021)
Columbia Law School, Center of Contemporary Critical Thought, Abolition Democracy Series (2021)
Columbia Law School, Emeritus Professors in Columbia Series (2020)

CHICAGO-KENT FACULTY SERVICE

Curriculum Committee (2025 –)
Law Review Committee (2024 –)
Faculty Appointments Committee (2021 – 2025)
University Dean Review Committee (2023 – 2024)
University Teaching Award Committee (2023)
Bias Response Team (2021 – 2022)
Visiting Assistant Professor Appointments Committee (2020 – 2021)
Speakers Committee (2020 – 2021)

REFEREE / PEER REVIEWER

Stanford Law Review
Duke Law Journal
Northwestern University Law Review
American Journal of Law & Medicine

American Public Health Association

Law & Social Inquiry

PLOS One

Public Health Nutrition

Laws

University of Leuven, Belgium (reviewer for competitive research funding proposal)

BAR AND COURT ADMISSIONS

Illinois; 2nd, 7th, 8th, and 9th Circuit Courts of Appeal; N.D. Ill.; D. N.D.; W.D. N.Y.