



UNIVERSITY OF **HOUSTON** LAW CENTER



2026 U.S. SUPREME COURT UPDATE

Legal experts from the University of Houston Law Center will discuss the 2025-2026 United States Supreme Court term, highlighting some of this year's major decisions.

Wednesday, August 12, 2026

2:00-5:00 PM Central Time

via Zoom

Approved for 3.0 hours of Texas MCLE credit

Agenda

2:00-2:10 PM

Opening Remarks

Leonard M. Baynes

Dean, Hugh Roy and Lillie Cranz

Cullen Distinguished Chair

Professor of Law

University of Houston Law Center

2:10-2:40 PM

The Constitutionality of Birthright Citizenship and Other Restrictions on Immigration

Trump v. Barbara; Mullin v. Doe; Mullin v. Al Otro Lado

Seth J. Chandler

Law Foundation Professor of Law

University of Houston Law Center

2:40-3:00 PM

The Legality of International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA) Tariffs

Learning Resources, Inc. v. Trump

Elizabeth Trujillo

Mary Ann & Lawrence E. Faust

Professor of Law

Founding Director, Initiative on Global

Law and Policy for the Americas

University of Houston Law Center

Visiting Professor of Law (2026-2027)

Indiana University

Maurer School of Law

Agenda

3:00-3:30 PM

Voting Rights, Mail-In Ballots, and Campaign Finance

Louisiana v. Callais; Watson v. Republican National Committee; National Republican Senatorial Committee v. Federal Election Commission

David Froomkin

Assistant Professor of Law
University of Houston Law Center

3:30-3:50 PM

Presidential Powers and Agency Authority: The End of *Humphrey's Executor*

Trump v. Cook; Trump v. Slaughter

Emily Berman

Professor of Law
William B. Bates Distinguished
Chair in Law
Assistant Dean of Faculty Development
University of Houston Law Center

3:50-4:10 PM

Challenge to Ban on Conversion Therapy

Chiles v. Salazar

James D. Nelson

Vinson & Elkins Professor of Law
University of Houston Law Center

4:10-5:00 PM

Roundtable Discussion with Dean Baynes and All Panelists

BIOGRAPHIES



LEONARD M. BAYNES

Dean, Hugh Roy and Lillie Cranz Cullen

Distinguished Chair

Professor of Law

University of Houston Law Center

Leonard M. Baynes, currently the longest serving law dean in Texas, made history in 2014 with his appointment as the first dean of African descent at the University of Houston Law Center.

During his deanship, the UH Law Center's admission credentials have steadily increased — the median LSAT score climbed from 159 to 163 and the median GPA grew from 3.47 to 3.79. Under Dean Baynes's leadership, the Law Center completed the \$93 million world-class John M. O'Quinn Law Building in 2022 and expanded pathways to legal education through innovative programs including the 3-3 Program with UH Honors College, the UH Law Express Program, and the award-winning Pre-Law Pipeline Programs.

A prolific scholar, Dean Baynes co-authored the casebook "Telecommunications Law: Convergence and Competition" and has published over 25 law review articles and book chapters. He has received numerous honors, including recognition by *National Jurist* as one of the most influential people in legal education, the Paul Robeson Award from his alma mater Columbia Law School, and the Clyde Ferguson Award from the Association of American Law Schools.

BIOGRAPHIES



EMILY BERMAN

Professor of Law

William B. Bates Distinguished Chair in Law

Assistant Dean of Faculty Development

University of Houston Law Center

Professor Emily Berman is a constitutional scholar with expertise in executive power and national security law. Her scholarship identifies areas of law where executive power is subject to inadequate restraints and proposes novel mechanisms for imposing checks and balances and democratic accountability on the executive branch. Professor Berman teaches Constitutional Law, Federal Courts, and National Security.

Professor Berman received her A.B. in political science from Duke University and her J.D., *magna cum laude*, from New York University School of Law, where she was the editor-in-chief of the *NYU Law Review*. She also received an LL.M. in International Law from NYU. After graduating from law school, Professor Berman clerked for the Hon. John M. Walker, Jr. of the Second Circuit Court of Appeals. Prior to joining the University of Houston Law Center faculty in the fall of 2014, she taught for two years as a visiting assistant professor at Brooklyn Law School. She previously was a Furman Fellow and Brennan Center Fellow at New York University School of Law and held positions as counsel and Katz Fellow in the Liberty and National Security Program at the Brennan Center for Justice.

Professor Berman's work has been published in top journals, such as the *Minnesota Law Review*, the *Iowa Law Review*, the *Boston University Law Review*, the *Fordham Law Review*, the *Indiana Law Journal*, and the *New York University Law Review*; her opinion pieces have appeared in *Just Security*, *Lawfare*, *The Atlantic Online*, the *National Law Journal*, *Legal Times Online*, and *CNN.com*, among others.



SETH J. CHANDLER

*Law Foundation Professor of Law
University of Houston Law Center*

Seth J. Chandler is a Law Foundation Professor of Law at the UH Law Center who specializes in constitutional law and the application of mathematics and computer science to law. Professor Chandler won a prestigious university-wide teaching excellence award in 1995, was a first year winner of the Innovator Award from Wolfram Research, received the President's Medal from Loyola University for extraordinary service in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, and has been called on twice to testify before Congress on the Affordable Care Act. Professor Chandler has a broad Internet presence, including a YouTube Channel for his course Analytic Methods for Lawyers. He is also developing expertise in Large Language Models for use by Lawyers. He practiced with Munger, Tolles & Olson in Los Angeles and Williams & Connolly in Washington, D.C. before beginning his academic career in 1990 at the UH Law Center. Professor Chandler teaches constitutional law, insurance law, Analytic Methods for Lawyers, and other courses.

BIOGRAPHIES



DAVID FROOMKIN

*Assistant Professor of Law
University of Houston Law Center*

David Froomkin is an assistant professor of law at the University of Houston Law Center and an affiliated faculty member in the Department of Political Science. He is an expert on the design of democratic institutions, with primary scholarly interests in administrative law, constitutional law, and the law of democracy. His research focuses on the structure of government and of the electoral process, drawing on political science and political economy as well as analysis of the text and structure of the Constitution. He currently teaches courses on criminal law, election law, and constitutional design.

David received a B.A., *cum laude*, from Columbia University in 2015, a J.D. from Yale Law School in 2022, and a Ph.D. in Political Science (awarded departmental distinction and university distinction) from Yale University in 2024. His dissertation received the Leonard D. White Award from the American Political Science Association for the best dissertation in the field of public administration.

His scholarship has been accepted for publication in the *Iowa Law Review*, the *North Carolina Law Review*, the *University of Pennsylvania Law Review*, the *Yale Journal on Regulation*, and *Political Studies*, among other journals. His current book project, titled *Madison's Mistake: Restoring the Separation of Powers*, develops a new conceptual and normative theory of the separation of powers as a government structure that can reinforce rather than vitiate legislative supremacy.

David is frequently asked to comment on current issues in constitutional law and election law in both local and national media. The extensive national media coverage of his commentary on Texas's 2025 redistricting process was recognized with a 2026 AMA Crystal Award.

BIOGRAPHIES



JAMES D. NELSON

*Vinson & Elkins Professor of Law
University of Houston Law Center*

James Nelson is the Vinson & Elkins Professor of Law at the University of Houston Law Center. He works at the intersection of corporate, employment, and constitutional law. His current research focuses on rights of speech, religion, and association in the workplace.

Prior to joining the Law Center, Professor Nelson was a Postdoctoral Fellow at Columbia Law School. After graduating from the University of Virginia School of Law, where he was Editor-in-Chief of the *Virginia Law Review*, he clerked for the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit and then served as a trial attorney at the U.S. Department of Justice.

Professor Nelson's legal scholarship has been published or is forthcoming in the *Yale Law Journal*, *Columbia Law Review*, *Michigan Law Review*, *Virginia Law Review*, and others. He has served on the Executive Committees for the AALS Section on Business Associations and the Section on Law & Religion. Professor Nelson is a recipient of the All-University Award for Excellence in Research and Scholarship and the All-University Teaching Excellence Award.

BIOGRAPHIES



ELIZABETH TRUJILLO

Mary Ann & Lawrence E. Faust

Professor of Law

Founding Director, Initiative on Global

Law and Policy for the Americas

University of Houston Law Center

Visiting Professor of Law (2026-2027)

Indiana University Maurer School of Law

Elizabeth Trujillo is the Mary Ann & Lawrence E. Faust Professor of Law and the Founding Director of the Initiative on Global Law and Policy for the Americas. Prior to joining UHLC, she was a full professor at Texas A&M University School of Law and Suffolk University Law School in Boston, MA where she received the Latina Trailblazer Award by the Hispanic National Bar chapter of the Massachusetts Association of Hispanic Attorneys. She recently was a Visiting Fellow with the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies at the European University Institute in Florence, Italy (2025-2026), having previously been a Fernand Braudel Senior Fellow in their Department of Law.

Professor Trujillo writes and teaches in international trade and investment law, USMCA, sustainable development and energy, contracts, and international business, using comparative law methods. She is a recognized scholar in international trade and investment and related considerations for domestic decarbonization strategies and biodiversity, and has regularly advised on related policy recommendations. Her writings have been published in several leading law journals and books in the U.S. and abroad such as the *Harvard Latin American Law Review*, *Boston College Law Review*, the *Journal of International Economic Law*, the Institute of Legal Studies of the National University of Mexico Press (Editoriales del Instituto de Investigaciones Jurídicas—UNAM), and Oxford University Press. She has been a Visiting Professor at Florida State University School of Law in 2005-2006, a Visiting Scholar at Harvard University Law School, and received the prestigious Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellowship to be in residence at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Law and International Law as a Research Fellow in 2015.

In 2024, Professor Trujillo received the Global Faculty Award from the University of Houston Provost Office for her work in furthering university global strategies, and was inducted into the 2025 University President's Circle Awards for her contributions towards research and scholarship. She is currently in residence as a Visiting Professor at Indiana University Maurer School of Law in Bloomington, IN for the 2026-2027 academic year where she will be teaching Contracts, International Business Transactions, and Comparative Sales Law. Prior to entering academia, she practiced law in the areas of corporate law, project finance and international business transactions, with an emphasis on energy and Latin America.

Professor Trujillo is an elected member of the American Law Institute.

For more information about upcoming events and programs at the University of Houston Law Center:



www.law.uh.edu/cle/



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