

# DIEGO A. ZAMBRANO

Stanford Law School  
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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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**Stanford Law School**, *Professor of Law and Associate Dean*, 2018-present

Faculty Director, Stanford Neukom Center for the Rule of Law, 2023-present  
*Affiliated Faculty of the Center on Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law*, 2023-present; and  
the *Center for Latin American Studies*, 2020-present  
Courses: Advanced Civil Procedure; Civil Procedure; Global Trends in Judicial Reforms  
Service Committees: Teaching Prospects, Next Steps, Orientation, Clerkship, and Curriculum  
Barbara Allen Babcock Award for Excellence in Teaching, 2021

**Yale Law School**

*Sidley Austin-Robert D. McLean Visiting Professor of Law*, 2024

**University of Chicago Law School**

*Harry A. Bigelow Teaching Fellow & Lecturer in Law*, 2016–2018  
Courses: Legal Research & Writing; Transnational Litigation & Arbitration

## EDUCATION

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**Harvard Law School**, J.D., 2013, *Cum Laude*

**University of Virginia**, B.A., Government & History, 2010, *Phi Beta Kappa*

## BOOKS

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CIVIL PROCEDURE: A MODERN APPROACH (8<sup>th</sup> ed. 2024) (with Marcus, Pfander, & Redish)

HOW AMERICANS ENFORCE THE LAW (in progress)

## ARTICLES & ESSAYS

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*Private Enforcement in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century* (in progress)

*State Immunities* (in progress)

*Informal Norms in Judicial Selection*

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF COMPARATIVE LAW (forthcoming 2026) (with Martins da Silva)

*Private Enforcement at the Founding and Article II*

114 CALIFORNIA LAW REVIEW (forthcoming 2026) (with Baronia and Lucky)

Peer-reviewed in Jotwell.com as among “the best new scholarship relevant to Courts.” [What History Really Says](#) . . . (May 5, 2025)

*Due Process or the Rule of Law?*

STANFORD LAW REVIEW ONLINE (2025) (Symposium)

*Discovering Rick Marcus*

UC LAW SAN FRANCISCO (2025) (Symposium)

*The State Statutes Project*

2024 WISCONSIN LAW REVIEW 1615 (2024) (with Guha)

*The Costs and Benefits of University Position-Taking*

REVISITING THE KALVEN REPORT: THE UNIVERSITY’S ROLE IN SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ACTION (Keith E. Whittington & John Tomasi eds., Johns Hopkins Press, forthcoming 2024)

*Litigation Scar Tissue & Construction Costs* (book chapter)

RESEARCH HANDBOOK ON TIME AND LAW (Eds. Levmore & Fagan) (forthcoming 2024)

*The Unwritten Norms of Civil Procedure*

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY LAW REVIEW (2024)

Peer-reviewed in Jotwell.com as among “the best new scholarship relevant to Courts.” [Normalizing Procedural Norms](#) (May 15, 2023)

*How Latin America’s Judges Are Defending Democracy*

THE JOURNAL OF DEMOCRACY (2024) (with Martins da Silva, Garcia Miron, and. Rodriguez)

*Private Enforcement in the States*

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA LAW REVIEW (2023) (with Guha, Peters, and Xia)

Selected for plenary presentation at the Civil Procedure Workshop

*The Full Faith & Credit Clause and the Puzzle of Abortion Laws*

98 NEW YORK UNIVERSITY LAW REVIEW ONLINE (2023) (with Mastrodimos and Valente)

Invited testimony to the California General Assembly Committee on Judiciary

*Gamesmanship in Modern Discovery Tech* (with Guha and Henderson) (book chapter)

LEGAL TECH AND THE FUTURE OF CIVIL JUSTICE (Cambridge University Press, 2023)

*Missing Discovery in Lawyerless Courts*

122 COLUMBIA LAW REVIEW 1423 (2022) (symposium)

Peer-reviewed in Jotwell.com as among “the best new scholarship relevant to Courts.” [Discovery in State Courts](#) (May 27, 2022)

*Vulnerabilities in Discovery Tech* (with Guha and Henderson)  
35 HARVARD JOURNAL OF LAW AND TECHNOLOGY 581 (2022)

Mentioned in Jotwell.com as “required reading.” [Discovery in State Courts](#) (May 27, 2022)

*How Litigation Imports Foreign Regulation*  
107 VIRGINIA LAW REVIEW 1165 (2021)

*Foreign Dictators in U.S. Court*  
89 UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO LAW REVIEW 157 (2021)

Discussed in *Wall-Street Journal* op-ed, [Foreign Tyranny by U.S. Lawsuit](#) (2020)

Selected as an honorable mention in the 2021 AALS Papers Competition

Invited [testimony](#) to the Congressional U.S.-China Commission (2023)

The paper’s proposal became the basis for a bipartisan [bill](#) in the Senate

*Discovery as Regulation*  
120 MICHIGAN LAW REVIEW 71 (2020)

Peer-reviewed in Jotwell.com as among “the best new scholarship relevant to the law.”

[Discovery And The Limits Of Transsubstantivity](#) (March 9, 2020)

Cited in *Aric Martin v. Saginaw Ct. Road Comm.*, 2022 WL 2359656 (E.D. Mich. 2022)

*Federal Expansion and the Decay of State Courts*  
86 UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO LAW REVIEW 2101 (2019)

Winner of the 2023 Civil Justice Scholarship Award

Response by M. Solimine, *The Political Economy of Judicial Federalism*, *Univ. Chicago. L. Rev. Online* (2019)

*The States’ Interest in Federal Procedure*  
70 STANFORD LAW REVIEW 1805 (2018)

*Judicial Mistakes in Discovery*  
113 NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY LAW REVIEW 199 (2018)

Originally published as *Judicial Mistakes in Discovery*, 112 NW. U. L. REV. ONLINE 207 (2018)

*A Comity of Errors: The Rise, Fall, and Return of International Comity in Transnational Discovery*  
34 BERKELEY JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL LAW 157 (2016)

Discussed in *Catalano v. BMW of N. Am.*, 2016 WL 3406125 (S.D.N.Y. 2016)

## **OTHER PUBLICATIONS, REPORTS, LEGISLATIVE HEARINGS, OR MEDIA**

Informal Norms in the Colombian Judiciary, report for the Consejo Superior de la Judicatura of the Republic of Colombia (2025)

Draft Anti-SLAPP Bill, report for Congressional Committees on China (2024)

[Testimony Before the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission](#) (2023)

[Private Enforcement in the States](#), Blog Post on *The Volokh Conspiracy* (2023)

[Militant Democracy Stages a Comeback in Brazil](#), LAWFARE (Nov. 28, 2022)

[When the Client is Democracy](#), Stanford Magazine (2022)

*Foreign Dictators in U.S. Court*, Blog Post on *the Transnational Litigation Blog* (2022)

Testimony on the Full Faith and Credit Clause consequences of AB 1666, California Assembly, Committee on Judiciary (2022)

Podcast Interview on Judicial Federalism, [Bound by Oath](#) (2022)

Radio Interviews on Texas Abortion Bill SB8: Joy 94.4; [KPFA News](#) (2021)

[BBC World News](#), Live TV Interview on the Texas Abortion Bill (2021)

[Maneuvering Around the Court](#), Q&A for *the Stanford Record* (2021)

[Reviving Justice Story: Pfanderian Cases and Article III](#), Book Review of Jim Pfander's *CASES WITHOUT CONTROVERSIES*, Balkinization (2021)

Brief of Professors David Landau, Nelson Camilo Sánchez León, Mila Versteeg, and Diego Zambrano as Amici Curiae, *Petroleos de Venezuela S.A. v. MUFJ Union Bank, N.A.* (2021)

[How Litigation Imports Foreign Regulation](#), Blog Post on *Conflict of Laws.net* (2021)

[Foreign Dictators in U.S. Court Part I-V](#), Blog Post on *The Volokh Conspiracy* (2021)

[What is Discovery?](#), Podcast on *UC Hastings Law*, *Center for Litigation and Courts*, (2021)

[Foreign Tyranny by U.S. Lawsuit](#), *Wall Street Journal* (September 2, 2020)

*Invited Signatory*, Brief of Professors of Civil Procedure, Administrative Law, And Federal Jurisprudence as Amici Curiae, *Reid v. Donelan* (2020)

[Anti-SLAPP Statutes](#), Podcast with the Tommy G. Thompson Center on Public Leadership at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (2020)

[The Importance of Subject-Matter Jurisdiction](#), Podcast on *Alexandra Lahav's show*, "Why Should I Care?" (2020)

[The Constitutional Path to Dictatorship in Venezuela](#), LAWFARE (March. 15, 2019)

[Guaido, Not Maduro, Is The De Jure President of Venezuela](#), LAWFARE (Feb. 1, 2019)

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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**Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP**, New York, NY

*Associate*, Transnational Litigation & Arbitration, 2013–2016; *Summer Associate*, 2012

**Gibson Dunn & Crutcher**, New York, NY

*Summer Associate*, 2012 & 2011

## **AWARDS, PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS, SERVICE, AND LANGUAGES**

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### **Awards and Grants**

Grant recipient, Center for Revitalizing American Institutions 2025

Civil Justice Scholarship Award, National Civil Justice Institute 2023

Grant recipient, Tinker Faculty Funds 2022

Grant recipient, SGS Global Research Workshop 2022

Honorable Mention, AALS Papers Competition 2021

Barbara Allen Babcock Award for Excellence in Teaching 2021

Clifford Symposium, Rising Star 2020

### **Professional Activities**

AALS Federal Courts Workshop, Chair 2021

Civil Procedure Workshop, Board Member

Milgram Inn of Court, 2019-present

AALS House of Reps. 2020

Hispanic National Bar Association, Member, 2017–present

American Society of International Law, Member, 2016–present

U.S. Supreme Court Fellows Program, Academic Advisory Board

Referee, Stanford Law Review

Referee, American Law and Economics Review

Referee, Journal of Law and Economics

Referee, University of Chicago Law Review

Referee, Law and Social Inquiry

### **Languages**

Spanish

### **Bar Admissions**

United States Court of Appeals, Second Circuit, 2015

United States District Court, Southern District of New York, 2015

New York, 2014

## **SELECTED PRESENTATIONS AND PANELS**

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*Faculty Workshop*, Yale Law School, 2024

*Faculty Workshop*, Vanderbilt Law School, 2024

*Public Law Workshop*, University of Michigan Law School, 2024

*Law Review Talk*, Northwestern University Law School, 2024  
*Faculty Workshop*, Wayne State University, 2024  
Chicago-Virginia Foreign Relations Roundtable, 2024  
*Faculty Workshop*, University of Washington Law School, 2023  
Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, University of Chicago Law School, 2023  
*Public Law Workshop*, University of Minnesota Law School, 2023  
*Civil Procedure Workshop*, Northwestern University Law School, 2023  
Comparative Constitutional Law Casebook Discussion, 2023  
Testimony Before the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission, 2023  
National Civil Justice Institute Annual Conference, 2023  
AALS Federal Courts Panel, Washington D.C., 2023  
Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, 2022  
Administrative Judicial Institute of New York, 2022  
Rule of Law Conference, Dartmouth University, 2022  
Chicago-Virginia Foreign Relations Roundtable, 2022  
Private International Law Workshop, 2022  
UC Berkeley Colloquium on Courts and Judicial Process, 2022  
*Civil Procedure Workshop*, Cardozo Law School, 2022  
AALS Federal Courts Panel, Washington D.C., 2022  
*The Other 98%: Racial, Gender, and Economic Injustice in State Civil Courts*, Columbia Law, 2022  
Stanford Constitutional Law Center, 2021  
*Junior International Law Scholars Association*, Fordham Law School, 2021  
*Bay Area Civil Procedure Forum*, 2021  
Stanford Law School Faculty Workshop, 2021  
*Public Law Workshop*, University of Minnesota Law School, 2021  
*Juniors Roundtable*, Boston College, 2021  
*AALS Conference Conflicts of Law Panel*, Washington D.C., 2021  
*Berkeley Law Faculty Workshop*, 2021  
*Civil Procedure Workshop*, Northwestern University Law School, 2020  
*Marshall M. Criser Distinguished Lecture*, University of Florida Levin College of Law, 2020  
*Private International Law Workshop*, UC Davis Law School, 2020  
*Civil Procedure Workshop*, University of Texas Law School, 2019  
*Bay Area Juniors Forum*, UC Hastings College of the Law, 2019  
*Civil Procedure Workshop*, Stanford Law School, 2018  
*AALS Conference Civil Procedure Panel*, Washington D.C., 2020  
*Clifford Symposium, A New Generation of Rising Stars*, De Paul Law School, 2019  
*Civil Procedure Workshop*, Stanford Law School, 2018  
*Constitutional Law Center*, Stanford Law School, 2019  
*Duke Law School*, 2018  
*Federalism in An Age of Polarization*, Stanford Law School, 2018  
*Georgetown University Law Center*, 2018  
*Harvard Law School*, 2018  
*New York University Law School*, 2018  
*Ohio State University Law School*, 2017  
*Stanford Law School*, 2018  
*University of Chicago Law School*, 2018  
*University of Southern California Law School*, 2018  
*Vanderbilt Law School*, 2018  
*Yale Law School*, 2018

*Boston University School of Law, 2017*  
*Cardozo Law School, 2017*  
*Chicago Junior Faculty Workshop, John Marshall Law School, 2017*  
*Civil Procedure Workshop, Arizona State University, 2017*  
*Federal Courts Junior Faculty Workshop, Emory University School of Law, 2017*  
*Fordham Law School, 2017*  
*Notre Dame Law School Aspiring Faculty Workshop, 2017*  
*University of California Los Angeles Law School, 2017*  
*University of Chicago Law School Faculty Workshop, 2017*  
*University of Maryland Law School, 2017*  
*University of Texas School of Law, 2017*  
*Wake Forest Law School, 2017*  
*William and Mary Law School, 2017*  
*Southeastern Association of Law Schools Prospective Law Professor Workshop, 2017*  
*ASIL Conference on the Diminishing Power of U.S. Courts in Transnational Disputes: Serving or Undermining International Commerce, Georgetown University Law Center, 2016*