

Curriculum Vitae

CHRISTIAN LEE GONZÁLEZ RIVERA



CONTACT INFORMATION:

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AREAS OF PRACTICE AND ACADEMIC INTERESTS:

My teaching and scholarship are primarily focused on **Constitutional Law and Legal Theory**, specifically Hermeneutics. However, I am also interested in International Law and Human Rights, as well as Appellate Litigation and International Arbitration.

LICENSES & ADMISSIONS TO PRACTICE OF LAW:

State of Florida (Bar No.: 1020707) (active and in good standing)
Supreme Court of Florida
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit
U.S. Court for the Southern District of Florida
U.S. Court for the Middle District of Florida

CURRENT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Resident Visiting Scholar, *Georgetown Law Center for the Constitution* (2024-2024). Awarded a Resident Visiting Scholar fellowship, during which I will conduct research, write, and ultimately publish a piece on the theory and practice of police and emergency powers at the founding and during the early republic.

Assistant Professor of Law (Tenure Track), *St. Thomas University Benjamin L. Crump College of Law*, Miami Gardens, FL (2023-Present). As a tenure-track professor, I specialize in Constitutional Law and have so far taught the following 1L and upper level classes:

Constitutional Law (4 credits)
First Amendment Seminar (2 credits)
Jurisprudence Seminar (2 credits)
Conflict of Laws (3 credits)
Torts (3 credits)

New courses I am teaching in 2024 include:

Comparative Constitutional Law (3 credits)
Advanced Constitutional Law (3 credits)

Other positions held while on tenure track at STU:

Moot Court Coach (2021-Present). Assist Law School's Moot Court Team in preparing and competing at the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot in Vienna, Austria, by imparting lectures on wide-ranging topics of international law and arbitration, brief-writing, and coaching the team to participate in the Florida Bar's International Law Section's Willem C. Vis. Pre-Moot.

Faculty Advisor, STU Puerto Rican Student Bar Association (2024-Present).

Faculty Recruitment Committee, *Member* (2023-2024)

Adjunct Faculty Review Committee, *Member* (2023-2024)

PRIOR PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Associate Appellate & Trial Attorney, *Butler Weihmuller Katz Craig LLP*, Tampa, FL (2021-2022).

Successfully handled the defense of dozens of federal and state

lawsuits within our Appellate and First Party Property Coverage Practice Groups, including pre-trial and trial motion practice, plenary appeals, writ proceedings, and trial and appellate mediations and arbitrations. Two representative cases include:

Metal Prods. Co. v. Ohip Sec. Ins. Co., No. 21-11612, 2022 WL 104618 (11th Cir. Jan. 11, 2022) (affirming summary judgment in favor of my client in case involving at least one first impression policy construction question)

Cresthaven-Ashley Master Ass'n, Inc. v. Empire Ind. Ins. Co., No. 19-80959-Singhal/Mathewman, 2022 WL 873998 (S.D. Fla. Mar. 24, 2022) (granting motion to dismiss multi-million dollar, three-year old case days before trial because plaintiff lacked constitutional standing and a ripe controversy)

Adjunct Professor of Law, *St. Thomas University Benjamin L. Crump College of Law*, Miami Gardens, FL (2021-2022). Taught Appellate Advocacy for rising 2L students.

Senior Judicial Law Clerk to the Honorable Fleur Lobree, *Florida Third District Court of Appeal*, Sweetwater, FL (2019-2021)

Handled and recommended the disposition of approximately 200 cases (plenary appeals, writ petitions, appellate motions) in most areas of law (Contracts, Constitutional, Torts, and Criminal Law). Drafted hundreds of legal memoranda for three-judge and en banc panel sittings. Drafted dozens of reported and unreported opinions.

Research & Teaching Assistant to Prof. Siegfried Wiessner, Dr. iur., *St. Thomas University Benjamin L. Crump College of Law*, Miami Gardens, FL (2018-2019). Assisted Professor Wiessner in preparing classes, syllabi, quizzes, examinations, and legal research in Constitutional Law and International Law. Co-authored a law review article on the impact of the International Law Commission's work on our domestic jurisprudence. Assisted in excerpting dozens of cases and other materials for updating his casebook: *INTERNATIONAL LAW IN CONTEMPORARY PERSPECTIVE* (3RD ED., FOUNDATION, FORTHCOMING).

Research Assistant to Dean John F. Hernandez, *St. Thomas University Benjamin L. Crump College of Law*, Miami Gardens, FL (2018-2018). Assisted Professor Hernandez in conducting legal research into liability of self-driven automobiles and other aspects of Tort Law.

Research Assistant to Prof. Roza Pati, Dr. iur., *St. Thomas University Benjamin L. Crump College of Law*, Miami Gardens, FL

(2017-2017). Assisted Professor Pati in conducting legal research on human trafficking and its prosecution in India, as well as excerpted international judicial opinions for use in her International Law course.

Teaching Assistant to Prof. Mark D. Usher, Ph.D., *University of Vermont*, Classics Department (2012-2013). Assisted Professor Usher in teaching an Ancient Greek 002 Course.

Teaching Assistant to Prof. John C. Franklin, Ph.D., *University of Vermont*, Classics Department (2013-2013). Assisted Professor Franklin in teaching a Near Eastern Culture course.

Teaching Assistant to Prof. Arturo Fernandez, Ph.D., *University of Puerto Rico*, Philosophy Department, Rio Piedras, PR, (2010-2011). Assisted Professor Fernandez in teaching an Introduction to Philosophy course.

EDUCATION:

J.S.D. in Intercultural Human Rights, Candidate, *St. Thomas University Benjamin L. Crump College of Law*, Miami Gardens, Florida (in progress). Ongoing dissertation: "REASON AND TRADITION IN JUDICIAL CONSTITUTIVE PROCESSES: A CONTEXTUALIST, POLICY-ORIENTED THEORY OF CONSTITUTIONAL ADJUDICATION."

LL.M. in Intercultural Human Rights (Summa Cum Laude), *St. Thomas University Benjamin L. Crump College of Law*, Miami Gardens, FL (2022). Thesis: "Neither 'Genteel Hoax' Nor 'Slot Machine': Constitutional Interpretation in Policy-Oriented Jurisprudence."

Juris Doctor (Magna Cum Laude), *St. Thomas University Benjamin L. Crump College of Law*, Miami Gardens, FL (2019). **Top 5% (10/199)**.

Certificate in Intercultural Human Rights, *St. Thomas University Benjamin L. Crump College of Law*, Miami Gardens, FL (2019).

Law School Honors:

Admission, Order of the Barristers (2019)

J.D. Editor-in-Chief, Intercultural Human Rights Law Review (2018-2019)

Executive Editor, Intercultural Human Rights Law Review (2017-2018)

Vice President, *International Moot Court*
(2018-2019)

Member, *Honor Council* (2018-2019)

Dean's List (all semesters)

12 CALI Book Awards: *Legal Research and Writing; Appellate Advocacy; Advanced Constitutional Law; Criminal Procedure; Election Law; State and Local Government Law; Land Use and Regulation; International Law; Human Trafficking; Rule of Law; Natural Law; Philosophical Moorings; Regional Human Rights Systems.*

Other activities: **ABA Senior Representative, *Student Bar Association*** (2017-2018)

Chair of Elections, *Student Bar Association*
(2017-18)

Treasurer, *Federalist Society STU Chapter*
(2018-2019)

Awards:

Florida Bar, City, County, and Local Government Section Outstanding Student Award, *Florida Bar* (2019)

Public Service Award in Recognition of Over 200 Pro Bono Hours, *St. Thomas University Benjamin L. Crump College of Law* (2019)

Award in Recognition as Vice President of International Moot Court, *St. Thomas University Benjamin L. Crump College of Law International Moot Court* (2019)

Award in Recognition as J.D. Editor-in-Chief, *St. Thomas University Benjamin L. Crump College of Law Intercultural Human Rights Law Review* (2019)

Top 10 Oralist Award, Sixth Place, *Phillip C. Jessup International Moot Court Competition*, U.S. South Regional, New Orleans, LA (2018)

Award in Recognition as J.D. Executive Editor, *St. Thomas University Benjamin L. Crump College of Law Intercultural Human Rights Law Review* (2018)

Scholarship Awards:

Intercultural Human Rights Scholarship, *St. Thomas University Benjamin L. Crump College of Law* (2019-2020)

Honorable Peter R. Palermo Civility Scholarship, *St. Thomas University Benjamin L. Crump College of Law* (2019)

Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers Scholarship Award, 55th Annual Gala, Miami, FL, 2018.

Law Merit Scholarship, *St. Thomas University Benjamin L. Crump College of Law* (2016-2019)

Certificate of Graduate Studies in Greek and Latin Languages, *University of Vermont*, Burlington, VT (2014).

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Philosophy (Magna Cum Laude), *University of Puerto Rico*, Rio Piedras, PR (2011)

Activities:

Vice President, *UPRRP Students Philosophy Association* (2008-2009).

Awards:

Socrates Distinction Award, *UPRRP Philosophy Department* (2011)

LANGUAGE COMPETENCIES:

Spanish (speak, read, write)

English (speak, read, write)

Classical Greek (read)

Classical Latin (read)

LAW-RELATED PUBLICATIONS & CONFERENCES:

Books: REASON AND TRADITION IN JUDICIAL CONSTITUTIVE PROCESSES: A CONTEXTUALIST, POLICY-ORIENTED THEORY OF CONSTITUTIONAL ADJUDICATION (in progress, ongoing doctoral dissertation)

CONSTITUTIONAL BULWARKS UNDER STRESS: AMERICAN JUDICIAL REVIEW OF EMERGENCY MEASURES DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC (in progress)

MICHAEL REISMAN, MAHNOUSH ARSANJANI, SIEGFRIED WIESSNER, & ROZA

PATI, INTERNATIONAL LAW IN CONTEMPORARY PERSPECTIVE (3d ed., Foundation Press, forthcoming 2025-2026) (assisted with case and other material excerpting, footnote drafting, and research) (print).

INTERCULTURAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW REVIEW: THE IMPORTANCE OF MORALS TO LAW VOL. 14, pp. 1-416 (Christian Lee Gonzalez-Rivera, Editor-in-Chief, 2019) (print).

INTERCULTURAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW REVIEW VOL. 13, pp. 1-336 (Christian Lee Gonzalez-Rivera, Executive Editor, 2018) (print).

Book Chapters & Law Journal Articles:

Police Powers, Emergencies, and the U.S. Constitution: Early Republic Theory and Practice (1776-1830) (forthcoming, SSRN, to be produced during my Center for the Constitution visitorship at Georgetown Law, Fall 2024).

Breaking the Spell: Why Common Good Constitutionalism Is Neither Good Nor Common Nor Even Constitutionalism (forthcoming Summer 202, SSRN).

"No Law Too Sacred:" Revisiting the Higher Law Origins of Judicial Review in Edward Coke's Dr. Bonham's Case (forthcoming, SSRN and FUNDAMINA, 2025).

Neither "Slot Machine" Nor "Genteel Hoax:" Constitutional Interpretation in Policy-Oriented Perspective, in HUMAN FLOURISHING: THE END OF LAW 175-265 (Michael Reisman & Roza Pati eds., 2023) (print) ("Recommended" on Lawrence Solum's Legal Theory Blog: <https://lsolum.typepad.com/legaltheory/2023/01/gonzalez-rivera-on-originalism-and-policy-oriented-jurisprudence.html>).

The Plight of "Unreasonable" Trafficking Victims: Replacing the Trafficking Victims Protection Act's Reasonable Person Standard for Coercion with a Genuine Belief Standard, 40 WOMEN RTS. L. REP. 273 (2019) (print).

The ILC at its 70th Anniversary: Its Role in International Law and its Impact on the U.S. Legal System, 13 F.I.U. L. REV. 101 (2019) (with Siegfried Wiessner) (print).

A Government by Men, Not Nature: A Natural Law Case for Limits on the Judicial Enforcement of Natural Law Principles and Unenumerated Rights under the Constitution, 24 TRINITY L. REV. 1 (2019) (print).

Law as a Means to Human Flourishing: Law, Morality, and Natural Law in Policy-Oriented Perspective, 14 INTERCULTURAL HM. RTS. L. REV. 289 (2019) (print).

Non-indexed Articles & Online Entries:

Feasible or Futile? Interlocutory Appeals from Federal Orders Compelling Insurance Appraisal, The Brief Case Vol. 1, Issue 4 (June 2022).

Appellate Court Holds Entitlement to Fees and Costs Award Under Section 768.79 Does Not Require Defendant's Settlement Offer Exclusive of Fees to Specify Amount of Plaintiff's Attorney's Fees Excluded, BWKC Blog (Nov. 30, 2021).

Conferences & Presentations:

Breaking the Spell: Why Common Good Constitutionalism: Neither Good Nor Common Nor Even Constitutionalism from a Policy-Oriented Perspective, Panel on Adriane Vermeule at St. Thomas University Benjamin L. Crump College of Law, (forthcoming Fall 2024).

Discussant to Peter Kwasniewski, Authority, Obedience, and the Common Good, The Federalist Society STU Chapter, Miami Gardens, FL, February 16, 2024.

Law and Policy in Development: Governance and the Constitutive Process, Society of Policy Scientists' Annual Institute, The World Bank, Washington, D.C. (Nov. 9, 2023) (with Siegfried Wiessner).

Panelist, A Fireside Chat with Florida Secretary of State Cord Byrd '98: A Discussion of the Constitutional Duties of the Florida Secretary of State on Constitution Day, St. Thomas University Benjamin L. Crump College of Law, Miami Gardens, FL, Sept. 18, 2023.

Discussant to Logan Beirne, Big Brother Watching: A Historical Perspective, The Federalist Society STU Chapter, Miami Gardens, FL, February 22, 2023.

Program Chair, Opening Remarks, Human Dignity: The Heart of Ethical Leadership, 2019 Intercultural Human Rights Law Review Annual Symposium with speakers Elsa Meany, Lauren Gilbert, Desmond Meade, Marc-Tizoc Gonzalez, Juan Carlos Planas, and Anthony Musto (moderated by Siegfried Wiessner and Jay Silver), St. Thomas University School of Law, Miami, FL,

March 19, 2019.

Program Chair, 2018 Supreme Court Roundtable with speakers Ilya Shapiro, Juan Carlos Planas, and Alfredo Garcia (moderated by Siegfried Wiessner), Federalist Society, St. Thomas University School of Law, Miami, FL, Sept. 20, 2018.

Program Chair, Natural Law and the U.S. Constitution with speaker Roger Pilon (moderated by Siegfried Wiessner), Federalist Society, St. Thomas University School of Law, Miami, FL, Jan. 25, 2018.

NON-LAW-RELATED PUBLICATIONS & CONFERENCES:

Indexed Journal Articles:

“Hateful” and “Doubtful” Wisdom: Roman Disdain and Appropriation of Greek Philosophy in Cicero’s Laelius, 41 NEW ENGLAND CLASSICAL JOURNAL 195 (2014).

Books:

CÉSAR SALCEDO CHIRINOS, *LA IMPOSIBILIDAD DE SER OTRO: INQUIETUD Y AUTENTICIDAD EN AGUSTIN A PARTIR DEL JOVEN HEIDEGGER* (Publicaciones Puertorriqueñas: Puerto Rico, 2011) (proofreader, editor) (print).

Conferences & Presentations:

A Truth Too “Weak” Not to Lie on its Behalf: The Popper-Strauss Assumption and the Metaphorical Basis of Plato’s Politics of Lying, 110th Annual Meeting of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South, April 2-5, 2014.

Getting It “Straight About the Facts Of Life”: Allusions to Human Nature in the Speeches of Thucydides, 108th Annual Meeting of the Classical Association of New England, March 6-7, 2014.

The “Beautiful Battle” of Writers Past and Present: Classicism and Hesiodic Nostalgia in Longinus, 107th Annual Meeting of the Classical Association of New England, March 6-7, 2013.

“Are you not mad?”: Rhetorical and Philosophical Uses of Madness in Epictetus and their Metaphorical Basis, UCLA 4th Biennial Graduate Conference in Classics *Mens Insana: Madness in the Ancient World*, November 11, 2012.

Echoes of Epicurean Philosophy in Horace’s Satires, Philosophy

Department of the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras, August 15, 2012.

“Multa impudentiora Epicuri”: *Epicurus’ A-teleological Physics as Resulting from his Teleological Ethics*, Philosophy Department symposium on *Philosophy and Religion*, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras, June 12, 2011.

Lucretius Through Kant: Fear of Death as Fear of One's Corpse's Defilement In Late Epicureanism, Golden Key International Honor Society's *Symposium of Graduate and Undergraduate Researchers*, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras, October 4, 2010.

“Stoicheía tón pantón”: *the Atoms/Letters Analogy in Plato and Lucretius*, Philosophy Department, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras, September 5, 2010.

Program Chair, Symposium on Philosophy and Religion, Philosophy Department, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras, Puerto Rico, June 12, 2011.

MEMBERSHIPS

Law-Related:

- Florida Bar, Appellate Law Practice Section
City, County & Local Government Law Section
International Law Section
- Miami-Dade County Bar Association,
Committees: Appellate Court
Civil Litigation
Environmental and Land Use
- American Bar Association
- Honorable Peter T. Fay Inns of Court
- Federalist Society
- American Constitution Society

Non-Law-Related:

- American Philological Association
- Classical Association of Middle West and South
- Vermont Classical Languages Association
- Classical Association of New England

OFFICES HELD

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Florida Bar, The Florida Bar Journal, *Editorial Board Member* (2020-Present)
- Florida Bar, Governmental and Public Policy Advocacy Committee, *Member* (2020-2022)
- Florida Bar, Education Law Committee, *Member* (2020-2022)
- American Bar Association, *ABA Representative, Student Delegate*, Law Student Division (2017-2018)

COMPETITIONS

- Philip Jessup International Moot Court Competition (White & Case), Northeast Regional (2020), *Judge*
- Florida High School Mock Trial Competition (Miami-Dade County) (2020), *Judge*