

John P. Collins, Jr.

Associate Professor
Fundamentals of Lawyering Program
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Research: [SSRN author page](#)

Academic Appointments

George Washington University Law School 2020 - Present

Associate Professor, Fundamentals of Lawyering (July 2023 – Present)
Visiting Associate Professor, Fundamentals of Lawyering (July 2020 – June 2023)

Courses: Fundamentals of Lawyering I & II

Service: Faculty Advisor, Sandra Day O'Connor Inn of Court (2023 – present);
Faculty Advisor, Robert H. Jackson Inn of Court (2020 – 2023)
Faculty Counselor for the Academic Integrity Process (2025 – present)
Member, Intellectual Life Committee (2024 – present)
Member, Academic Integrity Committee (2024 – 2025)
Member, Clerkship & Judicial Engagement Committee (2022 – 2024)
Member, Student Wellness Committee (2022 – 2024)

Grants: Received research grants in Summer 2021 and Summer 2023

Fordham Law School 2019 - 2020

Adjunct Professor

Education

Fordham Law School 2013
J.D., *cum laude*

Fordham Urban Law Journal, Notes & Articles Editor, Vol. XL; Staff Editor, Vol. XXXIX

Dean's List, 2011–13

Ruth Whitehead Whaley Scholar

Archibald R. Murray Public Service Award

Stonehill College 2007
B.A., Political Science

Research Interests

Judicial administration and reform, judicial appointments, legal history, civil procedure, and federal courts

Publications

Articles

Circuit Capture and the National Court of Appeals

97 TEMPLE L. REV. 365 (2025)

[\[ssrn\]](#)

Profiled in Avalon Zoppo, *A National Appellate Court? Why This Law Professor Is Urging Circuit-Level Reform and What It Could Look Like*, The National Law Journal (May 30, 2024)

Judging Biden

75 SMU L. REV. FORUM 150 (Feb. 2022)

[\[ssrn\]](#)

Cited in Theresa M. Beiner, *The Impact of Diversity on the Bench for Employment Discrimination Cases*, 59 U. RICH. L. REV. 235 (2025); Nina Varsava et al., *Judicial Dark Matter*, 91 U. CHI. L. REV. 1949 (2024); Steven Gensler & Roger Michalski, *Altered Stakes: Reimagining the Amount-in-Controversy Requirement*, 109 CORNELL L. REV. 1019 (2024); Carl Tobias, *How Biden Can Continue Making the Federal Courts Better*, 25 N.Y.U. J. LEGIS. & PUB. POL'Y 43 (2022); Merritt McAlister, *Rebuilding the Federal Circuit Courts*, 116 Nw. U. L. Rev. 1137 (2022)

Has All Heck Broken Loose? Examining Heck's Favorable-Termination Requirement in the Second Circuit after *Poventud v. City of New York*

42 FORDHAM URB. L. J. 451 (Dec. 2014)

[\[ssrn\]](#)

Cited in Brief of Amicus Curiae Southeastern Legal Foundation in Support of Petitioner, *Olivier v. City of Brandon, Miss.*, No. 24-993, 2025 WL 2676055 (U.S. Sept. 9, 2025) (merits stage); Brief of the Cato Institute as Amicus Curiae in Support of Petitioner, *Wilson v. Midland Cnty., Tex.*, No. 24-672, 2025 WL 306299 (U.S. Jan. 21, 2025) (certiorari stage); Petition for Writ of Certiorari, *Olson v. Amatuzio*, No. 19-1380, 2020 WL 3268748 (U.S. June 1, 2020); *Opperisano v. P.O. Jones*, 286 F. Supp. 3d 450 (E.D.N.Y. 2018)

Works in Progress

Judicial Fallout

The State Solicitor General

Breaking the Ginsburg Rules

Shorter Works and Op-Eds

How Trump is Making the Federal Judiciary Younger, Whiter, and More Republican

Balls & Strikes, Dec. 19, 2025

[[www](#)] [[syndicated on Talking Points Memo](#)]

The Trump White House is Trying to Hide Its Judicial Nominees From You

Balls & Strikes, Nov. 13, 2025

[[www](#)] [[syndicated on Talking Points Memo](#)]

Trump’s MAGA Makeover of the Third Circuit is Complete

The Philadelphia Inquirer, Oct. 23, 2025

[[www](#)]

For Trump’s Latest Judicial Nominees, Trump is a Law Unto Himself

Balls & Strikes, Sept. 22, 2025

[[www](#)]

Trump’s Judicial Nominees Cannot Wait to Make LGBTQ People Second-Class

Citizens

Balls & Strikes, Aug. 5, 2025

[[www](#)]

Democrats Showed Up For Emil Bove’s Hearing. Republicans Didn’t Care

Balls & Strikes, June 26, 2025

[[www](#)]

If Senate Republicans Confirm Emil Bove, They Will Confirm Anyone

Balls & Strikes, June 6, 2025

[[www](#)]

Trump’s First Judicial Nomination is a Gift to MAGA Loyalists

Balls & Strikes, May 8, 2025

[[www](#)]

How Trump and Senate Republicans Could Reshape the Federal Courts of Appeals, Part II

Balls & Strikes, Feb. 25, 2025

[[www](#)]

How Trump and Senate Republicans Could Reshape the Federal Courts of Appeals, Part I

Balls & Strikes, Feb. 18, 2025

[[www](#)]

A Brief Guide to the Forthcoming Trump Judicial Nominations Blitz

Balls & Strikes, Jan. 27, 2025

[[www](#)]

Judges Who Refuse to Retire Under Trump Are Not “Playing Politics”

Balls & Strikes, Dec. 10, 2024

[[www](#)]

Democratic Cowardice, Republican Islamophobia Threaten Historic Court Pick

TRT World, May 10, 2024

[[www](#)]

Blue Slip Abuse Will Only Make Judge-Shopping Problem Worse

Daily Journal, Sept. 15, 2023

Biden Should Pick Up Pace on Choosing Judges Before Window Closes

Bloomberg Law, July 25, 2023

[[www](#)]

Presentations and Media Appearances

[Presentations](#)

The State Solicitor General

Presenter, The George Washington University Faculty Workshop

The George Washington University Law School

Washington, DC (Sept. 24, 2025)

Circuit Capture and the National Court of Appeals

Presenter, Thirteenth Annual Junior Faculty Federal Courts Workshop

The George Washington University Law School

Washington, DC (Mar. 9, 2024)

Circuit Capture and the National Court of Appeals

Presenter, Junior Faculty Forum

University of Richmond School of Law

Richmond, VA (May 23, 2023)

[Selected News Articles](#)

Trump’s Ability to Further Reshape Judiciary in 2026 Hindered by Few Vacancies

Reuters, Jan. 5, 2026

[[www](#)]

The Surprising Trend That Hampered Trump’s Ability to Confirm Judges in 2025

The Huffington Post, Dec. 29, 2025

[[www](#)]

Trump Judicial Appointments Slow as Vacancies Scarce for 2026

Bloomberg Law, Dec. 23, 2025

[[www](#)]

Trump Changes How Judicial Nominees Get Publicly Revealed

Bloomberg Law, Nov. 10, 2025

[[www](#)]

Trump Taps Millennials, Law School Stars for Latest Judge Picks

Bloomberg Law, Sept. 8, 2025

[[www](#)]

This Federal Judge Is the ‘Tip of the Spear’ of Trump-Era Conservatism

The New York Times, Aug. 9, 2025

[[www](#)]

Senators Defend Sinking Biden Court Pick After Seat Goes to Bove

Bloomberg Law, Aug. 1, 2025

[[www](#)]

Senate Nears Crucial Vote on Trump Judicial Nominee

Roll Call, July 23, 2025

[[www](#)]

Trump’s Third Circuit Delaware Nominee Has Few Ties to the State

Bloomberg Law, July 17, 2025

[[www](#)]

Democrats Let Down Left at First Trump Judge Nominations Hearing

Bloomberg Law, June 12, 2025

[[www](#)]

A National Appellate Court? Why This Law Professor Is Urging Circuit-Level Reform and What It Could Look Like

The National Law Journal, May 28, 2025

[[www](#)]

Trump-Appointed Judge Records Gun Tutorial to Slam Court Ruling

Reuters, Mar. 20, 2025

[[www](#)]

Second US Judge Who Ruled Against Trump Faces Republican Impeachment Bid

Reuters, Feb. 24, 2025

[[www](#)]

Trump Shifted the Ninth Circuit to the Right—What That Means for Abortion and Reproductive Care

CalMatters, Jan. 27, 2025

[[www](#)]

Biden Made the Judiciary More Diverse—But Not More Liberal

The Wall Street Journal, Dec. 23, 2024

[[www](#)]

Biden Edges Out Trump’s First-Term Federal Judicial Confirmations

Roll Call, Dec. 23, 2024

[[www](#)]

Biden Sets New Records for Diversifying Federal Bench

Bloomberg Law, Dec. 20, 2024

[[www](#)]

Judges Punt Retirement Plans After Trump Win, Raising Ethics Questions

The Hill, Dec. 18, 2024

[[www](#)]

Trump’s Victory has some Liberal Judges Reversing Their Retirement Plans
CNN, Dec. 5, 2024
[[www](#)]

House Democrats Split on Bill to Add Judges After Trump Win
Bloomberg Law, Dec. 5, 2024
[[www](#)]

Judge Called ‘Political Hack’ for Unretiring After Trump Win
Bloomberg Law, Dec. 4, 2024
[[www](#)]

2 Federal Judges Rescind Senior Status After Trump Win. Might More Follow?
The National Law Journal, Dec. 2, 2024
[[www](#)]

What’s the Deal with the “Deal” that Senate Democrats Made on Judicial Nominations?
Balls & Strikes, Nov. 21, 2024
[[www](#)]

From Champagne to Speeches, Would-Be Trump Supreme Court Justices Draw Conservative Buzz
CNN, Nov. 21, 2024
[[www](#)]

Ohio Judge Reverses Senior Status Plans Post-Election
Law360, Nov. 12, 2024
[[www](#)]

Trump Readies to Name ‘Fearless’ Conservative Judges in Second Term
Reuters, Nov. 8, 2024
[[www](#)]

Half of All Federal Judges Could be Trump Appointees by End of His Next Term
Newsweek, Nov. 7, 2024
[[www](#)]

Where May Vacancies for Trump Arise? These GOP-Appointed Circuit Judges Qualify for Senior Status
The National Law Journal, Nov. 6, 2024
[[www](#)]

Trump, GOP Poised to Add More Conservatives to Federal Courts
Roll Call, Nov. 6, 2024
[[www](#)]

GOP Will Get a Crack at the Judiciary, But First, Lame Duck
Law360, Nov. 6, 2024
[[www](#)]

The Next President is Poised to Inherit the Fewest Judicial Vacancies in Generations
NBC News, Oct. 5, 2024
[[www](#)]

Biden Faces Hurdles to Match Trump on Judicial Appointments

Roll Call, Aug. 28, 2024

[[www](#)]

High Court's First Asian Justice May Be Byproduct of Trump

Bloomberg Law, Aug. 8, 2024

[[www](#)]

Biden Favors Younger Judges in Shift from Previous Democrats

Bloomberg Law, July 24, 2024

[[www](#)]

Wilmette Resident Nancy Maldonado Confirmed to Seventh Circuit

The Chicago Tribune, July 8, 2024

[[www](#)]

Biden Faces Political Dilemma on Stalled Muslim Judge Nominee

Bloomberg Law, May 14, 2024

[[www](#)]

Dueling Bills Highlight Partisan Divide Over 'Judge Shopping'

Law360, Apr. 15, 2024

[[www](#)]

Muslim Lawyers Recoil at GOP Attacks on Historic Court Pick

Bloomberg Law, Mar. 29, 2024

[[www](#)]

Senator Kennedy's Judicial Pop Quizzes Trip Up Nervous Nominees

Bloomberg Law, Feb. 28, 2024

[[www](#)]

Clinton, Obama Circuit Judges Shun Retirement as Election Looms

Bloomberg Law, Jan. 10, 2024

[[www](#)]

All-Biden Court Shows Partisan Shift in How Judges Get Confirmed

Bloomberg Law, Oct. 23, 2023

[[www](#)]

Color of Justice: All-White Benches Persist in US District Courts

Bloomberg Law, Sept. 5, 2023

[[www](#)]

Senate Confirms Bradley N. Garcia to Appeals Court in DC

Roll Call, May 15, 2023

[[www](#)]

Wave of Federal Judges Ditch Bench for Lucrative Big Law Jobs

Bloomberg Law, Mar. 16, 2023

[[www](#)]

Biden Nominee Failed Senator’s Constitutional Pop Quiz. Here’s What Ex-Judges Had to Say

The National Law Journal, Jan. 31, 2023
[[www](#)]

Democrats Renew Push to Confirm Biden’s Pick for Federal Courts

Roll Call, Jan. 23, 2023
[[www](#)]

Joe Biden has a Chance to Rebalance America’s Judiciary

The Economist, Nov. 24, 2022
[[www](#)]

Schumer Said to Prioritize Judges When Lame Duck Begins

Bloomberg Law, Nov. 10, 2022
[[www](#)]

Federal Judge Lee, Former Barrington Resident, Appointed to Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals

The Chicago Tribune, Sept. 22, 2022
[[www](#)]

In Departure from Trump Era Nominations, Biden Relies Less on Feeder Judges

The National Law Journal, Aug. 17, 2022
[[www](#)]

Progressive Groups Say Democrats Need to Move Faster on Judicial Nominees

The National Law Journal, July 8, 2022
[[www](#)]

Ninth Circuit Judge Urges Biden, Nevada Senators to Pick State AG’s Wife as Successor

Reuters, Apr. 14, 2022
[[www](#)]

More Diverse Appointments Are Set to Reshape America’s Judiciary

The Economist, Jan. 15, 2022
[[www](#)]

Fifth Circuit Judge Gregg Costa to Resign, Creating Second Vacancy for Biden

The National Law Journal, Jan. 13, 2022
[[www](#)]

Biden’s Flurry of Nominations Will Bring Generations of Diversity to Federal Courts

The Los Angeles Times, Dec. 22, 2021
[[www](#)]

In One Year, Joe Biden Has Confirmed More Lifetime Judges than Decades of Presidents

HuffPost, Dec. 21, 2021
[[www](#)]

Federal Courts Aren’t Royal Ones

The Wall Street Journal, Dec. 8, 2021
[[www](#)]

Pooler and Cabranes to Take Senior Status, Opening Two Seats on Second Circuit Bench

The New York Law Journal, Oct. 7, 2021

[\[www\]](#)

Biden Takes Time Weighing Next Pick for D.C. Circuit

Bloomberg Law, Sept. 2, 2021

[\[www\]](#)

Are Judicial Picks with Defender Pasts Unfairly Criticized? Yes, and It's Not New, Experts Say

The New York Law Journal, July 16, 2021

[\[www\]](#)

Video Interviews

Schumer Presses to Confirm Federal Judges, as Clock Ticks Down on Dem Majority

NY1, Dec. 12, 2024

[\[www\]](#)

Biden Looks to Keep Up Brisk Pace Filling U.S. Courts

Reuters, Feb. 2, 2022

[\[www\]](#)

Podcasts

Judicial Nominations and Confirmations with Professor John P. Collins

N.Y.U. J. of Leg. & Pub. Pol'y

LawsFlaws Podcast, Mar. 18, 2022

[\[www\]](#)

Other Experience

Balls & Strikes

2025 - Present

Contributing Writer

Sullivan & Cromwell LLP

2014 – 2019

Associate, Litigation Group, New York, NY

U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York

2013 – 2014

Law Clerk, Chambers of Judge Andrew J. Peck

U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York

Fall 2012

Intern, Criminal Division

U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York

Summer 2012

Intern, Chambers of Chief Judge Loretta A. Preska

Spring 2012

Royal Courts of Justice, Belfast, Northern Ireland

Summer 2011

Intern, Chambers of Lord Chief Justice Declan Morgan

Bar Admissions

Southern District of New York	2014
Eastern District of New York	2014
New York (active)	2014

Personal

Before law school, I umpired professionally in Minor League Baseball's Gulf Coast and New York-Penn Leagues. I like reading about history, exercising, golfing, cooking (with an emphasis on smoking and baking), and watching British crime dramas. I am a life-long New York Mets fan and novice Tottenham Hotspur supporter, for my sins.