

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

**University of Massachusetts School of Law
Dartmouth, MA**

Assistant Professor of Law, July 2025 ~ Present

Courses: Civil Procedure, Civil Rights Litigation, Professional Responsibility, Race & the Law.

**Southern Methodist University, Dedman School of Law
Dallas, TX**

Associate Clinical Professor of Legal Research, Writing and Advocacy, June 2024 ~ July 2025.

Assistant Clinical Professor of Legal Research, Writing and Advocacy, July 2021 ~ May 2024.

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS & WORKS IN PROGRESS

Reviving Exclusion, 12 TEX. A&M L. REV. 1683 (2025).

Piercing the Procedural Veil of Qualified Immunity: From the Guardians of Civil Rights to the Guardians of States’ Rights, 81 WASH. & LEE L. REV. 775 (2024).

From Criminalizing China to Criminalizing the Chinese, 55 COLUM. HUM. RTS. L. REV. 45 (2024).

TikTok and the Racialized Means of Production (work-in-progress).

- Selected Presentations: 2024 Symposium *Race, Rights, and Innovation* at the U.C. Berkley, School of Law; Race + IP 25 conference at the Pittsburgh University School of Law

Racialized Allegiances (work-in-progress).

- Selected Presentations: The UCLA Critical Race Studies Conference; Law & Society 2025 Convention (LPE Discussion Group); 2025 Biennial LatCrit Conference.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

[*TikTok and the Control over the Means of Production in the Fourth Industrial Revolution*](#), BERKELEY TECH. L.J., Special Issue for the 2024 Symposium *Race, Rights, and Innovation: Cultivating Equity in the Digital World* at the U.C. Berkley, School of Law.

[*Banning Chinese from Buying Land Has a Racist Past*](#), Op-Ed, HOUSTON CHRONICLE (January 2023).

[*Proposed Texas Ban on Chinese Home Ownership Grounded in Nothing but Hate*](#), Op-Ed, SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST (Hong Kong) (February 2023).

[*TikTok Is Targeted in The US For Being Chinese, Not for What It Has or Has Not Done*](#), Op-Ed, SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST (Hong Kong), (March 2023).

[*Home Is Where We Unite – A Look at a Classic Fourth Amendment Issue*](#), Texas Bar Journal, Vol. 84, No. 11 (December 2021).

EDUCATION

**Southern Methodist University, Dedman School of Law
Dallas, TX**

Juris Doctor, December 2015

LL.M – International Comparative Law, May 2013

Dongguan City University School of Law
Dongguan, China
LL.B

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

City Attorney’s Office of Dallas
Dallas, TX
Sr. Assistant City Attorney–Litigation Unit, March 2019 ~ June 2021

Constitutional Law Center for Muslims in America
Dallas, TX
Attorney, March 2016 ~ March 2019

The Honorable Jane J. Boyle, United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas
Dallas, TX
Judicial Extern, January 2015 ~ May 2015

Reign Private Wealth Management
Shanghai, China
Associate, March 2012 ~ July 2012

MEDIA & PRESENTATIONS

Creator, *Plead the Fifth (Cir.) (Podcast)* (April 2021 ~ Present, monthly release regarding the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals).

Panelist, *Transformative Justice in a World on Fire*, Conference of Asian Pacific American Law Faculty & Western Law Teachers of Color, University of Hawaii, William S. Richardson School of Law (July 2025).

CHINA DAILY, *Quoted, Texas Passes Restrictive Land Laws* (June 4, 2025).

Panelist, *Race, Law and Political Economy: Institutional Mechanisms of Racial Inequality*, Law & Society Annual Convention (May 2025).

Panelist, *Racialized Allegiances*, Democracy Works-in-Progress Conference, Michigan State University School of Law (April 2025).

Panelist, *TikTok and the Racialized Means of Production*, Race + IP 25: Abolitionist Futures, Pittsburgh University School of Law (April 2025).

Symposium (invited), *Race, Rights, and Innovation: Cultivating Equity in the Digital World*, U.C. Berkley, School of Law (September 2024).

Speaker, *Reviving Exclusion: Asian Americans in the New Cold War*, The Society of American Law Teachers 2024 Convention (September 2024).

Panelist, *Unsettling Territories: Tradition and Revolution in Law and Society*, Law and Society Annual Convention (June 2024).

Expert Testimonial Speaker, Texas State Senate Hearing, *Protecting Texas Land & Assets* (May 2024).

Panelist, *The Revival of Alien Land Laws*, Northeastern Junior Scholars’ Forum (March 2024).

Panelist, *The Revival of Alien Land Laws*, ACS Constitutional Law Scholars Forum (February 2024).

Pei “Leo” Yu

972-876-9823 · pyu@umassd.edu · Boston, Massachusetts

Panelist, *Affirmative Action: What’s Ahead for Higher Education and Other Sectors?* Southern Methodist University. Co-panelists: Darren Hutchinson, Kimberly Robinson, Dale Carpenter, Jeffery Kahn (November 2023).

Organizer/Panelist, *The Revival of the Alien Land Laws*, National Asian Pacific Americans Bar Association. (NAPABA) Annual Convention (November 2023).

Workshop, *From Criminalizing China to Criminalizing the Chinese*, Southeast Association of Law School (SEALS) (July 2023).

Panelist, *The Law and Political Economy of Colonialism, Racism and Nationalism*, moderated by Angela Harris, Law & Society Annual Conference (June 2023).

References News (China), Quoted, *TikTok Is Targeted In The US For Being Chinese, Not For What It Has Or Has Not Done* (May 2023)

PHOENIX NEWS (Hong Kong), Quoted, *Hundreds of Chinese Poured into The Texas State Capitol to Overwhelmingly Oppose Two Proposals Targeting Asians* (March 2023).

THE STRAITS TIMES (Singapore), Quoted, *When Sino-US Acrimony Spills Over to Home Ownership in Texas* (February 2023)

SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST (Hong Kong), Quoted, *Citing Security Risks, US States Move to Bar Chinese Land Purchases and Projects with China Ties* (February 2023).

SELECTED CASES

HUSSAM F. V. SESSIONS, 897 F.3D 707 (6TH CIR. 2018)

- Successfully reversed the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA)’ ruling and clarified the Six Circuit’s standard on BIA’s discretionary power in denying asylum applications.

JAFARZADEH V. NIELSEN, 321 F. SUPP. 3D 19 (D.D.C. 2018).

- Defeated the DOJ’s 12 (b)(6) motion and challenged the constitutionality of the Controlled Application Review and Resolution Program (CARRP).

DALLAS V. SHELLEY LUTHER, 2020 WL 2095518 (TEX. DIST. 2020) (THE TEXAS SALON CASE).

- Defended the city’s COVID-19 ordinance and obtained a contempt order against a salon owner who refused to comply with the court order.

SKILLS, INTERESTS & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Fully trilingual in English, Mandarin, and Cantonese.
- Chair of the American Constitution Society–Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter 2018-2021.
- Director of the Texas Young Lawyers Association 2021-2023.
- Member of the American Constitution Society Path to Bench Committee.
- State Bar of Texas Leadership Class 2018-2019; Dallas Young Lawyers Association Leadership Class 2019-2020.
- Member of the Rules of Evidence Committee of the State Bar of Texas 2019-2021.
- Chair of the Connections Committee for the Dallas Asian American Bar Association 2020-2021.
- Member of the Dallas LGBT Bar Association and the Texas LGBT Bar Association.

REFERENCES

Jessica Dixon Weaver (SMU)
Professor of Law
214-394-2627
jdweaver@smu.edu

Jeffrey D. Kahn (American
University)
Professor of Law and Director
of Law and Government
214-768-2792
jkahn@smu.edu

Robert S. Chang (U.C. Irvine)
Executive Director of the Fred T.
Korematsu Center for Law and Equality
and Professor of Law
206-390-5676
rchang@law.uci.edu

Seema Mohapatra (SMU)
MD Anderson Foundation Endowed
Professor of Law
407-375-6230
smohapatra@smu.edu

Angela Onwuachi-Willig (BU)
Dean of the Law School and Ryan
Roth Gallo & Ernest J. Gallo
Professor of Law
617-353-3112
aow@bu.edu

Peggy Li (The American
Constitution Society)
Senior Director of Chapters
281-389-2296
pli@acslaw.org