

Ryan C. Black
Curriculum Vitae
August 21, 2025

1 Contact Information

Department of Political Science
Michigan State University
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2 Education

Ph.D. in Political Science. Washington University in St. Louis, 2009
A.M. in Political Science. Washington University in St. Louis, 2006
B.A. in Political Science. University of Minnesota – Twin Cities, 2004
Diploma. Wayzata High School, 2000

3 Academic Appointments and Affiliations

Michigan State University, Department of Political Science
Professor (July 2018 - Present)
Associate Professor (July 2014 - June 2018)
Assistant Professor (August 2009 - June 2014)

Michigan State University, College of Law
Faculty Affiliate (July 2016 - Present)
Adjunct Professor (August 2015 - May 2016)

4 Research

4.1 Books

- [5] Black, Ryan C., Ryan J. Owens, and Patrick C. Wohlfarth. 2024. *Cognitive Aging and the Federal Circuit Courts: How Senescence Influences the Law and Judges*. Oxford University Press. ISBN: 978-0-197-74702-5 (Hardcover).

Winner of the 2025 C. Herman Pritchett Award from the Law and Courts section of the American Political Science Association for the best book on law and courts written by a political scientist.

- [4] Black, Ryan C., Ryan J. Owens, Justin Wedeking, and Patrick C. Wohlfarth. 2020. *The Conscientious Justice: How Supreme Court Justices' Personalities Influence the Law, the High Court, and the Constitution*. Cambridge University Press. ISBN: 978-1-107-16871-8 (Hardcover), 978-1-316-61800-4 (Paper).

Included in review essay: Fix, Michael P. 2020. "Giving the Straw Man a Brain: Integrating Law and Politics in Understanding the Supreme Court." *Journal of Politics* 82(4). Reviewed by Parker,

Christopher M. 2021. *Political Science Quarterly* 136(2): 374-376 (Summer); Howard, Robert M. 2020. *Law and Politics Book Review* 30(10): 154-157; Bowers, Michael W. 2020. *Choice* (December) [Selected as review of the week].

- [3] Black, Ryan C., Ryan J. Owens, Justin Wedeking, and Patrick C. Wohlfarth. 2016. *U.S. Supreme Court Opinions and Their Audiences*. Cambridge University Press. ISBN: 978-1-107-13714-1 (Hardcover), 978-1-316-50210-5 (Paper).

Identified as “Exemplary Legal Writing 2016: Books, Five Recommendations.” Lee Epstein. *The Green Bag 2017 Almanac and Reader*; Reviewed by: Stephenson, Donald Grier, Jr. 2017. *Journal of Supreme Court History* 42(3): 337-355 (November); Bailey, Michael A. 2017. *Law and Politics Book Review* 27(3): 47-48. Review available online.

- [2] Black, Ryan C., Timothy R. Johnson, and Justin Wedeking. 2012. *Oral Arguments and Coalition Formation on the U.S. Supreme Court: A Deliberate Dialogue*. University of Michigan Press. ISBN: 978-0-472-11846-5 (Hardcover), 978-0-472-03579-3 (Paper).

Reviewed by Stephenson, Donald Grier, Jr. 2015. *Journal of Supreme Court History* 40(3): 334-350 (November); Whitmeyer, Joseph. 2014. *Perspectives on Politics* 12(1): 235-236 (March); Hume, Robert J. 2013. *Journal of Politics* 75(4): E36; Westerland, Chad. 2013. *Law and Politics Book Review* 23(6): 305-308. Review available online.

- [1] Black, Ryan C. and Ryan J. Owens. 2012. *The Solicitor General and the United States Supreme Court: Executive Branch Influence and Judicial Decisions*. Cambridge University Press. ISBN: 978-1-107-01529-6 (Hardcover), 978-1-107-68099-9 (Paper).

Subject of an “Authors Meets Readers/Critics” panel at the 2013 annual meetings of the Midwest Political Science Association (April 12, Chicago, IL). Reviewed by Pacelle, Richard L., Jr. 2014. *Journal of Politics* 76(2): E7; Stephenson, Donald Grier Jr., 2013. “The Judicial Bookshelf.” *Journal of Supreme Court History* 38(3): 438-454; Bailey, Michael. 2013. *Political Science Quarterly* 128(3): 561-563 (Fall); Curry, Todd A. 2012. *Law and Politics Book Review* 22(10): 515-519; Collins, Ronald K.L. 2012. “BOOK REVIEW: A New (Scientific) Look at the SG and the Court.” *Concurring Opinions* Blog. August 28; also featured by Frost, Amanda. 2012. “Academic Highlight: Black and Owens on SG Decision Making.” *SCOTUSblog* (a.k.a., Supreme Court of the United States Blog). September 21, 2012.

4.2 Book Chapters/Sections

- [10] Black, Ryan C., Timothy R. Johnson, Ryan J. Owens, and Justin Wedeking. 2024. “Legitimacy, Trust, and Cameras in the U.S. Supreme Court” in Rorie Spill Solberg and Eric Waltenburg, eds., *Open Judicial Politics 3E Vol. 2*. Oregon State University: 333-354.
- [9] Lane, Elizabeth A., Jessica A. Schoenherr, Rachel A. Schutte, and Ryan C. Black. 2024. “Judicial Discretion and U.S. Supreme Court Agenda Setting” in Rorie Spill Solberg and Eric Waltenburg, eds., *Open Judicial Politics 3E Vol. 1*. Oregon State University: 473-512 (also published in the 2021 second edition; originally published in the 2020 first edition by Spill Solberg, Jennifer Segal Diascro, and Waltenburg, Oregon State University: 290-329).

- [8] Lipert, Anne, Justin Wedeking, and Ryan C. Black. 2024. "Citizen Knowledge and the U.S. Supreme Court: Understanding the Importance of Visual and Verbal Knowledge and Their Implications for the Supreme Court in American Democracy" in Rorie Spill Solberg and Eric Waltenburg, eds., *Open Judicial Politics 3E Vol. 2*. Oregon State University: 183-212.
- [7] Black, Ryan C. and Timothy R. Johnson. 2023. "Noteworthy But Not Unprecedented: The 2021 Term in Historical Context" in Morgan Marietta, ed., *SCOTUS 2022: Major Decisions and Developments of the US Supreme Court*. Palgrave Macmillan: 191-200.
- [6] Schoenherr, Jessica A. and Ryan C. Black. 2019. "The Use of Precedent in U.S. Supreme Court Litigant Briefs" in Susan Sterett and Lee Demetrius Walker, eds., *Research Handbook on Law and Courts*. Edward Elgar Publishing: 114-129.
- [5] Johnson, Timothy R., Ryan C. Black, and Ryan J. Owens. 2018. "Justice Scalia and Oral Arguments at the Supreme Court" in David Schultz and Howard Schweber, eds., *The Conservative Revolution of Antonin Scalia*. Lexington Books: 245-272.
- [4] Lane, Elizabeth A. and Ryan C. Black. 2017. "Agenda Setting and Case Selection on the U.S. Supreme Court" in Keith E. Whittington, commissioning associate editor for Politics, Law, and the Judiciary, *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Politics*. Oxford University Press: 1-24.
- [3] Black, Ryan C., Ryan J. Owens, and Justin Wedeking. 2016. "Herding Scorpions: The Chief as Social Leader" in David J. Danelski and Artemus Ward, eds., *The Chief Justice: Appointment and Influence*. University of Michigan Press: 281-305.
- [2] Black, Ryan C. and Ryan J. Owens. 2012. "Supreme Court Agenda Setting: Policy Uncertainty and Legal Considerations" in Kevin T. McGuire, ed., *New Directions in Judicial Politics*. Routledge Press: 144-166.
- [1] Black, Ryan C., Amanda C. Bryan, and Timothy R. Johnson. 2011. "An Actor-Based Measure of Salience: Information Acquisition and the Case of the United States Supreme Court" in Kai Oppermann and Henrike Viehrig, eds., *Issue Salience and Foreign Policy Analysis*. Routledge Press: 240-257.

4.3 Articles

- [52] Johnson, Timothy R., Ryan C. Black, and Ryan J. Owens. 2025. "Understanding Supreme Court Decision Making Through Justices' Personal Conference Notes: An Update on the SCOTUSNOTES Project." *Yale Journal of Law and Humanities* 36(2): 233-246 (July).
- [51] Black, Ryan C., Timothy R. Johnson, Ryan J. Owens, and Justin Wedeking. 2024. "Televised Oral Arguments and Judicial Legitimacy: An Initial Assessment." *Political Behavior* 46(2): 777-797 (June).

- [50] Black, Ryan C., Ryan J. Owens, and Patrick C. Wohlfarth. 2023. "Considering Constitutional Change: Survey Evidence on Public Attitudes Towards Term Limits for Federal Judges." *New Political Science* 45(2): 335-358.
- [49] Black, Ryan C., Timothy R. Johnson, Ryan J. Owens, and Justin Wedeking. 2023. "Cameras in the High Court: An Empirical Examination of Support for Supreme Court Justices." *Harvard Journal of Law & Public Policy Per Curiam* #11: 1-9 (Spring) [Invited Submission].
- [48] Black, Ryan C. and Timothy R. Johnson. 2022. "Obsessive Over the Possessive on the Supreme Court of the United States: Exploring SCOTUS'/SCOTUS's Use of Possessive Apostrophes." *Journal of Appellate Practice and Process* 22(1): 13-28 (Winter).

Identified in June 2024 by the journal's editor as the third most downloaded article among all articles published by the Journal of Appellate Practice and Process from 2020-2024.
- [47] Black, Ryan C. and Ryan J. Owens. 2021. "The Influence of Personalized Knowledge at the Supreme Court: How (Some) Former Law Court Clerks Have the Inside Track." *Political Research Quarterly* 74(4): 795-807 (December).

Research findings discussed by Adam Liptak in "Why Supreme Court Clerks Are Coveted by Law Firms" *New York Times* (9/22/20); Megan Henney in "Supreme Court Clerks See \$400G Bonuses From Elite Law Firms" *FoxBusiness* (9/21/20); Marcia Coyle in "Former SCOTUS Clerks Are More Likely to Win Their Justices' Votes, Study Asserts" *National Law Journal* (9/18/20).
- [46] Black, Ryan C., Ryan J. Owens, Justin Wedeking, and Patrick C. Wohlfarth. 2021. "Conscientiousness and Supreme Court Confirmation Hearings in the Senate Judiciary Committee." *British Journal of American Legal Studies* 10(3): 379-408 (Fall).
- [45] Black, Ryan C., Ryan J. Owens, Justin Wedeking, and Patrick C. Wohlfarth. 2021. "On Estimating the Personality Traits of US Supreme Court Justices." *Journal of Law and Courts* 9(2): 371-396 (Fall).
- [44] Schoenherr, Jessica A. and Ryan C. Black. 2019. "Friends with Benefits: Case Significance, Amicus Curiae, and Agenda Setting on the U.S. Supreme Court." *International Review of Law and Economics* 58: 43-53 [Symposium].
- [43] Black, Ryan C. and Timothy R. Johnson. 2018. "Behind the Velvet Curtain: Understanding Supreme Court Conference Discussions Through Justices' Personal Conference Notes." *Journal of Appellate Practice and Process* 19(2): 223-259 (Fall).
- [42] Black, Ryan C., Timothy R. Johnson, and Ryan J. Owens. 2018. "Chief Justice Burger and the Bench: How Physically Changing the Shape of the Court's Bench Reduced Interruptions During Oral Argument." *Journal of Supreme Court History* 43(1): 83-98 (March).
- [41] Black, Ryan C., Ryan J. Owens, Justin Wedeking, and Patrick C. Wohlfarth. 2017. "Supreme Court Opinions and Audiences." *Washington University Journal of Law and Policy* 54: 169-180 [Symposium].

- [40] Johnson, Timothy R. and Ryan C. Black. 2017. "The Roberts Court and Oral Arguments: A First Decade Retrospective." *Washington University Journal of Law and Policy* 54: 137-148 [Symposium].
- [39] Black, Ryan C., Ryan J. Owens, and Miles T. Armaly. 2016. "A Well Traveled Lot: A Research Note on Judicial Travel by U.S. Supreme Court Justices." *Justice System Journal* 37(4): 367-384 (October-December).
- [38] Black, Ryan C., Ryan J. Owens, and Jennifer L. Williams. 2016. "We Are the World: The U.S. Supreme Court's Use of Foreign Sources of Law." *British Journal of Political Science* 46(4): 891-913 (October).
- [37] Black, Ryan C., Ryan J. Owens, Justin Wedeking, and Patrick C. Wohlfarth. 2016. "The Influence of Public Sentiment on Supreme Court Opinion Clarity." *Law and Society Review* 50(3): 703-732 (September).
- [36] Black, Ryan C. and Amanda C. Bryan. 2016. "The Policy Consequences of Term Limits on the U.S. Supreme Court." *Ohio Northern University Law Review* 42(3): 821-854 [Invited Submission].
- [35] Black, Ryan C., Matthew E.K. Hall, Ryan J. Owens, and Eve M. Ringsmuth. 2016. "The Role of Emotional Language in Briefs Before the U.S. Supreme Court." *Journal of Law and Courts* 4(2): 377-407 (Fall).
- [34] Black, Ryan C. and Ryan J. Owens. 2016. "The Success of Former Solicitors General in Private Practice: Costly and Unnecessary." *Michigan State Law Review* 2016(2): 325-367 [Symposium].
- [33] Francis, Jeremy, Daphne O'Regan, and Ryan C. Black. 2016. "Designing Success: Motivating and Measuring Successful 1L Student Engagement in an Optional, Proficiency-Based Program Teaching Grammar and Punctuation." *Legal Writing: The Journal of the Legal Writing Institute* 21 (Summer): 129-185.
- [32] Black, Ryan C. and Ryan J. Owens. 2016. "Courting the President: How Circuit Court Judges Alter Their Behavior for Promotion to the Supreme Court." *American Journal of Political Science* 60(1): 30-43 (January).

Winner of the 2017 Best Journal Article Award from the Law and Courts section of the American Political Science Association for the best journal article in the field of law and courts written by a political scientist.
- [31] Black, Ryan C. and Amanda C. Bryan. 2014. "Explaining the (Non)Occurrence of Evenly Divided Supreme Courts." *American Politics Research* 42(6): 1077-1095 (November).
- [30] Black, Ryan C., Christina L. Boyd, and Amanda C. Bryan. 2014. "Revisiting the Influence of Law Clerks on the U.S. Supreme Court's Agenda-Setting Process." *Marquette University Law Review* 98(1): 75-109 (September) [Symposium].

Excerpted in "Junior Judges or Assistants: The Role of Law Clerks." *Marquette Lawyer: Marquette University Law School Magazine*. Fall 2015.

- [29] Johnson, Timothy R., David R. Stras, and Ryan C. Black. 2014. "Advice from the Bench (Memo): Clerk Influence on Supreme Court Oral Arguments." *Marquette University Law Review* 98(1): 21-42 (September) [Symposium].
- Excerpted in "Junior Judges or Assistants: The Role of Law Clerks." *Marquette Lawyer: Marquette University Law School Magazine*. Fall 2015.
- [28] Black, Ryan C., Anthony J. Madonna, and Ryan J. Owens. 2014. "Qualifications or Philosophy? The Use of Blue Slips in a Polarized Era." *Presidential Studies Quarterly* 44(2): 290-308 (June).
- [27] Owens, Ryan J., Daniel E. Walters, Ryan C. Black, and Anthony J. Madonna. 2014. "Ideology, Qualifications, and Covert Senate Obstruction of Federal Court Nominations." *University of Illinois Law Review* 2014(2): 347-387.
- [26] Black, Ryan C. and Amanda C. Bryan. 2014. "Calling in the Reserves: Judicial Replacements on the U.S. Supreme Court." *Justice System Journal* 35(1): 4-26 (March).
- [25] Black, Ryan C., Ryan J. Owens, Daniel E. Walters, and Jennifer L. Williams. 2014. "Upending a Global Debate: An Empirical Analysis of the U.S. Supreme Court's Use of Transnational Law to Interpret Domestic Doctrine." *Georgetown Law Journal* 103(1).
- [24] Black, Ryan C. and Christina L. Boyd. 2013. "Selecting the Select Few: The Discuss List and the U.S. Supreme Court's Agenda-Setting Process." *Social Science Quarterly* 94(4): 1124-1144 (December).
- [23] Black, Ryan C., Rachel A. Schutte, and Timothy R. Johnson. 2013. "Trying to Get What You Want: Heresthetical Maneuvering and U.S. Supreme Court Decision Making." *Political Research Quarterly* 66(4): 818-829 (December).
- [22] Black, Ryan C., Maron W. Sorenson, and Timothy R. Johnson. 2013. "Towards an Actor-Based Measure of Supreme Court Case Salience: Information-Seeking and Engagement During Oral Arguments." *Political Research Quarterly* 66(4): 803-817 (December).
- [21] Black, Ryan C. and Ryan J. Owens. 2013. "Bargaining and Legal Development on the United States Courts of Appeals." *American Politics Research* 41(6): 1071-1101 (November).
- [20] Black, Ryan C. and Ryan J. Owens. 2013. "A Built-In Advantage: The Office of the Solicitor General and the Supreme Court." *Political Research Quarterly* 66(2): 451-463 (June).
- [19] Black, Ryan C. and James F. Spriggs, II. 2013. "The Citation and Depreciation of U.S. Supreme Court Precedent." *Journal of Empirical Legal Studies* 10(2): 325-358 (June).
- Identified as "one of the best works of recent scholarship relating to Courts and Law" by Jotwell: The Journal of Things We Like (Lots). October 14, 2014.

- [18] Hall, Matthew E.K. and Ryan C. Black. 2013. "Keeping the Outliers in Line? Judicial Review of State Laws by the U.S. Supreme Court." *Social Science Quarterly* 94(2): 395-409 (June).
- [17] Black, Ryan C. and Ryan J. Owens. 2012. "Looking Back to Move Forward: Quantifying Policy Predictions in Political Decision Making." *American Journal of Political Science* 56(4): 802-816 (October).
- [16] Black, Ryan C. and Christina L. Boyd. 2012. "US Supreme Court Agenda Setting and the Role of Litigant Status." *Journal of Law, Economics, & Organization* 28(2): 286-312 (June).
- [15] Black, Ryan C. and Ryan J. Owens. 2012. "Consider the Source (and the Message): Supreme Court Justices and Strategic Audits of Lower Court Decisions." *Political Research Quarterly* 65(2): 385-395 (June).
- [14] Black, Ryan C. and Christina L. Boyd. 2012. "The Role of Law Clerks in the U.S. Supreme Court's Agenda-Setting Process." *American Politics Research* 40(1): 147-173 (January).
- [13] Black, Ryan C., Anthony J. Madonna, and Ryan J. Owens. 2011. "Obstructing Agenda-Setting: Examining Blue Slip Behavior in the Senate." *The Forum* 9(4): Article #9 (December).
- [12] Black, Ryan C. and Ryan J. Owens. 2011. "Solicitor General Influence and Agenda Setting on the United States Supreme Court." *Political Research Quarterly* 64(4): 765-778 (December).
- [11] Black, Ryan C., Michael S. Lynch, Anthony J. Madonna, and Ryan J. Owens. 2011. "Assessing Congressional Response to Growing Presidential Powers: The Case of Recess Appointments." *Presidential Studies Quarterly* 41(3): 570-589 (September).
- [10] Black, Ryan C., Sarah A. Treul, Timothy R. Johnson, and Jerry Goldman. 2011. "Emotions, Oral Arguments, and Supreme Court Decision Making." *Journal of Politics* 73(2): 572-581 (April).
- [9] Black, Ryan C. and Ryan J. Owens. 2009. "Analyzing the Reliability of Supreme Court Justices' Agenda Setting Records." *Justice System Journal* 30(3): 254-264 (December).
- [8] Black, Ryan C. and Ryan J. Owens. 2009. "Agenda Setting in the Supreme Court: The Collision of Policy and Jurisprudence." *Journal of Politics* 71(3): 1062-1075 (July).
 Research findings described in Seth Stern. 2010. "In Criticizing Kagan's Writings as Clerk, Republicans Trod a Well-Worn Path." *CQ Today Online News – Legal Affairs*. June 11, 2010.
- [7] Johnson, Timothy R., Ryan C. Black, and Justin Wedeking. 2009. "Pardon the Interruption: An Empirical Analysis of Supreme Court Justices' Behavior During Oral Arguments." *Loyola Law Review* 55(2): 331-351 (Summer) [Symposium].

- [6] Johnson, Timothy R., Ryan C. Black, and Eve M. Ringsmuth. 2009. “Hear Me Roar: What Provokes Supreme Court Justices to Dissent from the Bench?” *Minnesota Law Review* 93(5): 1560-1581 (May) [Symposium].

Research findings described in Adam Liptak. 2010. “In a Polarized Court, Getting the Last Word.” *New York Times*. March 8, 2010 (page A12).

- [5] Johnson, Timothy R., Ryan C. Black, Jerry Goldman, and Sarah A. Treul. 2009. “Inquiring Minds Want to Know: Do Justices Tip Their Hands With Their Questions at Oral Arguments in the U.S. Supreme Court?” *Washington University Journal of Law & Policy* 29: 241-261 [Symposium].

Research findings described in Adam Liptak. 2009. “When the Justices Ask Questions, Be Prepared to Lose the Case.” *New York Times*. May 26, 2009 (page A10); and David Stras. 2009. “Academic Round-Up.” Supreme Court of the United States Blog (SCOTUS Blog). May 11, 2009.

- [4] Black, Ryan C. and James F. Spriggs, II. 2008. “An Empirical Analysis of the Length of U.S. Supreme Court Opinions.” *Houston Law Review* 45(3): 621-683 (Fall).

Research findings described and data featured in Adam Liptak. 2010. “Justices Are Long on Words but Short on Guidance.” *New York Times*. November 18, 2010 (page A1).

- [3] Black, Ryan C., Anthony J. Madonna, Ryan J. Owens, and Michael S. Lynch. 2007. “Adding Recess Appointments to the President’s “Tool Chest” of Unilateral Powers.” *Political Research Quarterly* 60(4): 645-654 (December).

- [2] Black, Ryan C. and Lee Epstein. 2007. “(Re-)Setting the Scholarly Agenda on Transjudicial Communication.” *Law & Social Inquiry* 32(3): 791-807 (September) [Review Article].

- [1] Black, Ryan and Lee Epstein. 2005. “Recusals and the “Problem” of an Equally Divided Supreme Court.” *Journal of Appellate Practice and Process* 7(1): 75-99 (Spring) [Symposium].

Research findings described in Adam Liptak. 2010. “Supreme Court Recusal Process a Mystery.” *New York Times*. November 16, 2010 (page A18).

4.4 Commentary/Short Pieces/Reports

- [16] Owens, Ryan J. and Ryan Black. 2023. “The Danger of Cameras to the Supreme Court.” *Wall Street Journal*. March 21, 2023 (online). Also published in the print edition on March 22, 2023 as “The Danger of Cameras to the High Court” (page A15).
- [15] Black, Ryan C. and Ryan J. Owens. 2020 “Guest Post: Former Law Clerk Influence at the Supreme Court: How Personal Knowledge Gives Former Clerks an Edge.” *Appellate Advocacy Blog*. September 28, 2020.
- [14] Black, Ryan C., Timothy R. Johnson, Ryan J. Owens, and Justin Wedeking. 2020. “Livestreaming Arguments? The U.S. Supreme Court Made the Right Decision.” *The Hill*. May 8, 2020.

- [13] Black, Ryan C., Ryan J. Owens, and Timothy R. Johnson. 2020. “We Still Need Oral Arguments at the Supreme Court.” *The Dispatch*. March 31, 2020.
- [12] Owens, Ryan J. and Ryan C. Black. 2020. “The Supreme Court Must Stop the Trend of Judge-Shopping.” *The Hill*. March 5, 2020.
- [11] Owens, Ryan J. and Ryan C. Black. 2020. “No to Court Packing but Yes to Term Limits? What the Supreme Court Bar has to Say About Institutional Reform.” *The Dispatch*. February 6, 2020.
- [10] Johnson, Timothy R. and Ryan C. Black. 2017. “Conference Notes, Transcription, and Crowd Sourcing.” *Law & Courts* 27(3): 2, 6-9 (Winter).
- [9] Black, Ryan and Ryan Owens. 2017. “It’s Time to Fix the Supreme Court Nomination Process – Here’s How.” *Washington Examiner*. February 20, 2017.
- [8] Black, Ryan and Ryan Owens. 2017. “Neil Gorsuch Could be the Most Conservative Justice on the Supreme Court.” *Washington Post: The Monkey Cage*. Original version published February 15, 2017. We were invited to publish an updated version, which appeared on March 20, 2017.
- [7] Armaly, Miles T. and Ryan C. Black. 2016. “The State of Political Knowledge in the State of Michigan.” *Michigan Policy Wonk Blog* (hosted by the Institute for Public Policy and Social Research at Michigan State University). April 19, 2016.
- [6] Black, Ryan C. and Ryan J. Owens. 2016. “Legal Scholarship Highlight: Courting the President – Judges and the Desire for Elevation to the Supreme Court.” *SCOTUSBlog: Supreme Court of the United States Blog*. April 1, 2016.
- [5] Escalante, Sarah, Ryan C. Black, Matthew Hall, Ryan J. Owens, and Eve M. Ringsmuth. 2015. “An Empirical Analysis of Emotional Language in Legal Briefs Before the Supreme Court.” *SCOTUSBlog: Supreme Court of the United States Blog*. December 22, 2015.
- [4] Wedeking, Justin, Anne Lippert, and Ryan Black. 2015. “(Re)Discover the Value of Nodes and Links: How Networks Can Further Law & Courts Research.” *Law & Courts* 25(1): 6-10 (Spring).
- [3] McAdamis, Eric and Ryan C. Black. 2012. “Airport Searches,” “Border Searches,” “Drug Sniffs and Searches,” “Inventory Searches,” “Search and Seizure,” “Stomach Pumping,” and “Warrantless Searches.” *Encyclopedia of American Law and Criminal Justice*. David Schultz, ed. New York: Facts on File, Inc.
- [2] Black, Ryan C. 2009. “Alexander Bickel,” “Federal Baseball Club v. National League,” “Lewis Powell,” and “Roger Taney.” *Encyclopedia of the U.S. Constitution*. David Schultz, ed. New York: Facts on File, Inc.
- [1] Black, Ryan C. 2008. “Billboards,” “FEC v. National Conservative PAC,” “Law Students Research Council v. Wadmond,” and “Secretary of State of Maryland v. Joseph H. Munson, Inc.” *Encyclopedia of the First Amendment*. David Hudson, John Vile, and David Schultz, eds. Washington, D.C.: CQ Press.

4.5 Book Reviews

- [4] Black, Ryan C. 2020. Review of *Lighting the Way: Federal Courts, Civil Rights, and Public Policy* by Douglas Rice. *Law and Politics Book Review* 30(11): 170-177 (December).
- [3] Black, Ryan C. 2019. Review of *Glass and Gavel: The US Supreme Court and Alcohol* by Nancy Maveety. *Law and Politics Book Review* 29(5): 57-58 (May).
- [2] Black, Ryan C. 2018. Review of *Ethics and Accountability on the U.S. Supreme Court: An Analysis of Recusal Practices* by Robert J. Hume. *Law and Politics Book Review* 28(4): 45-51 (July).
- [1] Black, Ryan C. 2017. Review of *Working Law: Courts, Corporations, and Symbolic Civil Rights* by Lauren B. Edelman. *Law and Politics Book Review* 27(7): 117-121 (September).

4.6 Research Grants

EXTERNAL

Black, Ryan C. (PI) and Jonathan M. King (co-PI). “Doctoral Dissertation Research: Personality Traits of U.S. Courts of Appeals Judges” (SES-2017311). Law and Science Program of the National Science Foundation. August 2020-July 2022. Total Award: \$31,000.

Black, Ryan C. (PI) and Elizabeth A. Lane (co-PI). “Doctoral Dissertation Research: Measuring Legal Quality on the U.S. Supreme Court.” Law and Social Sciences Program of the National Science Foundation. August 2017-August 2019. Total award: \$31,000.

Black, Ryan C. and Timothy R. Johnson (co-PIs). “Collaborative Proposal: Understanding Supreme Court Decision-Making Through Conference Note Transcription” (SES-1556270). Law and Social Sciences Program of the National Science Foundation. March 2016-February 2020. Total award: \$394,000 (MSU portion of award: \$193,994).

Black Ryan C. (PI) and Rachel Schutte (co-PI). “Doctoral Dissertation Research: Shaping the Content of Majority Opinions on the U.S. Supreme Court” (SES-1228458). Law and Social Sciences Program of the National Science Foundation. August 2012-December 2013. Total award: \$30,000

Black, Ryan C. (subaward contract) and Ryan J. Owens (PI). “Estimating the Policy Preferences of United States Courts of Appeals Judges Across Circuits and American Political Institutions” (SES-0924236). Law and Social Sciences Program, National Science Foundation. September 2009-August 2012. Total award: \$111,314 (MSU subaward: \$27,564).

INTERNAL

Provost's Undergraduate Research Initiative, Michigan State University College of Social Science (various projects, student recipients, and amounts): Academic Years: 2022-23, 21-22, 20-21, 19-20, 18-19, 16-17, 14-15, 12-13, 11-12, 10-11; Summers: 2021, 2019, 2018, 2016.

Black, Ryan C. "Pilot Data for Studying Personality and Decision Making on the U.S. Courts of Appeals." Faculty Initiatives Fund, Michigan State University College of Social Science. May 2020-December 2021. Total award: \$7240.

Black, Ryan C. (PI), Maxwell Harder, Hailey Lobb, and Sean Weston. "Civic Knowledge in the State of Michigan: How Much and What Impact?" Michigan Applied Public Policy Research Grant, Institute for Public Policy and Social Research. November 2014-October 2015. Total award: \$12,000.

Black, Ryan C. "Judicial Decision Making on the U.S. Courts of Appeals: Pilot Data for Creating an Online Digital Archive." Faculty Initiatives Fund, Michigan State University College of Social Science. July 2010-June 2011. Total award: \$6164.

Black, Ryan C. "Judicial Recusal and its Impact on U.S. Supreme Court Decision Making." Center for the Study of Ethics and Human Values, Washington University in St. Louis. May 2008-April 2009. Total award: \$2500.

Black, Ryan C. "Denied Access, Denied Justice? The Effect of Economic Status on the United States Supreme Court's Agenda-Setting Process." Center for the Study of Ethics and Human Values, Washington University in St. Louis. May 2007-April 2008. Total award: \$2500.

5 Professional Activities

5.1 *Presentations at Annual Conferences*

American Political Science Association: 2008-10, 2013, 2017, 2022.

Conference on Empirical Legal Studies: 2007, 2009, 2012.

European Political Science Association: 2014, 2016.

Law and Society Association: 2008, 2011-12, 2015.

Midwest Political Science Association: 2006-19, 2022-23.

Northeastern Political Science Association: 2018.

Southern Political Science Association: 2007-12, 2014-16, 2018-20, 2023.

Southwestern Political Science Association: 2008, 2014, 2016.

Western Political Science Association: 2009, 2015, 2017.

5.2 *Invited Presentations and Workshops*

Florida State University (2024); University of South Carolina (2024); University of Georgia School of Law (2024); Town and Gown Senior Ambassador Program (2022); Purdue University

(2021); Claremont McKenna College (2018); Duke University School of Law (2018); University of Michigan (2018); University of Wisconsin-Madison (2016); Michigan State University Alumni Association (2016); Northwestern University (2016); Ohio Northern University Pettit College of Law (2016); Ohio State University (2016); Michigan State University College of Law (2015); Marquette University Law School (2014); Princeton University (2013); University of Chicago Law School (2013); Emory University (2012); U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico (2010); University of Texas at Dallas (2008); Michigan State University (2008); University of North Texas (2008); Carnegie Mellon University (2006).

6 Service Activities

6.1 Professional

Committee Chair. Lasting Contribution Award Committee (Law and Courts Section of the American Political Science Association, 2024). C. Herman Pritchett Best Book Award Committee (Law and Courts Section of the American Political Science Association, 2017). Nominations Committee (Law and Courts Section of the American Political Science Association, 2016).

Award Committee Member. Best Conference Paper Award (Law and Courts Section of the American Political Science Association, 2020). Lasting Contribution (Law and Courts Section of the American Political Science Association, 2011).

Columnist. “Better Get to Know a Law and Courter.” *Law and Courts Newsletter*. I created this feature in Fall 2017 and I have published 13 columns as of 8/2025 (one in the Spring issue and another in the Fall issue; each installment features two interviews).

Discussant. American Political Science Association (2022, 2023); Conference on Empirical Legal Studies (2009, 2015); Midwest Political Science Association (2010-2011, 2014, 2016, 2019, 2023); Southern Political Science Association (2014, 2024).

Editorial Board Member. *Law and Courts Newsletter* (2013-present). *Law and Society Review* (2013-2016). *Political Research Quarterly* (2016-2018).

Panel Chair. Midwest Political Science Association (2014, 2016, 2023); Western Political Science Association (2009).

Reviewer. *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Political Science Review*, *American Politics Research*, *British Journal of Political Science*, Cambridge University Press, Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, CQ Press, Israel Science Foundation, *Journal of Empirical Legal Studies*, *Journal of Law and Courts*, *Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization*, *Journal of Political Science*, *Journal of Politics*, *Judicature*, *Jurimetrics*, *Justice System Journal*, *Law and Policy*, *Law and Social Inquiry*, *Law and Society Review*, National Science Foundation (both ad hoc and as a four-time panelist), *Nature Human Behavior*, Oxford University Press, Peter Lang, *Political Analysis*, *Political Behavior*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Polit-*

ical Science Quarterly, Presidential Studies Quarterly, Public Opinion Quarterly, Red Cedar Undergraduate Research Journal, Routledge, SAGE, Social Science Journal, Social Science Quarterly, State Politics and Policy Quarterly, Swiss National Science Foundation, University of Michigan Press, University Press of Kansas, University of Virginia Press.

Section Chair. Midwest Political Science Association (2015, judicial politics).

6.2 College and University

2022-24. Faculty Advisor. Smash Melee Club.
2021-22. Member. Associate Dean of Academic and Student Affairs Search Committee.
2018-20. Member. College Promotion/Retention/Reappointment Council.
2018-19. Coach/Mentor. Spartan Transition to Excellence Program (STEP).
2017-18. Proposal Reviewer. College of Social Science Thematic Areas.
2014. Member. Lilly Teaching Fellowship Selection Committee.
2012. Discussant. Michigan State University College of Law Junior Faculty Workshop.
2010-2011. Seminar Presenter. Honors College Professorial Assistantship Program.
2011. Member. Faculty Grievance Jurisdictional Appeals Panel.
2010. Chair. College of Social Science Undergraduate Grievance Hearing Board.

6.3 Departmental

2014-present. Associate Chair.
2013-20, 2021-present. Director. Online Summer Teaching Program.
2011-20, 2021-22. American Politics Field Committee (Chair in 17-18, 19-20, 21-22).
2021-22. Graduate Studies, Academic Standards, and PhD Admissions.
2011-18. Responsible Conduct of Research Advisor.
2016-18. Department Advisory Committee (also 2012-13, 2014-15).
2016. Chair. American Politics Faculty Search Committee.
2015-16. Organizer. Graduate Student Orientation and Training Sessions (GOATS).
2015. Chair. Annual Performance Review Committee.
2013-15. Facilitator. Working Group: The Team Analyzing Courts (TACO).
2014-15. Member. American Politics Faculty Search Committee.
2014-15. Chair. Ad Hoc Committee on Undergraduate Assessment.
2014. Chair. Best Graduate Student Paper Award.
2012-14. Member. PhD Admissions Committee.
2013-14, 2015-16. Member. Undergraduate Studies Committee.
2013-14, 2015-16, 2017-18. First Year Graduate Student Mentor.
2013-14. Facilitator. Political Science Graduate Student Teaching Workshop.
2012-13. First Year Graduate Student Academic Advisor.
2012-13. Member. Self-Study Committee.
2011-12. Member. Ad Hoc Graduate Student Teaching Committee.
2011-12. Member. Annual Performance Review Committee.
2011-12. Member. Graduate Professionalization Committee.
2010-11. Member. Graduate Studies and Academic Standards Committee.

2010-11. Member. Ad Hoc Performance Evaluation Review Committee.
2010. Member. Undergraduate Grievance Review Panel.
2009-10. Member. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee.
2009. Member. Ad Hoc Information Technology Needs Evaluation Committee.

7 Teaching

7.1 Courses Taught

* denotes a class that I currently teach or have taught within the last couple of years.

ISS 210: Society and the Individual.* Undergraduate.
ISS 305: Evaluating Evidence.* Undergraduate.
ISS 308: Social Science Approaches to Law.* Undergraduate.
ISS 325: War and Revolution.* Undergraduate.
LAW 637: Quantitative Analysis for Lawyers. Law School.
PLS 200: Introduction to Political Science. Undergraduate.
PLS 201: Introduction to Methods of Political Analysis. Undergraduate.
PLS 320: Judicial Politics.* Undergraduate.
PLS 321: American Constitutional Law. Undergraduate.
PLS 392: Special Topics in Political Science.* Undergraduate.
PLS 422: Seminar in Political Science.* Undergraduate.
PLS 920: Research Seminar in American Politics.* Graduate.
UGS 200: Honors Research Seminar. Undergraduate.
United Kingdom Summer Study Abroad. Undergraduate.

7.2 Ph.D. Students Supervised

Rachel A. Spooner. 2015. Initial placement: Hunter College (CUNY) (tenure-track). Current position: Hope College (Associate Professor with Tenure).

Miles T. Armaly. 2017. Initial placement: University of Mississippi (tenure-track). Current position: University of Mississippi (Associate Professor with Tenure).

Elizabeth A. Lane. 2019. Initial placement: Louisiana State University (tenure-track). Current position: North Carolina State University (Assistant Professor).

Jessica A. Schoenherr. 2020. Initial placement: University of South Carolina (tenure-track). Current position: University of Georgia (Assistant Professor).

Jonathan M. King. 2023. Initial placement: West Virginia University (tenure-track). Current position: University of Georgia (Assistant Professor).

8 Honors and Awards

Law and Courts Mentoring Award. 2025. American Political Science Association Law and Courts Section.

C. Herman Pritchett Award for Best Book on Law and Courts Published by a Political Scientist. 2025. American Political Science Association Law and Courts Section. Awarded for Black, Owens, and Wohlfarth (2024) [see Book #5 above].

Graduate School Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award. 2019. Michigan State University.

President's Distinguished Teaching Award. 2019. Michigan State University.

MSU Alumni Club of Mid-Michigan Quality in Undergraduate Teaching Award. 2018. Michigan State University.

Nominee, The Legends of Mata Nui Award. 2018. LEGO Inside Tour.

Honors College Award for Distinguished Contributions to Honors Students. 2017. Michigan State University.

Law and Courts Best Journal Article Award. 2017. American Political Science Association Law and Courts Section. Awarded for Black and Owens (2016) [see Article #32 above].

College of Social Science Alumni Association Outstanding Teaching Award. 2016. Michigan State University.

Political Science Teaching Excellence Award. 2015. Michigan State University.

Teacher-Scholar Award. 2014. Michigan State University.

Title of Nobility (Lord) from the Royal Family. 2014. Principality of Sealand.

Lilly Teaching Fellowship. 2012-2013. Michigan State University.

Artinian Travel Award. 2012. Southern Political Science Association.

Featured in Michigan State University's Faculty Conversations Series (content available online at: http://news.msu.edu/staff-faculty/story/7922/&topic_id=19). 2010.

Recognized by Michigan State University's Division of Student Affairs and Services for Success in Teaching and Educational Leadership. 2010.

Faculty Mentor Award (for mentoring a student in the McNair Scholars program). 2010. Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program Faculty Support Award. Stu-

dent mentored: Qasim Abbas.

Pi Sigma Alpha Award (for the best paper delivered at the 2008 meetings of the Southern Political Science Association). 2009. Paper: Ryan C. Black and Timothy R. Johnson, "Political Salience, U.S. Supreme Court Oral Arguments, and the Search for the Holy Grail."

2nd Place Poster Award. 2007. Social Science Division of the Graduate Student Research Symposium Poster Contest, Washington University in St. Louis. Poster: Ryan C. Black, "Assistants or Puppet Masters? Examining the Influence of Law Clerks on the U.S. Supreme Court."

Prestage-Cook Graduate Student Travel Award. 2007. Southern Political Science Association.

Honorable Mention, Graduate Research Fellowship. 2006. National Science Foundation.

1st Place Poster Award. 2006. Social Science Division of the Graduate Student Research Symposium Poster Contest, Washington University in St. Louis. Poster: Ryan C. Black, "Finding Needles in a Haystack: an Empirical Analysis of Case Selection on the U.S. Supreme Court."

Honorable Mention, Graduate Research Fellowship. 2005. National Science Foundation.