

BROWN | STREZA



HEATHER A. LACHENAUER, J.D., M.A.

SENIOR COUNSEL

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PRACTICE AREAS

Religious Institutions
Nonprofit Organizations

Educational Organizations
Higher Education

ABOUT

Heather A. Lachenauer is an experienced litigator, appellate advocate, and educator who has successfully represented international companies, federal agencies, financial institutions, businesses, educational institutions, and individuals. She has advocated on behalf of clients in a variety of pro bono matters involving asylum, the death penalty, and religious liberty, among others. Heather has taught political science, rhetoric, poetics, and aesthetics as an adjunct professor and is a former member of the Board of Regents of St. John Paul the Great Catholic University. She is a co-founder of Epiphany Prep Charter School, a school dedicated to providing quality education to children living in low-income communities in San Diego.

Prior to practicing law, Heather spent 10 years working in the field of international development and humanitarian aid, with a focus on legal reform and economic development in Central and Eastern Europe and West Africa and the development of sustainable education in Papua New Guinea.

Heather completed her undergraduate work at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia. She studied philosophy and theology at the Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology and obtained a master's degree in education and human development at George Washington University. She earned her law degree from the University of Notre Dame School of Law.

A Virginia native, Heather is a member of the State Bar of California and the State Bar of Texas and is admitted to practice before multiple federal courts, including the United States Supreme Court.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Brown & Streza LLP, Irvine, California
Senior Counsel, 2024-Present

The University of Dallas, Irving, Texas
Vice President for Board and Legal Services and General Counsel, 2020 - 2024

First Liberty Institute, Dallas, Texas
Senior Counsel, 2019 - 2020

Independent Consultant, Dallas, Texas

2017 - 2019

Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch LLP, San Diego, California

Associate Attorney, 2010 - 2017

U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, Washington, DC

Attorney Advisor, 2010

Juris Doctor, **University of Notre Dame Law School**, Notre Dame, Indiana, 2007

Master of Education, **The George Washington University**, Washington, DC, 2004

Bachelor of Arts, Government, **College of William & Mary**, Williamsburg, Virginia

Licensed to practice law in both Texas and California

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Napa Legal Symposium, Napa, California, July 24, 2024

- Panelist, Building on Solid Ground: Mission, Culture, & Leadership

Notre Dame Religious Liberty Summit, Notre Dame, Indiana, July 11, 2024

- The Catholic Identity of Catholic Institutions of Higher Education

Catholic Bar Association Annual Meeting, Arlington, Virginia, October 28, 2023

- The Administrative State and the Catholic University

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Epiphany Prep Charter School – Co-Founder

Board of Regents of St. John Paul the Great Catholic University – Former Member

Young Catholic Professionals – Board of Directors, Former Member

Home Unlimited – Board of Directors, Member

100 Companies That Care – Member