

# ALEXANDER L. CHEN

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## EDUCATION

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**Harvard Law School**, J.D., *cum laude*, May 2015

Awards: Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowship for New Americans (1 of 30 nationwide)  
Journals: *Harvard Law Review*, Articles Editor  
Activities: Harvard Labor and Employment Action Project, Co-Founder; Harvard QTPOC, Co-Founder

**Columbia University**, M.A., English and Comparative Literature, Feb. 2012

Thesis: “Poverty as a Structuring Principle in *Piers Plowman*”

**University of Oxford**, B.A., *First Class Honours*, English Language and Literature, June 2009

Awards: Wadham College Prize (outstanding performance in final-year examinations)  
Activities: Oxford United Nations Association, President

## EXPERIENCE

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**Harvard Law School**, Cambridge, MA

2020–present

*Founding Director of the Harvard Law School LGBTQ+ Advocacy Clinic*  
*Clinical Instructor and Lecturer on Law*

Founded clinic engaged in impact litigation, legislative and policy advocacy, and direct representation on behalf of LGBTQ+ clients. Supervises clinical students on matters related to LGBTQ+ civil rights law. Teaches Gender Identity, Sexual Orientation, and the Law.

**National Center for Lesbian Rights**, San Francisco, CA

2017–19

*Equal Justice Works Fellow (sponsored by Salesforce.org and Baker McKenzie LLP)*

Conducted national LGBT civil rights impact litigation, legislative and policy advocacy, and public education, including in education, employment, health care, housing, prison, conversion therapy, and child welfare and juvenile justice settings. Member of litigation team in trans military ban cases (*Doe v. Trump* and *Stockman v. Trump*) and landmark Ninth Circuit trans prisoner surgery access case (*Edmo v. Corizon*). Co-drafted AB 2119, a bill making California the first state to guarantee transition-related health care access for trans youth in foster care.

**National Center for Transgender Equality**, Washington, DC

July–Sept. 2014

*Law Fellow*

Drafted policy guidance for federal agencies and performed legal research on employment, criminal, administrative, and education issues involving transgender people. Filed FOIA request.

**U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division**, Washington, DC

May–June 2014

*Legal Intern, Educational Opportunities Section*

Drafted briefing, reviewed depositions, and prepared witnesses for desegregation hearing. Performed legal research for Department of Education Title IX sexual violence guidelines and reviewed Title IX complaints.

**American Civil Liberties Union, LGBT & HIV Project**, New York, NY

May–July 2013

*Legal Intern*

Conducted legal research for LGBT civil rights impact litigation, including on marriage equality (*United States v. Windsor*), family law, status decriminalization, health care access, and transgender rights.

## CLERKSHIPS

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**U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit**, *Law Clerk to the Hon. M. Margaret McKeown*

2016–17

**U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California**, *Law Clerk to the Hon. Gonzalo P. Curriel*

2015–16

## PUBLICATIONS

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*The Trans Youth Handbook* (with Asaf Orr) (2020)

*Gay Rights and Trans Rights Are Indivisible. SCOTUS Just Showed Why*, SLATE (Jun. 18, 2020)

*The Supreme Court Doesn't Understand Transgender People*, SLATE (Oct. 18, 2019)

Note, *The Supreme Court 2013 Term, Leading Case: Federal Jurisdiction and Procedure—Personal Jurisdiction—General Jurisdiction—Daimler AG v. Bauman*, 134 S. Ct. 746 (2014), 128 HARV. L. REV. 311 (2014)

Note, *Recent Administrative Policy: Social Security Administration Eliminates Surgical Requirement for Changing Trans Individuals' Gender Markers*, 127 HARV. L. REV. 1863 (2014)

## SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

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Panel, *The Many Facets of Bostock*, University of Florida Levin College of Law (remote), Sept. 2020

Plenary, *Title VII and Beyond: The Scope of Civil Rights Protections in the Aftermath of Bostock/Stephens/Zarda* (CLE); Panels, *Supreme Court Review: The Blockbuster 2019-2020 Term* (CLE) & *What's Left for Transgender Rights After Harris Funeral Homes v. E.E.O.C.* (CLE); Moderator, *Working with Medical Experts* (CLE), National LGBT Bar Association Annual Conference (remote), Aug. 2020

Panel, *Trans and Queer Liberation in 2020*, California ChangeLawyers (remote), Aug. 2020

Panel, *Supreme Court's LGBTQ Discrimination Decisions, Hot off the Press*, Bar Association of San Francisco (remote), July 2020

Chair, *LGBTQ+ Law Update 2020*, Massachusetts Continuing Legal Education (remote), May 2020

Plenary, *Beyond Marriage Equality: The Next Stage of Inclusion*, National Asian Pacific American Bar Association 2019 Convention, Austin, TX, Nov. 2019

Panel, *Protecting Transgender Health Care Rights*, HLS Lambda LGBTQ+ Health Care Rights Conference, Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA, Nov. 2019

Guest Lecture, *Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, and the Law: Military & Bathroom Access Cases* (with Professor Jane Schacter), Stanford Law School, Stanford, CA, Oct. 2019

Webinar, *Our Day in Court Virtual Town Hall: U.S. Supreme Court Hears 3 LGBTQ+ Rights Cases: Our Experts Answer What Happened & What's Next*, National LGBT Bar Association (remote), Oct. 2019

Panel, *LGBT Employees at the Supreme Court*, UC Hastings College of Law, San Francisco, CA, Oct. 2019

Speaker, *Diversity in Legal Thought and Practice Speaker Series*, UC Hastings College of Law, San Francisco, CA, Sept. 2019

Panel, *Queer Attorneys of Color*, Berkeley Law School, Berkeley, CA, Sept. 2019

Presentation, *Proposed Eliminations of Gender Identity Protections in Section 1557*, Protecting Trans Health Care Rights, Harvard Center for Health Law and Policy Innovation/Transgender Law Center, New York, NY, Jun. 2019

Presentation, *More Than Just Cake: Religious Freedom and the LGBT Community*, Baker McKenzie, San Francisco, CA, Jun. 2019

Panel, *Transitions in the Trump Era* (CLE), Asian American Bar Association, San Francisco, CA, Jun. 2019

Panel, *Career Pathways*, National Trans Bar Association Mentorship Summit, New York, NY, Jun. 2019

Guest Lecturer, *Law and Sexuality: Education* (with Professor Sonia Katyal), University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, CA, Apr. 2019

Presentation, *Supporting Transgender and LGB Students*, H.B. McDaniel & California Association of School Counselors' Equity in Education Conference, Center for Education Research at Stanford University, Stanford, CA, Apr. 2019

Presentation, *Supporting Transgender Employees* (CLE), Bar Association of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA, Dec. 2018

Plenary, *Responding to Attacks on Trans, Non-binary, and Gender Nonconforming People*, National LGBT Civil Rights Litigators' Roundtable, New York, NY, Nov. 2018

Speaker, *Transgender Day of Remembrance for San Mateo County*, San Mateo, CA, Nov. 2018

Panel, *Redefining Sex: Explaining Trump's Proposed Anti-Transgender Regulations*, Stanford Law School, Stanford, CA, Nov. 2018

Panel, *How Do Queer and Feminist Politics Exacerbate the Carceral State?*, Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA, Oct. 2018

Presentation, *Trans Advocacy in the Age of Trump*, Yale Law School, New Haven, CT, Oct. 2018

Guest Lecture, *Transgender Rights in the United States* (with Professor Prerna Dhoop), NALSAR University School of Law, Hyderabad, India (remote), Oct. 2018

Presentations, *Fertility Issues for Trans Youth and Adults, Know Their Rights: What Families Need to Know, Know Your Rights for Trans Youth, Legal Considerations for Providers, & Schools and Public Accommodations*, Gender Odyssey, Seattle, WA, Aug. 2018

Radio Interview, *NewsWorks Tonight, August 2, 2018*, WHYY (NPR affiliate), Philadelphia, PA, Aug. 2018

Presentations, *Advances in Trans Equality, Schools: Meeting the Needs of Trans Kids, & What Providers Need to Know to Care for Trans Patients*, Philadelphia Trans Wellness Conference, Philadelphia, PA, Aug. 2018

Presentations, *Fertility Issues for Trans Youth & The Shifting Landscape of Title IX and Other Gender Protections*, Gender Spectrum, Moraga, CA, Jul. 2018

Presentations, *Health Insurance and Transition-Related Care, Know Their Rights: What Families Need to Know, Legal Information for Providers, & Schools and Public Accommodations*, Gender Odyssey, Los Angeles, CA, Jun. 2018

Panel, *The Impact of an Ally*, California Diversity Council LGBTQ+ Allies Diversity Summit, Gensler, Oakland, CA, Jun. 2018

Presenter, *What Health Care Providers Need to Know: Legal Issues Affecting Transgender Youth*, TransLife Symposium, Santa Rosa, CA, Apr. 2018

Presenter, *Key Legal Issues Affecting the Transgender Community*, Association of Pro Bono Counsel, San Francisco, CA, Apr. 2018

Presentation, *LGBTQ Rights: Up for Interpretation?* (CLE), San Diego Lawyers' Club, San Diego, CA, Mar. 2018

Panel, *Disability Rights in an Intersectional Age* (CLE), 2018 Disability Rights Conference, Berkeley Law School, Berkeley, CA, Jan. 2018

Panel, *Transgender Rights*, Panelist, Disability Rights/Transgender Rights Summit, New York, NY, Dec. 2017

Panel, *LGBTQ Rights and Discrimination*, Children's Rights Summit, Palo Alto, CA, Dec. 2017

Panel, *Transgender Rights and Bathroom Access: Expanding the Conversation*, Panelist, National LGBT Bar Association Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA, Aug. 2017

Moderator, *Public Accommodations*, Trans Law Institute, San Francisco, CA, Aug. 2017

Presentation, *The Trans Agenda*, National Queer Asian Pacific Islander Alliance 2015 National Conference, Chicago, IL, Aug. 2015

Moderator, *Theorizing and Representing Sexual Injury and Its Redress*, Teach-In on Campus Sexual Violence, Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA, Sept. 2014

## **BOARD MEMBERSHIPS & PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

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Founding Board Member, National Trans Bar Association (2016–present)

Organizer, National Trans Bar Association Mentorship Summit (2019)

Organizer, Trans Law Institute (2015–20)

Selection Committee, *Harvard Law Review* Public Interest Fellowship (2018)

## **AWARDS**

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40 Best LGBTQ+ Lawyers Under 40, National LGBT Bar Association (2019)

*Forbes* 30 Under 30, Law and Policy (2018)

## **ADMISSIONS**

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Admitted to practice in the State of California, the State of New York, the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York, and the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California.

## **LANGUAGES**

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Fluent in spoken Mandarin Chinese.