

Solicitor General Ted Cruz

Ted Cruz serves as the Solicitor General of Texas. Appointed by Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott in January 2003, he is the chief appellate lawyer for the State of Texas. As Solicitor General, he has authored over thirty U.S. Supreme Court briefs and presented eighteen oral arguments, including three in the U.S. Supreme Court. His representation of the State of Texas includes:

- successfully defending the constitutionality of the Texas Ten Commandments monument before the Fifth Circuit, and currently defending the same before the U.S. Supreme Court;
- authoring a U.S. Supreme Court brief on behalf of all fifty States and successfully defending the words “under God” in the Pledge of Allegiance;
- serving as lead counsel for the State and successfully defending the multiple state and federal litigation challenges to the 2003 Texas congressional redistricting plan;
- successfully defending the constitutionality of “Rider 8,” passed by the Texas Legislature to prohibit the state funding of organizations that provide abortions;
- defending in the D.C. Circuit the individual right to keep and bear arms under the Second Amendment;
- authoring a brief on behalf of 12 States, urging the U.S. Supreme Court to reverse a court of appeals decision striking down the daily cadet suppertime prayer at Virginia Military Institute;
- defending the constitutionality of the Texas Sexually Violent Predator Civil Commitment law;
- serving as lead counsel for the State on the pending appeal to the Texas Supreme Court of the 2004 Texas school finance litigation; and
- representing Texas before the U.S. Supreme Court in a pending case that will determine the impact of rulings from the International Court of Justice upon U.S. death penalty jurisprudence.

In 2004, he won the Best Brief Award by the National Association of Attorneys General (NAAG), for the best merits brief in the U.S. Supreme Court in the October Term 2003.

Ted currently serves on the Steering Committee of the Texas Review of Law & Politics, on the Board of Trustees of the Criminal Justice Legal Foundation, as a Director and Vice President of the Texas Lyceum, and on the Board of Advisors for Hispanic Alliance for Progress. He previously served as Chairman of the School Choice and Education Reform Committee for the Federalist Society. In addition, he currently serves as an Adjunct Professor of Law at the University of Texas School of Law, where he teaches U.S. Supreme Court Litigation.

Prior to his current position, Ted served as the Director of the Office of Policy Planning for the Federal Trade Commission, as Associate Deputy Attorney General at the U.S. Department of Justice, and as Department of Justice Coordinator for the Bush Transition Team. In November and December 2000, he helped assemble the Bush legal team, devise legal strategy, and draft pleadings in the Florida and U.S. Supreme Courts during the Florida presidential recount. From June 1999 to November 2000, Ted served as Domestic Policy Advisor to the Bush-Cheney campaign in Austin, Texas. In that capacity, he advised President Bush on a wide range of policy matters, with primary responsibility for all legal policy, including Civil Justice, Criminal Justice, Constitutional Law & Civil Rights, Immigration, Campaign Finance Reform, Political Process, and Government Reform.

Ted is a regular contributor to National Review Online, and is the author of *The Rise of Opportunity Conservatism*, a book chapter in *THANK YOU, PRESIDENT BUSH*, published in 2004. Ted met his wife Heidi on the 2000 Bush campaign, and they are Pioneers for the 2004 campaign, and founding members of the Texas Mavericks.

Ted is the son of a Cuban immigrant, was raised in Texas, and attended Princeton University and the Harvard Law School. At Princeton, he was two-time U.S. national champion debater, and the number-one ranked collegiate speaker in North America. He graduated Harvard magna cum laude and in 1995 served as a law clerk to Judge J. Michael Luttig on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, and in 1996 as a law clerk to Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist on the Supreme Court of the United States.