



**Jordan E. Pratt**

President Trump nominated Jordan Pratt to serve on the United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida on June 16, 2025.

**Career<sup>1</sup>**

- Bachelor of Arts, University of Florida, 2009
- Juris Doctor, University of Florida College of Law, 2012
- Federalist Society Member, 2009-present
- Blackstone Fellowship, Alliance Defending Freedom, 2010
- Research Assistant, Federalist Society 2011-2012
- Law Clerk to the Hon. Harvey E. Schlesinger, U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida, 2012-2014
- Blackstone Legal Fellowship Mentor, Alliance Defending Freedom, 2014
- Law Clerk to the Hon. Jennifer Walker Elrod, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, 2014-2015
- Deputy Solicitor General, Florida Department of Legal Affairs, 2015-2019
- United States Department of Justice, Office of Legal Policy, 2019-2020
  - Counsel, 2019
  - Senior Counsel, 2020
- Deputy General Counsel, U.S. Small Business Administration, 2020-2021
- Senior Counsel, First Liberty Institute, 2021-2023
- District Judge, Florida Fifth District Court of Appeal, 2023-present

**Record on Reproductive Freedom**

As a district judge on Florida’s Fifth District Court of Appeal, Pratt wrote the opinion blocking a young person’s access to abortion through judicial bypass and maneuvered to end the judicial bypass statutory scheme throughout the state.<sup>2</sup>

- Instead of exercising his statutory duty to review the actions of the lower court, Pratt created the conditions to threaten young people’s access to abortion care by inviting Florida’s Attorney General to weigh in on the constitutionality of the judicial bypass law.
- Pratt held that Florida’s judicial bypass law, which is already only available in limited circumstances, violates the due process rights of parents to decide if their children can access abortion care.

Pratt wrote and filed a brief in support of Florida’s abortion ban as Senior Counsel at First Liberty Institute, an anti-abortion advocacy group.<sup>3</sup>

# REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM FOR ALL

- In the brief, Pratt made inflammatory and baseless arguments about how abortion access conflicts with the First Amendment, falsely implying that it leads to violence against anti-abortion fake health centers.
- While the Florida Supreme Court ultimately upheld the ban, none of Pratt's arguments were incorporated into the decision.<sup>4</sup>

As Deputy Solicitor General, Pratt defended Florida in a challenge to the state's mandatory delay law.

- Pratt pushed the baseless argument that a mandatory delay was the least restrictive way to ensure informed consent when, in reality, restrictions like this are designed to be a significant barrier to accessing abortion care.
- During Pratt's involvement in the case, Florida courts disagreed with Pratt's position and held that the law violated the state constitution's right to privacy.<sup>5</sup>

## **Record on Voting Rights & Democracy**

- As Deputy Solicitor General, Pratt represented Florida's Secretary of State defending an anti-democracy state law that would have allowed election officials to reject mailed-in ballots and provisional ballots based only on their determination that signatures were mismatched. Neither the district court<sup>6</sup> nor the Eleventh Circuit allowed the law to go into effect.<sup>7</sup>
- Pratt defended Florida against a class action challenge to Florida's system for reinstating voting rights to people with prior felony convictions.<sup>8</sup> At the time of this challenge, the state scheme required people with prior felony convictions to petition a clemency board to have their voting rights restored. Pratt argued that the governor had the power to deny petitions without justification. The district court disagreed with Pratt, in part "to ensure that Florida's vote-restoration scheme is no longer based on unfettered discretion."<sup>9</sup> Deciding against Pratt's position, the court wrote, "This argument boils down to 'trust us—we got this.' But this is the very presumption that the doctrine forbidding unbridled discretion disallows."<sup>10</sup>

## **Record on Intersectional Commitments**

Pratt has a record of fighting against LGBTQIA+ equality.

- While Senior Counsel at First Liberty Institute, Pratt advocated on behalf of companies and individuals who discriminated against transgender people.

# REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM<sup>FOR</sup> ALL

- Pratt represented a company that refused to provide health insurance coverage for gender affirming care in a discrimination complaint<sup>11</sup> and represented a physician’s assistant who was fired for refusing to use pronouns that match patients’ gender identity when referring to transgender patients.<sup>12</sup>
- He also authored an amicus brief in support of a teacher who insisted on misgendering his transgender student in the classroom.<sup>13</sup>
- Pratt wrote an article equating public university guidance that professors should address trans students by their names and pronouns to “forc[ing] citizens to speak according to a government-imposed orthodoxy.”<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Jordan Pratt, Questionnaire for Judicial Nominees, United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary (June 2, 2025).

<sup>2</sup> *Doe v. Uthmeier*, No. 5D2025-1363, 2025 WL 1386707 (Fla. 5th DCA May 14, 2025).

<sup>3</sup> Brief of Amicus Curiae National Institute of Family and Life Advocates in Support of Respondents in No. SC2022-1050, *Planned Parenthood of Sw. & Cent. Florida v. Florida*, 384 So.3d 67 (Fla. 2024).

<sup>4</sup> *Planned Parenthood of Sw. & Cent. Florida v. Florida*, 384 So.3d 67 (Fla. 2024).

<sup>5</sup> *State v. Gainesville Woman Care, LLC*, 278 So.3d 216 (Fla. 1st DCA 2019).

<sup>6</sup> *Democratic Executive Committee of Florida and Bill Nelson for U.S. Senate v. Detzner*, 347 F.Supp.3d 1017 (N.D. Fla. 2018).

<sup>7</sup> *Democratic Executive Committee of Florida and Bill Nelson for U.S. Senate v. Lee*, 915 F.3d 1312 (11th Cir. 2019).

<sup>8</sup> *Hand v. Scott*, 315 F.Supp.3d 1244 (N.D. Fla. 2018).

<sup>9</sup> *Id.* at 1248.

<sup>10</sup> *Id.* at 1251.

<sup>11</sup> Kathy McCormack, *Transgender Worker Denied Coverage Alleges Discrimination*, AP (Dec. 16, 2022).

<sup>12</sup> *Klooseterman v. Metropolitan Hospital*, et al., 2023 WL 12081259 (W.D. Mich. 2023).

<sup>13</sup> Brief of Amici Curiae The Center for Religion, Culture, and Democracy and 18 Scholars in Support of Appellant in Rec. No. 211061, *Vlaming v. West Point School Bd.*, 302 Va. 504 (2023).

<sup>14</sup> Jordan Pratt, *A Tale of Two Colleges: The Right Way (and the Wrong Way) to Handle the Gender Debate*, *The Western Journal* (Apr. 28, 2022).