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S. Chad Meredith Judicial Nominee to the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky Research Summary

Age: 44 (born in Elizabethtown, Kentucky)

2025 - Present: Partner, Squire Patton Boggs LLP, Cincinnati, OH

2021 – 2025: Of Counsel, Squire Patton Boggs LLP, Cincinnati, OH

2019 – 2021: Solicitor General, Office of the Governor, Frankfort, KY

2015 - 2019: Chief Deputy General Counsel, Office of the Governor, Frankfort, KY

2015 – 2015: Partner, Ransdell & Roach, PLLC, Lexington, KY

2011 - 2015: Associate, Ransdell & Roach, PLLC, Lexington, KY

2009 – 2011: Associate, Frost Brown Todd, Louisville, KY

2008 – 2009: Law Clerk, The Hon. Amul Thapar, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky

2007 – 2008: Law Clerk, The Hon. John Rogers, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit Education: University of Kentucky (J.D.) 2007; Washington & Lee University (B.A., Politics) 2003.

Judicial Philosophy:

- At Meredith's Senate hearing, he declared, "As a judge, it'll be my obligation to set aside all other personal beliefs, policy preferences... and simply follow the law."
- Meredith was recommended for a district court judgeship by M. Stephen Pitt, General Counsel for Kentucky's Office of the Governor, who emphasized Meredith's originalism and textualism.
 - o Pitt wrote in 2018 that he believed Meredith "would be a strong and consistent conservative voice on the district court and would adhere to the textualist and originalist viewpoint followed by the late Justice Scalia and by other justices,

Note: This is a research summary and, therefore, may not include all information located, and is subject to periodic updates and revisions. Content may not always reflect the latest developments.

¹ Nominations Hearing, U.S. S. COMM. ON THE JUDICIARY, https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/committee-activity/hearings/nominations-07-30-2025, at 3:08:30 (emphasis added).

such as Justice Thomas and Justice Gorsuch,"² further emphasizing "that his judicial temperament would be one of judicial restraint rather than activism."³

Faith & the Public Square:

- Meredith has argued against the overextension of the Establishment Clause into antireligious discrimination.
 - O During his time as Kentucky's Solicitor General, Meredith was counsel on an amicus brief in support of an organization that requested to raise a Christian flag on a flagpole outside Boston's City Hall but was denied their request due to Establishment Clause concerns. Given the city's previous lax attitude towards which flags were flown and the messages they expressed, the brief authors contended that "[t]his is a case about *religious discrimination masquerading as government speech*."
 - O The brief further noted that, though governments have a right to speak for their constituents, "when speech becomes one more tool for the government to sideline and discriminate against religious observers, the Court should pay careful attention to the government that is purportedly doing the speaking."⁵

Religious Liberty:

• In an amicus brief, Meredith argued for the right of a business-owner in the printing industry to refuse to create t-shirts that would promote homosexual and "transgender" ideologies, because doing so would conflict with the business-owner's religious beliefs.⁶

² Letter from M. Stephen Pitt, Gen. Couns., Ky. Off. of the Governor, to the Hon. Mitch McConnell, U.S. Sen., U.S. S. (Sept. 27, 2018),

https://docs.google.com/viewerng/viewer?url=https://big.assets.huffingtonpost.com/athena/files/2022/07/06/62c61e5ce4b04516845dc134.pdf, at PDF p. 1 (emphasis added).

³ Letter from M. Stephen Pitt, Gen. Couns., Ky. Off. of the Governor, to the Hon. Mitch McConnell, U.S. Sen., U.S. S. (Sept. 27, 2018),

https://docs.google.com/viewerng/viewer?url=https://big.assets.huffingtonpost.com/athena/files/2022/07/06/62c61e5ce4b04516845dc134.pdf, at PDF p. 2 (emphasis added).

⁴ Brief of Ky., Ariz., Ark., Ga., La., Mo., Mont., Neb., S.C., Tenn., and Utah as *Amici Curiae* in Supp. of Pet'rs, *Shurtleff v. City of Bos., Massachusetts*, 596 U.S. 243 (2022), https://www.supremecourt.gov/DocketPDF/20/20-1800/200885/20211122134752941 draft%20amicus%20-Shurtleff%20-%20v7%20ky%20edits.pdf, at PDF p. 8 (emphasis added).

⁵ Brief of Ky., Ariz., Ark., Ga., La., Mo., Mont., Neb., S.C., Tenn., and Utah as *Amici Curiae* in Supp. of Pet'rs, *Shurtleff v. City of Bos.*, *Massachusetts*, 596 U.S. 243 (2022), https://www.supremecourt.gov/DocketPDF/20/20-1800/200885/20211122134752941_draft%20amicus%20-Shurtleff%20-%20v7%20ky%20edits.pdf, at PDF p. 8 (emphasis added).

⁶ Amicus Curiae Brief of The Commonwealth of Kentucky, Ex Rel. Matthew G. Bevin, In Support of Hands-On Originals, Inc., Lexington-Fayette Urb. Cnty. Hum. Rts. Comm'n v. Hands On Originals, Inc., 592 S.W.3d 291 (Ky. 2019), https://adflegal.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Lexington-Fayette-Urban-County-Human-Rights-Commission-v.-Hands-On-Originals-2018-02-12-Amicus-Brief-(The-Commonwealth-of-Kentucky).pdf, at PDF p. 4-5.

- o Meredith implored the court to "hold that 'any law interfering with an individual's free exercise of religion must pass strict scrutiny or else be declared unconstitutional."⁷
- o Finally, while Meredith discussed the dangerous future implications that could result from allowing the government or certain advocacy groups to force others to promote speech that conflicts with their personal or religious beliefs, Meredith said, "This plainly is not a world in which we want to live, nor is it a world in which we should live. Thus, to avoid these scenarios, strict scrutiny should be applied to all laws... that infringe on Kentuckians' freedom of conscience."8
- Meredith has supported ecclesiastical liberty in matters of faith and doctrine.
 - Meredith participated in an amicus brief filed in the U.S. Supreme Court which argued that churches, not governments, get to decide who counts as a minister of their church. After a Virginia court denied tax exempt status for a church's parsonage, the brief's authors contended, "[t]hese two individuals are ministers according to the only authority that matters: the governing body of [the church in question]."9
- After a circuit court denied a church's request to claim tax-exemption for a parsonage it had purchased for its college ministers because the court determined that the college ministers were not "ministers" according to Presbyterian church doctrine, Meredith and his colleagues argued that the lower court had overstepped its limited authority by interpreting church doctrine.¹⁰
 - o In the brief, Meredith and his colleagues claimed that the "right to freely exercise one's faith without government intrusion" is one of the "most sacred" constitutional rights, and that, furthermore, the First Amendment "prohibits the

⁷ Amicus Curiae Brief of The Commonwealth of Kentucky, Ex Rel. Matthew G. Bevin, in Support of Hands-On Originals, Inc., Lexington-Fayette Urb. Cnty. Hum. Rts. Comm'n v. Hands On Originals, Inc., 592 S.W.3d 291 (Ky. 2019), https://adflegal.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Lexington-Fayette-Urban-County-Human-Rights-Commission-v.-Hands-On-Originals-2018-02-12-Amicus-Brief-(The-Commonwealth-of-Kentucky).pdf, at PDF p. 16 (emphasis added).

⁸ Amicus Curiae Brief of The Commonwealth of Kentucky, Ex Rel. Matthew G. Bevin, in Support of Hands-On Originals, Inc., Lexington-Fayette Urb. Cnty. Hum. Rts. Comm'n v. Hands On Originals, Inc., 592 S.W.3d 291 (Ky. 2019), https://adflegal.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Lexington-Fayette-Urban-County-Human-Rights-Commission-v.-Hands-On-Originals-2018-02-12-Amicus-Brief-(The-Commonwealth-of-Kentucky).pdf, at PDF p. 17 (emphasis added).

⁹ Brief of Ky., Ala., Ariz., Ark., Ga., Ind., La., Miss., Mo., Mont., Neb., Okla., S.C., Tex., and Utah as *Amici Curiae* in Supp. of Pet'rs, *Trs. of New Life in Christ Church v. City of Fredericksburg, Virginia*, 142 S. Ct. 678 (No. 21-164), https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/sites/default/files/images/executive-management/Amicus%20Brief%20New%20Christ.pdf, at PDF p. 7 (emphasis added).

¹⁰ Brief of Kentucky . . . and Utah as *Amici Curiae* in Support of Petitioners, *New Life In Christ Church v. City of Fredricksburg, Va.*, 142 S. Ct. 678 (2022), https://www.supremecourt.gov/DocketPDF/21/21-164/191414/20210903152558706 21-164%20Amici%20Brief%20States.pdf, at PDF p. 6-9.

- judiciary and other civil authorities from resolving theological disputes over faith and doctrine." ¹¹
- o Furthermore, Meredith and his colleagues explained that courts seriously "jeopardize" First Amendment protections when they interpret church doctrine, and that it is only the church's role to determine and interpret the application of its own doctrine. 12 Here, Meredith and his colleagues importantly noted, "A religious organization's right to choose its ministers would be hollow... if secular courts could second-guess the organization's sincere determination that a given employee is a 'minister' under the organization's theological tenets. Hosanna-Tabor, 565 U.S. at 197 (Thomas, J., concurring)."13
- During the COVID-19 pandemic, Meredith defended a church in Nevada after the Governor of Nevada unlawfully restricted congregational worship while simultaneously allowing secular places, like casinos, restaurants, indoor amusements parks, to gather without the same restrictions.
 - o In the brief, Meredith and his colleagues reiterated that "[t]he First Amendment prohibits the government from imposing burdensome restrictions on religious exercise while extending more favorable treatment to nonreligious activity." ¹⁴

Sanctity of Life:

• Meredith has defended Kentucky's and other states' abortion restrictions.

While Kentucky's Solicitor General, Meredith was Counsel of Record on an amicus brief in support of Tennessee's regulations prohibiting discriminatory abortions. The brief's authors wrote, "it is hard to imagine a scenario where this interest [of States, protecting the most vulnerable members of society,] comes into sharper focus than protecting unborn children from eugenics-motivated abortions."

https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/sites/default/files/images/admin/2020/Press/MCRH%20v.%20Statery%20amicus%20FILED.pdf, at PDF p. 6 (emphasis added).

¹¹ Brief of Kentucky . . . and Utah as *Amici Curiae* in Support of Petitioners, *New Life In Christ Church v. City of Fredricksburg, Va.*, 142 S. Ct. 678 (2022), https://www.supremecourt.gov/DocketPDF/21/21-164/191414/20210903152558706 21-164%20Amici%20Brief%20States.pdf, at PDF p. 6 (emphasis added).

¹² Brief of Kentucky . . . and Utah as *Amici Curiae* in Support of Petitioners, *New Life In Christ Church v. City of Fredricksburg, Va.*, 142 S. Ct. 678 (2022), https://www.supremecourt.gov/DocketPDF/21/21-164/191414/20210903152558706 21-164%20Amici%20Brief%20States.pdf, at PDF p. 11.

¹³ Brief of Kentucky . . . and Utah as *Amici Curiae* in Support of Petitioners, *New Life In Christ Church v. City of Fredricksburg, Va.*, 142 S. Ct. 678 (2022), https://www.supremecourt.gov/DocketPDF/21/21-

^{164/191414/20210903152558706 21-164%20}Amici%20Brief%20States.pdf, at PDF p. 11. 16-17 (emphasis added).

14 Brief of Kentucky . . . and West Virginia as *Amici Curiae* in Support of the Petitioner, *Calvary Chapel Dayton Valley v. Sisolak*, 141 S. Ct. 1285 (2021), https://www.supremecourt.gov/DocketPDF/20/20-639/163395/20201210151003642 20-639%20Amici%20Brief%20States.pdf, at PDF p. 5 (emphasis added).

¹⁵ Brief of Ky., Ala., Ark., Ga., Idaho, Ind., La., Miss., Mo., Neb., N.D., Ohio, Okla., S.C., S.D., Tex., Utah, and W.V., as *Amici Curiae* in Supp. of Defs.-Appellants Herbert H. Slatery III, et. al., *Memphis Ctr. for Reprod. Health v. Slatery*, 14 F.4th 409 (6th Cir.), *reh'g en banc granted, opinion vacated*, 18 F.4th 550 (6th Cir. 2021), https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/sites/default/files/images/admin/2020/Press/MCRH%20v.%20Slatery%20ami

- While at the Office of the Governor, Meredith joined several other briefs supporting Kentucky's and other states' abortion restrictions. ¹⁶
- In *Bristol Regional Women's Center v. Slatery*, Meredith signed onto an amicus brief arguing in favor of a 24-hour abortion waiting period. Under this regulation, a patient could only have an abortion procedure 24-hours after she was fully informed of important information, such as the viability of the fetus and the health risks that accompany abortion procedures.¹⁷
- Meredith has also argued in support of enacted legislation that required abortion providers to display ultrasound images of the child and provide medical descriptions of the ultrasound to mothers before abortion procedures.¹⁸
 - While defending the policy rationale behind this legislation, Meredith stated, "[N]othing can better inform a patient of the nature and consequences of an abortion than actually seeing an image of the fetus who will be aborted and receiving a medically-accurate description of that image. And there is abundant evidence... demonstrating the real-world significance of providing women with this information." 19
 - In the brief, Meredith referenced affidavits from women who had abortion procedures and who later claimed that "they did not understand the true nature of their fetus before having an abortion, and they believed their fetus to be an inanimate mass of tissue rather than a living being that was assuming the human form."²⁰

https://www.ag.ky.gov/pdf_news/20190403_AmicusBrief.pdf; Brief of Ind., Ky., and 16 Other States as *Amicus Curiae* in Supp. of Lance Himes, *Preterm-Cleveland v. McCloud*, 994 F.3d 512 (6th Cir. 2021), *abrogated by Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Org.*, 597 U.S. 215 (2022),

https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/sites/default/files/images/admin/2020/Press/85%20-

%20Brief%20of%20Indiana%20Kentucky%20and%2016%20Other%20States%20as%20Amici%20Curiae%20ISO.

<u>. . .pdf;</u> *Adams & Boyle, P.C. v. Slatery*, 956 F.3d 913 (6th Cir. 2020), *cert. granted, judgment vacated*, 141 S. Ct. 1262 (2021), https://cases.justia.com/federal/appellate-courts/ca6/20-5408/20-5408-2020-04-

24.pdf?ts=1588010042, at PDF p. 1.

<u>Divisions/Amicus%20Briefs/Slatery%20v.%20Bristol%20Regional%20Women%27s%20Center.pdf</u>, at PDF p. 8-10.

¹⁶ See Brief of Ky. As Amicus Curiae in Supp. of Appellees, EMW Women's Surgical Ctr., P.S.C. v. Friedlander, 960 F.3d 785 (6th Cir. 2020), opinion vacated on reh'g, No. 19-5516, 2022 WL 2866607 (6th Cir. 2022), and abrogated by Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Org., 597 U.S. 215, 142 S. Ct. 2228, 213 L. Ed. 2d 545 (2022),

Tombined Motion for Leave to File Brief as *Amici Curiae* and Brief of Kentucky . . . and West Virginia as *Amici Curiae* Supporting the Applicants, *Slatery v. Bristol Reg'l Women's Ctr.*, 7 F.4th 478 (6th Cir. 2021), https://www.ag.ky.gov/about/Office-

¹⁸ Brief in Opposition, *EMW Women's Surgical Ctr., P.S.C. v. Meier*, 140 S. Ct. 655 (2019), https://www.supremecourt.gov/DocketPDF/19/19-417/120398/20191028102823893_19-417%20Brief%20in%20Opposition.pdf, at PDF p. 6-11.

¹⁹ Brief in Opposition, *EMW Women's Surgical Ctr., P.S.C. v. Meier*, 140 S. Ct. 655 (2019), https://www.supremecourt.gov/DocketPDF/19/19-417/120398/20191028102823893_19-417%20Brief%20in%20Opposition.pdf, at PDF p. 8 (emphasis added).

²⁰ Brief in Opposition, *EMW Women's Surgical Ctr.*, *P.S.C. v. Meier*, 140 S. Ct. 655 (2019), https://www.supremecourt.gov/DocketPDF/19/19-417/120398/20191028102823893_19-417%20Brief%20in%20Opposition.pdf, at PDF p. 8-9.

- In a very similar case, Meredith argued that Kentucky could require abortion providers to provide certain, relevant information to patients before abortion procedures, such as the ultrasound image of the child and the child's dimensions and heartbeat. ²¹ Particularly, Meredith argued that these regulations were constitutional and did not violate physicians' rights to free speech. ²²
 - Meredith and his colleagues said, "Given the uniquely grave and irreversible consequences of abortion, there is an especially strong interest in ensuring that women have all available information related to their pregnancy before making a decision."²³
- In an amicus brief, Meredith argued in favor of parental-notice requirements for any minor wanting to have an abortion.
 - o In the brief, Meredith and his colleagues importantly noted, "While a court might find [the minor] mature enough to make the decision on her own, 'even the most mature teenager will benefit from the experienced advice of a parent, and, as a consequence of that dialogue, make a more informed, better considered, abortion choice." 24
- In 2022, President Biden planned to nominate Meredith to the federal bench in Kentucky; however, Biden abandoned these plans after receiving strong criticism from the Democratic Party, who opposed Meredith because of his "anti-abortion" ideology. This would have required a "blue slip" deal with both Kentucky Republican Senators, but the nomination never materialized.

²¹ Brief of Appellant Acting Secretary Brinkman, *Brinkman v. EMW Women's Surgical Ctr.*, P.S.C., 920 F.3d 421 (6th Cir. 2019),

https://plus.lexis.com/f/Attachment/data/V1,215,37891,00500000FWKML3,1?attachmentType=PDF&attachmentN ame=OriginalSourceImage&origination=undefined&sequenceNumber=undefined&isHotDoc=false&title=Original Source Image, at PDF p. 10-12.

²² Brief of Appellant Acting Secretary Brinkman, *Brinkman v. EMW Women's Surgical Ctr.*, P.S.C., 920 F.3d 421 (6th Cir. 2019),

https://plus.lexis.com/f/Attachment/data/V1,215,37891,00500000FWKML3,1?attachmentType=PDF&attachmentN ame=OriginalSourceImage&origination=undefined&sequenceNumber=undefined&isHotDoc=false&title=Original_Source_Image, at PDF p. 19-22.

²³ Brief of Appellant Acting Secretary Brinkman, *Brinkman v. EMW Women's Surgical Ctr.*, P.S.C., 920 F.3d 421 (6th Cir. 2019),

https://plus.lexis.com/f/Attachment/data/V1,215,37891,00500000FWKML3,1?attachmentType=PDF&attachmentN ame=OriginalSourceImage&origination=undefined&sequenceNumber=undefined&isHotDoc=false&title=OriginalSource Image, at PDF p. 45 (emphasis added).

²⁴ Brief of Kentucky . . . and West Virginia as *Amici Curiae* Supporting Petitioners, *Box v. Planned Parenthood of Ind. & Ky.*, 141 S. Ct. 184 (2020), https://www.supremecourt.gov/DocketPDF/20/20-1375/177128/20210503143243333 20-

^{1375%20}Box%20v.%20Planned%20Parenthood%20Amicus%20Br%202021.pdf, at PDF p. 22 (emphasis added). ²⁵ Ryan C. Hermens, *Biden abandons plans to nominate anti-abortion attorney as federal judge*, NBC NEWS (July 15, 2022), https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/white-house/biden-abandons-plans-nominate-anti-abortion-attorney-federal-judge-rcna38526.

• "The Kentucky Right to Life Association has said it has been 'very impressed' with [Meredith's] abilities in defending 'pro-life laws passed by our general assembly."²⁶

LGBT Issues:

- As aforementioned, Meredith has protected conscience rights against tyrannical LGBT activists.
 - Meredith was counsel on an amicus brief supporting the rights of a promotional materials business not to print pro-LGBT t-shirts. The brief stated, "The Court should hold that, under the Kentucky Constitution, laws that override religious beliefs or freedom of conscience are unconstitutional unless they can overcome the most exacting scrutiny. [The anti-discrimination] ordinance, if interpreted to require [the business] to print t-shirts promoting homosexuality, cannot stand."²⁷
- During Meredith's Senate hearing, Senator Blumenthal asked Meredith about whether he believed *Brown v. Board of Education* and *Loving v. Virginia* were correctly decided; Meredith confidently responded with "yes" for both questions. However, right after, when Senator Blumenthal asked Meredith the same question with *Obergefell v. Hodges*, Meredith gave a different answer; he asserted, "I'm comfortable saying that *Brown* and *Loving* were correctly decided because I think they are so deeply entrenched in our nation's judicial tradition . . . but for other Supreme Court decisions, I'm hesitant to make an assessment"²⁸

Faith & Worldview:

- As a speaker for the Christian Legal Society at the University of Kentucky's law school, Meredith "addressed the importance of Christian lawyers showing Christ-like grace to those they encounter in their legal practices..."²⁹
- Meredith has declared about the U.S. Constitution, "It was *providential* that the greatest minds in political theory all lived at the same time, in the same geographic area, and all participated in making our Constitution.³⁰

²⁶ Mike Trautmann, Joe Sonka, & Andrew Wolfson, *Who is Chad Meredith, the anti-abortion Republican President Biden plans to make a judge?*, COURIER J. (July 5, 2022), https://www.courier-journal.com/story/news/politics/mitch-mcconnell/2022/07/05/who-chad-meredith-bidens-anti-abortion-pick-kentucky-judge/7790119001/.

²⁷ Amicus Curiae Brief of the Commonwealth of Ky., Ex. Rel. Matthew G. Bevin, in Supp. of Hands-On Originals, Inc., Lexington-Fayette Urb. Cnty. Hum. Rts. Comm'n v. Hands On Originals, 592 S.W.3d 291 (Ky. 2019), https://adflegal.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Lexington-Fayette-Urban-County-Human-Rights-Commission-v-Hands-On-Originals-2018-02-12-Amicus-Brief-(The-Commonwealth-of-Kentucky).pdf, at PDF p. 4.

²⁸ Nominations Hearing, U.S. S. COMM. ON THE JUDICIARY, https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/committee-activity/hearings/nominations-07-30-2025, at 3:00:00.

²⁹ S. Questionnaire, https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/meredith_sjq.pdf, at PDF p. 14 (emphasis added).

³⁰ FEDERALIST SOC'Y, *Judicial Selection in Kentucky [2018 Kentucky Chapters Conference]*, YOUTUBE (Nov. 6, 2018), https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ato8kIn1-WA&t=3863s, at 31:50.

- Since 2018, Meredith has been a trustee at his church, Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington, KY.³¹ Immanuel Baptist Church firmly asserts a biblical worldview, including regarding marriage, gender, sexuality, and the dignity of life. The church's Statement of Faith declares:
 - o "We believe that the term 'marriage' has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture. (Gen 2:18-25.) We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other. (1 Cor 6:18; 7:2-5; Heb 13:4.) We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman."³²
 - "We believe that any form of sexual immorality (including adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, transgender behavior, rejection of one's biological sex, bestiality, incest, and use of pornography) is sinful and offensive to God. (Matt 15:18-20; 1 Cor 6:9-10.)"³³
 - "We believe that in order to preserve the function and integrity of Immanuel as the local Body of Christ, and to provide a biblical role model to the community, it is imperative that all persons employed by Immanuel in any capacity, or who serve as volunteers, agree to and abide by this Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality. (Matt 5:16; Phil 2:14-16; 1 Thess 5:22.)"³⁴
 - "We believe that all human life is sacred and created by God in His image. Human life is of inestimable worth in all its dimensions, including pre-born babies, the aged, the physically or mentally challenged, and every other stage or condition from conception through natural death. We are therefore called to defend, protect, and value all human life. (Ps 139.)"³⁵
 - o "The Bible itself, as the inspired and infallible Word of God that speaks with final authority concerning truth, morality, and the proper conduct of mankind, is the sole and final source of all that we believe. For purposes of Immanuel's doctrine, practice, policy, and discipline, the congregation is the final interpretive authority on the Bible's meaning and application."³⁶

³¹ S. Questionnaire, https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/meredith-siq.pdf, at PDF p. 3.

 $[\]underline{website.com/e1e9e116/files/uploaded/Appendix\%20C\%20-\%20Statement\%20of\%20Faith\%20re-2022.pdf.}$

³³ Statement of Faith, IMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH, https://irp.cdn-

website.com/e1e9e116/files/uploaded/Appendix%20C%20-%20Statement%20of%20Faith%20re-2022.pdf.

³⁴ Statement of Faith, IMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH, https://irp.cdn-website.com/e1e9e116/files/uploaded/Appendix%20C%20-%20Statement%20of%20Faith%20re-2022.pdf.

³⁵ Statement of Faith, IMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH, https://irp.cdn-

website.com/e1e9e116/files/uploaded/Appendix%20C%20-%20Statement%20of%20Faith%20re-2022.pdf.

**Statement of Faith, IMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH, https://irp.cdn-

website.com/e1e9e116/files/uploaded/Appendix%20C%20-%20Statement%20of%20Faith%20re-2022.pdf.

- While Meredith practiced at Ransdell & Roach, PLLC, he occasionally provided pro bono legal advice to his church.³⁷
- Meredith is married to his wife, Rebecca, and they have four children.³⁸
 - o Meredith briefly indicated that he and his family attend church services.³⁹
- Meredith's father, Stephen Meredith, is a Republican Senator for the 5th District of Kentucky.⁴⁰
 - As a state Senator for Kentucky, Stephen Meredith has sponsored bills that protect unborn life and affirm that one's sex is biological and immutable.⁴¹

Second Amendment:

• No information has been located on this topic.

Education Issues:

- Meredith supported school choice in Kentucky even after his term with the state ended.
 - O Meredith appeared on "Kentucky Tonight" to support Kentucky's Constitutional Amendment 2, which would have allowed the commonwealth's legislature to provide funding to students of non-public schools. Meredith phrased his support in terms of democratic freedom, saying, "let the people of Kentucky, through their elected legislators, . . . select the education policy they want, as opposed to having it determined for them by these restrictions that were put on in the 1890s."⁴²

Administrative State:

• Meredith has defended agencies' authority to delay implementation of their regulations.

O Meredith, as Kentucky's Deputy Solicitor General, joined a brief in support of an Environmental Protection Agency Delay Rule, ⁴³ delaying implementation of a regulation entitled the "Chemical Disaster Rule," that expanded government requirements for "accident prevention, . . . emergency response, . . . and [] public information disclosure "⁴⁴

³⁷ S. Questionnaire, https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/meredith_sjq.pdf, at PDF p. 41.

³⁸ Nominations Hearing, U.S. S. COMM. ON THE JUDICIARY, https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/committee-activity/hearings/nominations-07-30-2025, at 2:40:30.

³⁹ Nominations Hearing, U.S. S. COMM. ON THE JUDICIARY, https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/committee-activity/hearings/nominations-07-30-2025, at 2:40:30.

⁴⁰ Senator Stephen Meredith (R), KEN. GEN. ASSEMBLY, https://legislature.ky.gov/Legislators/Pages/Legislator-Profile.aspx?DistrictNumber=105.

⁴¹ See Senate Bill 116, KEN. GEN. ASSEMBLY, https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/record/25rs/sb116.html. See also Senate Bill 9, KEN. GEN. ASSEMBLY, https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/record/19rs/sb9.html.

⁴² KENTUCKY TONIGHT, *Kentucky's Constitutional Amendment on School Choice*, PBS (June 10, 2024), https://www.pbs.org/video/school-choice-aR9KYJ/, at 3:25 (emphasis added).

⁴³ Air All. Houston v. Env't Prot. Agency, 906 F.3d 1049 (D.C. Cir. 2018), https://cases.justia.com/federal/appellate-courts/cadc/17-1155/17-1155-2018-08-17.pdf?ts=1534518083, at PDF p. 4.

⁴⁴ Air All. Houston v. Env't Prot. Agency, 906 F.3d 1049 (D.C. Cir. 2018), https://cases.justia.com/federal/appellate-courts/cade/17-1155/17-1155-2018-08-17.pdf?ts=1534518083, at PDF p. 10.

History of Commitment to Causes:

- Meredith is a member of the Federalist Society, 45 and has described the organization as one of his "favorite organizations ever." 46
 - During Meredith's last year of law school, he was the President of Federalist Society Student Chapter at the University of Kentucky's law school.⁴⁷
 - In 2024, Meredith spoke at a Federalist Society event titled, "The Importance of an Oath: The Obligations and Roles of Attorneys General and Solicitors General in Defending the Rule of Law." 48
- In *Free Speech Coalition v. Paxton*, Meredith filed an amicus brief in support of recently-enacted Texas legislation that restricts minors' access to pornography by requiring certain websites to use age-verification measures.⁴⁹
 - Meredith represented several religious organizations and churches on the brief and explained why these organizations and churches believe that pornographic material conflicts with their Christian beliefs and destroys an individual's moral and mental wellbeing.⁵⁰
 - Throughout the brief, Meredith defended the legislation by showing that it was constitutional, didn't violate the First Amendment, and importantly "shield[ed] minors from the well-documented developmental harms of pornography."51
- From 2011 to 2016, Meredith was member of the Republican National Lawyers Association.⁵²
 - Meredith has also spoken at a Grayson County Young Republicans event, where he
 encouraged listeners to "adhere to conservative principles."⁵³

⁴⁵ S. Chad Meredith Full Bio, SQUIRE PATTON BOGGS, https://lnpdf11.onenorth.com/pdfrenderer.svc/v1/ABCpdf11/GetRenderedPdfByUrl//S_Chad_Meredith.pdf/?url=htt ps%3a%2f%2fwww.squirepattonboggs.com%2fen%2fprofessionals%2fm%2fs-chadmeredith%3fpdf%3dtrue&attachment=false, at PDF p. 2.

⁴⁶ FEDERALIST SOC'Y, A Conversation with Kentucky's Attorney General and Solicitor General, YOUTUBE (Apr. 9, 2021), https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tM0kXhci6kY, at 10:20

⁴⁷ S. Questionnaire, https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/meredith_sjq.pdf, at PDF p. 4.

⁴⁸ S. Questionnaire, https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/meredith_sjq.pdf, at PDF p. 11.

⁴⁹ Brief of *Amici Curiae* Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission, Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, and Baptist General Convention of Texas in Support of Respondent, *Free Speech Coal., Inc. v. Paxton*, 145 S. Ct. 2291 (2025), https://www.supremecourt.gov/DocketPDF/23/23-

^{1122/332618/20241122155707304} SCOTUS%20Amicus%20Brief.pdf, at PDF p. 9-12.

⁵⁰ Brief of *Amici Curiae* Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission, Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, and Baptist General Convention of Texas in Support of Respondent, *Free Speech Coal., Inc. v. Paxton*, 145 S. Ct. 2291 (2025), https://www.supremecourt.gov/DocketPDF/23/23-

^{1122/332618/20241122155707304} SCOTUS%20Amicus%20Brief.pdf, at PDF p. 10-12.

⁵¹ Brief of *Amici Curiae* Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission, Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, and Baptist General Convention of Texas in Support of Respondent, *Free Speech Coal., Inc. v. Paxton*, 145 S. Ct. 2291 (2025), https://www.supremecourt.gov/DocketPDF/23/23-

^{1122/332618/20241122155707304} SCOTUS%20Amicus%20Brief.pdf, at PDF p. 10-12 (emphasis added).

⁵² S. Questionnaire, https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/meredith_sjq.pdf, at PDF p. 6.

⁵³ S. Questionnaire, https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/meredith-sjq.pdf, at PDF p. 15.

- Meredith had moderated multiple panel discussions sponsored by Alliance Defending Freedom that discuss religious liberty issues.⁵⁴
- Meredith has signed letters supporting the nominations of Judge Justin R. Walker and Judge Amul R. Thapar.⁵⁵
- Throughout Meredith's career, he assisted multiple Republicans with their election campaigns, including Senator Mitch McConnell, Rep. Andy Barr, and Matt Bevin, former Governor of Kentucky. 56

Government Overreach:

- Meredith has argued against COVID-based bans on religious gatherings.
 - O As Kentucky's Solicitor General, Meredith was counsel on an amicus brief in support of the right of Kentuckians to assemble in houses of worship as in other non-religious gatherings. Regarding the ban, the brief's authors wrote, "What looked like a generally applicable law at first blush turned out to be an exception-riddled policy that left the faithful alone to bear its burdens. This kind of discrimination against the free exercise of religion cannot be permitted."⁵⁷
- Additionally, during COVID-19, after Kentucky's Governor issued several orders to limit mass gatherings and regulate businesses, Meredith argued that the Governor had unlawfully and unconstitutionally usurped legislative authority and should be stopped.⁵⁸

⁵⁴ S. Questionnaire, https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/meredith_sjq.pdf, at PDF p. 11-12.

⁵⁵ S. Questionnaire, https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/meredith_sjq.pdf, at PDF p. 10.

⁵⁶ S. Ouestionnaire, https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/meredith_sig.pdf, at PDF p. 21-22.

⁵⁷ Brief of the Commonwealth of Ky. as *Amicus Curiae* in Supp. of Appellants, *Maryville Baptist Church, Inc. v. Beshear*, 957 F.3d 610 (6th Cir. 2020), https://www.ag.ky.gov/about/Office-Divisions/Amicus%20Briefs/2020-07-07%20Maryville%20Baptist%20Church,%20Inc.%20v.%20Beshear%20(Ky.%20authored).pdf, at PDF p. 7 (emphasis added).

⁵⁸ S. Questionnaire, https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/meredith_sjq.pdf, at PDF p. 30.