

## Rebecca Taibleson, Nominated To Fill A Seat On The 7th Circuit Court Of Appeals, Defended Brett Kavanaugh Amid Sexual Assault Allegations, Helped Enact Trump's Agenda In The First Trump Administration, And Has Long-Running Ties To Leonard Leo's Federalist Society

**SUMMARY:** Rebecca Taibleson, whom President Donald Trump has [nominated](#) to fill a seat on the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals, is a conservative political insider who has [worked](#) as a federal prosecutor in the Eastern District of Wisconsin and as Assistant to the Solicitor General from 2019-2022 under the first Trump Administration.

In the latter position, Taibleson helped enact Trump's agenda, including [litigating a case](#) concerning whether the President's twitter account could legally block critics.

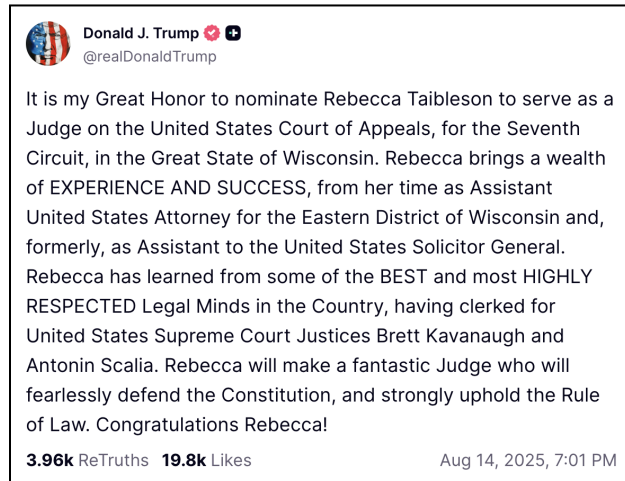
Taibleson also [clerked](#) for the late Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia and for current justice Brett Kavanaugh while he sat on the D.C. Circuit appeals court. During Kavanaugh's confirmation process, she [defended](#) her former boss amid [high-profile sexual assault allegations](#), dismissing the accusations as a political attack.

Taibleson also has long-running ties to the Federalist Society. Aside from [contributing](#) to FedSoc events herself, she is the [daughter](#) of conservative law professor [Michael Krauss](#), who is a federalist society contributor and professor emeritus at George Mason University's Antonin Scalia School of Law—through which conservative activist Leonard Leo has [helped consolidate control over conservative judges](#) by hosting [luxury trips](#) that [critics have claimed](#) serve more to buy favor and facilitate influence-brokering than to help judges better perform their duties. Krauss was also [a fellow](#) at the Heritage Foundation, which orchestrated Project 2025, and [served on the board](#) of right-wing advocacy group the National Association of Scholars.

**Trump 7th Circuit Nominee Rebecca Taibleson Defended Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh Amid Sexual Assault Allegations, Worked In The Solicitor General's Office In The First Trump Administration, And Has Several Deep Ties To The Federalist Society.**

**August 2025: President Donald Trump Nominated Rebecca Taibleson To The Seventh Circuit Court Of Appeals.**

**August 14, 2025: President Donald Trump Nominated Rebecca Taibleson To Fill A Seat On The Seventh Circuit Court Of Appeals.**



[Donald Trump via Truth Social, [8/14/25](#)]

- **The Seventh Circuit Court Of Appeals Covers Federal Appeals From Illinois, Indiana, And Wisconsin.** “The court hears appeals from the federal district courts in Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin, and from federal administrative agencies.” [Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals, accessed 9/11/25]

## **Rebecca Taibleson Attended Yale Law School And Worked As A Federal Prosecutor, Including During The First Trump Administration.**

**Taibleson Graduated From Yale Law School In 2010.**



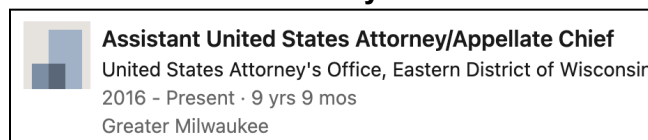
[Rebecca Taibleson via LinkedIn, accessed [9/8/25](#)]

**2019-2022: Rebecca Taibleson Was Assistant To The Solicitor General Under The First Trump Administration.**



[Rebecca Taibleson via LinkedIn, accessed [9/8/25](#)]

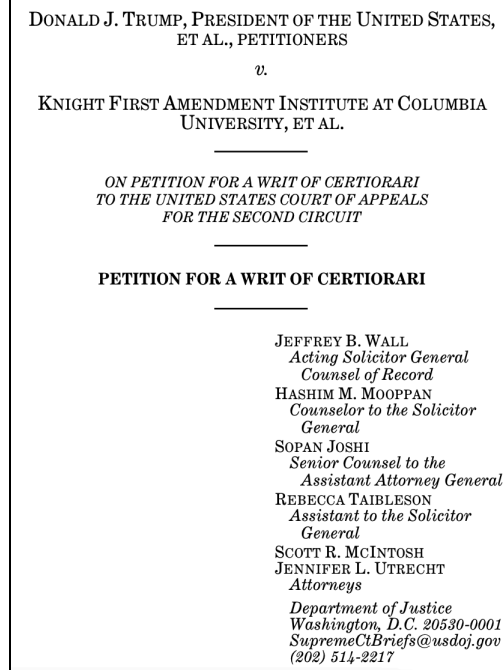
**Rebecca Taibleson Was A Federal Prosecutor From 2016-2019 And 2022-2025, Serving As Assistant U.S. Attorney And Appellate Chief At The U.S. Attorney's Office In The Eastern District Of Wisconsin.**



[Rebecca Taibleson via LinkedIn, accessed [9/8/25](#)]

**As Assistant To The Solicitor General, Rebecca Taibleson Helped Litigate *Knight First Amendment Institute v. Trump*, In Which The Trump Department Of Justice Defended Trump's Ability To Block To Critics On Twitter.**

Rebecca Taibleson Litigated *Knight First Amendment Institute v. Trump*.



[Supreme Court of the United States, petition for writ of certiorari, [8/19/20](#)]

***Knight First Amendment Institute v. Trump* Was A Supreme Court Case Concerning Whether The President's Twitter Account Could Legally Block Critics.** "In a long-anticipated decision, the Supreme Court this morning ended a lawsuit initiated by the Knight Institute four years ago over President Trump's practice of blocking critics from his social media account." [Knight First Amendment Institute, [4/5/21](#)]

**2021: The Supreme Court Vacated A Lower Court Decision Without Addressing The Case's Core Issue At Question.** "In ending the litigation, the Supreme Court did not address the merits of the case, but it vacated the appeals court decision that held that President Trump acted unconstitutionally. Justice Thomas wrote a concurring opinion." [Knight First Amendment Institute, [4/5/21](#)]

**Rebecca Taibleson Clerked For Justices Scalia And Kavanaugh And Publicly Defended Kavanaugh's Nomination To The Supreme Court Amid Sexual Assault Allegations.**

**Rebecca Taibleson Clerked For The Late Antonin Scalia And For Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh When He Was An Appellate Judge.** "The Republican president said she had "learned from some of the BEST and most HIGHLY RESPECTED Legal Minds in the Country," after serving as a law clerk to former conservative U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, who died in 2016, and Kavanaugh when he was on an intermediate appeals court." [Reuters, [8/15/25](#)]

**Brett Kavanaugh's Confirmation Process And Subsequent Tenure On The Supreme Court Have Been Marked By Multiple Sexual Assault Allegations Made Against The Justice.** "Several Democratic presidential candidates are calling for the impeachment of Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh after The New York Times published an essay Sept. 14 describing alleged sexual misconduct that occurred during his college years at Yale. New York Times reporters Robin Pogrebin and Kate Kelly, who wrote the essay, covered Kavanaugh's contentious 2018 confirmation hearings, in which Christine Blasey Ford alleged that he had sexually assaulted her at a house party when they were both teenagers. The FBI conducted an investigation into Kavanaugh's behavior, but it was restricted in terms of time and scope. The Senate ultimately voted 50-48 in favor of Kavanaugh's confirmation." [NPR, [9/16/19](#)]

## Rebecca Taibleson Testified In Support Of Justice Brett Kavanaugh's Nomination To The Supreme Court In 2018.

<p>Testimony of Rebecca Taibleson</p> <p>Before the United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary</p> <p>On the Nomination of Judge Brett Kavanaugh to the United States Supreme Court</p> <p>September 7, 2018</p>
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[United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary, [9/7/18](#)]

- **Taibleson Also Participated In A Panel Put On By The Heritage Foundation In Which Former Clerks Discussed Kavanaugh's Candidacy.** "Former clerks of Supreme Court nominee Judge Brett Kavanaugh participated in a discussion about their former boss. Topics included Judge Kavanaugh's judicial philosophy, his legal career, his thought process in hiring clerks, and his personal qualities as a husband and father. At the time of this program Judge Kavanaugh sat on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit." C-Span, [8/9/18](#)

## September 12, 2025: Information Emerged That Former Sen. Dianne Feinstein Had Received A Confidential Letter Containing Allegations Of Sexual Misconduct Involving Justice Kavanaugh.

"Different sources provided different accounts of the contents of the letter, and some of the sources said they themselves had heard different versions, but the one consistent theme was that it describes an incident involving Kavanaugh and a woman while they were in high school... The woman who is the subject of the letter is now being represented by Debra Katz, a whistleblower attorney who works with #MeToo survivors." [The Intercept, [9/12/25](#)]

**September 13, 2025: It Became Further Known That The Matter Involved Allegations Of Sexual Misconduct Between Kavanaugh And A Woman When They Were Both In High School.** "The senior Democrat on the Senate Judiciary Committee referred information involving Judge Brett M. Kavanaugh, President Trump's nominee to the Supreme Court, to federal investigators on Thursday, but the senator declined to make public what the matter involved. Two officials familiar with the matter say the incident involved possible sexual misconduct between Judge Kavanaugh and a woman when they were both in high school." [The New York Times, [9/13/18](#)]

**September 14, 2025: Rebecca Taibleson Co-Authored An Op-Ed Defending Justice Kavanaugh's Character And Dismissing The Allegations As A Political Attack.** "As the Supreme Court confirmation process for Judge Brett Kavanaugh nears its end, last-minute efforts to block a confirmation vote on his nomination in the Senate have veered from mischaracterizations of his judicial record into direct character assassination. We know Judge Kavanaugh well, having worked closely with him as his law clerks. His character and integrity are unassailable. He is a champion for women's equality. And we are confident he will survive this last-ditch effort to block his path to the Supreme Court. On Thursday, the ranking member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., issued a statement saying she had 'received information from an individual concerning the nomination of Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court' and that she had 'referred the matter to federal investigative authorities.' The unnamed individual herself, however, had 'declined to come forward or press the matter further,' Feinstein said in her statement. On Friday, news organizations reported that the information Feinstein referred to in her statement concerns an alleged episode of sexual misconduct in the early 1980s between Kavanaugh and a female student when both were in high school." [Fox News, [9/14/18](#)]

## Rebecca Taibleson Is A Federalist Society Contributor.

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[The Federalist Society, accessed [9/9/25](#)]

- **Taibleson Has Participated In Multiple Federalist Society Events As A Panelist Or Moderator.** [The Federalist Society, accessed [9/9/25](#)]

## Rebecca Taibleson Is The Daughter Of Michael Krauss, A Longtime Professor At The Leonard Leo-Funded George Mason University Antonin Scalia School Of Law, Who Is Deeply Involved With The Federalist Society.

**Taibleson Is The Daughter Of Michael Krauss, A Longtime Federalist Society Law Professor At George Mason University's Antonin Scalia School Of Law.** "Rebecca Liane Krauss and Benjamin Philip Taibleson are to be married Sunday by Rabbi Lyle A. Fishman at Silverbrook Farm in Purcellville, Va... She is the daughter of Cynthia Conner and Michael I. Krauss of North Potomac, Md. The bride's father is a professor at George Mason University. Her mother is a vice president who oversees publications for members at the American Health Lawyers Association in Washington." [The New York Times, [7/2/11](#)]

## Michael Krauss Is A Federalist Society Contributor.



[The Federalist Society, accessed [9/9/25](#)]

- **Kraus Has Been A Panelist On Federalist Society Events Dating Back To At Least 2003.** [The Federalist Society, accessed [9/9/25](#)]

**Michael Krauss Is Professor Emeritus At George Mason University's Antonin Scalia School Of Law, Where He Has Taught For Decades.** "In 1994, Professor Emeritus of Law Michael I. Krauss became the law school's first recipient of the university's "Teacher of the Year" award for his engaging and challenging approach in the classroom." [George Mason University Antonin Scalia School of Law, accessed [9/9/25](#)]

- **George Mason University Rebranded Its Law School In 2016 Following A \$30 Million Gift Brokered By Federalist Society Architect Leonard Leo, And Has Since Sought To Become A Hub For Far-Right Legal Scholarship And Influence-Brokering With Conservative Judges.** "The law school had long stood out for its rightward leanings and ties to conservative benefactors. Its renaming after Justice Scalia in 2016 was the result of a \$30 million gift brokered by Leonard Leo, prime architect of a grand project then gathering force to transform the federal judiciary and further the legal imperatives of the right. An ascendant law school at George Mason would be part of that plan. Since the rebranding, the law school has developed an unusually expansive relationship with the justices of

the high court — welcoming them as teachers but also as lecturers and special guests at school events.” [The New York Times, [4/30/23](#)]

- **George Mason University’s Antonin Scalia School Of Law Has Funded Numerous Lavish Trips For Conservative Judges, Marketed As Doctrinal Bootcamps In Conservative Scholarship.** “There were also millions sent to George Mason University’s Scalia Law School, which Leo helped make one of the gravitational centers for conservative legal academia. Since 2017, Scalia Law School received at least \$4 million each year via DonorsTrust, much of it earmarked for its Law & Economics Center, which puts on often lavish doctrinal bootcamps for judges, one of which was held in Leo’s literal backyard.” [The Intercept, [5/29/24](#)]

**Michael Krauss Has Been Affiliated With Several Conservative Political Groups, Including The Heritage Foundation.** “A Salvatori Fellow of the Heritage Foundation and an Academic Fellow of the Foundation for the Defense of Democracy, Professor Krauss sits on the advisory boards of several other think tanks. He sits on the Board of Governors of the National Association of Scholars.” [George Mason University Antonin Scalia School of Law, accessed [9/9/25](#)]

- **Krauss Was A Salvatori Fellow At The Heritage Foundation In 1996.** “Salvatori Fellow, Heritage Foundation, 1996.” [George Mason University Antonin Scalia School of Law, accessed [3/31/15](#)]
  - **The Heritage Foundation Is The Architect Of Project 2025.** “In New Book, Think Tank Behind Project 2025 Takes On the Constitution... With a preface by Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr. and contributions from more than 30 conservative judges, the Heritage Foundation, the influential think tank that has helped shape the Trump administration’s second-term agenda, will soon publish an 800-page, clause-by-clause analysis of the Constitution.” [The New York Times, [9/9/25](#)]
- **Krauss Was A Longtime Director Of The National Association Of Scholars.** “2002--2011: Member, Board of Directors, National Association of Scholars.” [George Mason University Antonin Scalia School of Law, accessed [3/31/15](#)]
  - **The National Association Of Scholars Is A Conservative Education Advocacy Group That Has Sought To Dismantle Campus DEI Efforts.** “Texas Tech University officials say they are reviewing their hiring processes after a conservative education advocacy group criticized how the university’s biology department rates job candidates’ commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion. According to documents obtained by the National Association of Scholars via an open records request and posted online Monday, Texas Tech’s biology department used a rubric to evaluate finalists’ track record, understanding and plans to improve DEI on campus, along with other qualifications such as research quality, teaching experience and letters of recommendation.” [The Texas Tribune, [2/8/23](#)]

**In 2020, Krauss Published An Op-Ed Defending President Trump’s Tenure, In Which He Claimed That Trump “Confronted A Once-In-A-Century Virus Of Foreign Origin In Good Faith And With Candor.”** “Notwithstanding these weaknesses, I believe that the Trump presidency has been, to a large extent, successful. Mr. Trump survived a politicized, even somewhat corrupt impeachment campaign. He has confronted a once-in-a-century virus of foreign origin in good faith and with candor. Despite often-contemptuous hostility by the elite press, and outright civil disobedience by several federal judges, the president has performed his duties and genuinely tried to keep his promises.” [The Wall Street Journal, [9/2/20](#)]

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