

Tyler Smotherman

Tyler Smotherman is an attorney and emerging scholar. A graduate of Texas Tech University School of Law (Salutatorian, Order of the Coif), Tyler has published several law review articles and currently serves as a law clerk to the Honorable James “Wes” Hendrix (U.S. District Court, NDTX). Next year, he will clerk for the Honorable Ryan Nelson (U.S. Court of Appeals, 9th Cir.). Before beginning his federal clerkships, Tyler worked as an Assistant Criminal District Attorney in Texas, where he prosecuted felony offenses and authored various appellate briefs.



Tyler served as an Army National Guard officer (Military Police) for 10 years. His duty positions included platoon leader, company executive officer and acting commander, battalion staff officer, and brigade provost marshal. As provost marshal, Tyler was the top law enforcement officer, advisor, and subject matter expert to a combat arms brigade commander with over 3,500 Soldiers. He facilitated several military investigations, legal actions, and courts martial. Tyler’s military awards include the Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal (oak leaf cluster), National Defense Service Medal, Air Assault Badge, German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge (Gold), and Norwegian Marsjmerket Badge.

Prior to law school, Tyler also served as a civilian police officer for 4 years. He holds an M.A. in political science (international relations and security) from Washington State University and a B.A. in political science and international studies from the University of Idaho--where he also minored in military science and commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant through the Army ROTC program ranked #2 in the nation by U.S. Army Cadet Command.