

Shawn Bayern

Florida State University College of Law
425 West Jefferson Street
Tallahassee, FL 32306-1601
sbayern@law.fsu.edu 850-644-8308

EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley, School of Law

J.D., May 2006

Activities:

- Editor-in-Chief, *California Law Review*
- Research Assistant, Melvin Eisenberg

Honors:

- Thelen Marrin Prize for Academic Achievement (strongest academic record at graduation)
- Jurisprudence Award (first in class): Contracts; Torts; Corporations; Constitutional Law; Structural Issues; Comparative Contract Law; Law & Economics
- Prosser Prize (second in class): Administrative Law
- William Carey Jones Scholarship (merit scholarship)

Yale University

B.S., Computer Science, May 1999

Honors:

- Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society

AREAS OF ACADEMIC SPECIALTY

Contracts; Torts; Business Associations (particularly Agency, Partnerships, and LLCs); Technology

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Florida State University College of Law

Larry and Joyce Beltz Professor of Torts, 2013 –

Associate Dean for Technology, 2023 – ; Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, 2019 – 2023

Professor, 2018 – ; Associate Professor (with tenure), 2014 – 2018; Assistant Professor, 2009 – 2014

Selected College Service:

- *Florida State University Law Review* Faculty Advisor, 2011 –
- Promotion & Tenure Committee, 2024 –
- Faculty Appointments Committee, 2011 – 2016, 2025 – 2026 (chair)
- Curriculum Committee, 2016 – 2018 (chair)
- Dean Search Committee, 2015 – 2016
- Admissions Committee, 2009 – 2011, 2013 – 2018 (chair, 2015 – 2016)

University Service:

- University Teaching Awards Committee, 2021 –
- Provost Search Committee, 2021
- University Technology Committee, 2015 – 2019

Honors:

- University Teaching Award, 2014 – 2015
- Chosen “Professor of the Year” by FSU’s first-year law students, 2009 – 2010

Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law

Visiting Professor, 2018 – 2019 (academic year)

University of California, Berkeley, School of Law

Visiting Professor (LL.M. Program), Summers 2014 – 2018, 2022

Honors: Faculty Commencement Speaker, July 2015 (selected by students)

Duke University School of Law

Visiting Assistant Professor, 2007 – 2009

TEACHING

Florida State University College of Law: Contracts; Torts; Closely Held Business Organizations

Summer Program in Law at Oxford: Comparative Contract Law

Donald J. Weidner Summer for Undergraduates Program: Introduction to Common Law

University of California, Berkeley, School of Law:

Summer 2022: Business Associations

Summers 2014 – 2018: Contracts

Spring 2006: Contract Law Theory Seminar (with Melvin Eisenberg)

Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law: Contracts, Torts

Duke Law School: Law and Economics; Business Associations

LEGAL PUBLICATIONS

Books

CONTRACTS (8th ed. of the Calamari & Perillo hornbook on contract law; under contract, West Academic)

THE FALLACIES OF LIBERTARIANISM: A LEGAL PERSPECTIVE (under contract, Cambridge University Press)

RETHINKING LEGAL CERTAINTY (under contract, Edward Elgar)

MODERN TORT LAW: CONTEXT, CASES, AND MATERIALS (2025, West Academic)

ADVANCED INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS (2024, Edward Elgar)

A RESEARCH AGENDA FOR ORGANIZATIONAL LAW (2024, Edward Elgar)

THE ANALYTICAL FAILURES OF LAW AND ECONOMICS (2023, Cambridge University Press)

PRINCIPLES AND POSSIBILITIES IN COMMON LAW (2023, West Academic)

AUTONOMOUS ORGANIZATIONS (2021, Cambridge University Press)

EISENBERG AND BAYERN'S GILBERT LAW SUMMARIES ON CONTRACTS (15th ed. 2020, West Academic)

CLOSELY HELD ORGANIZATIONS (2d ed. 2020, 1st ed. 2014; Carolina Academic Press)

Articles, Essays, and Book Chapters

Legal Personhood and Legal Interfaces, in *LEGAL PERSONHOOD IN PRIVATE LAW* (Christopher Essert et al. eds., forthcoming, Cambridge University Press)

Are Bespoke DAO Forms Needed in Organizational Law?, in *FOUNDATIONS OF DECENTRALIZED ORGANIZATIONS* (Kevin Werbach et al. eds., forthcoming, Oxford University Press)

Algorithmic Governance of Business Organizations, in *THE OXFORD HANDBOOK OF CORPORATE LAW AND GOVERNANCE* (Jeffrey N. Gordon & Wolf-Georg Ringe eds., 2d ed. 2025, Oxford University Press)

False Agency in Artificial Intelligence, in *RESEARCH HANDBOOK ON LAW AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE* (Woodrow Barfield & Ugo Pagallo eds., 2d ed. 2025, Edward Elgar)

Trusting Organizational Law, 19 *REG. & GOVERNANCE* 831 (2024)

Implied Organizations and Technological Governance, 64 *WM. & MARY L. REV.* 969 (2023) (invited contribution)

Intelligent Remedies, in *THE CAMBRIDGE HANDBOOK ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND THE LAW* (Kristin Johnson & Carla Reyes eds., forthcoming, Cambridge University Press)

Reverse Engineering (by) Artificial Intelligence, in *RESEARCH HANDBOOK ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE* (Ryan Abbott ed., 2022, Edward Elgar)

Introduction to Contract Law, in *LAWS OF MEDICINE: CORE LEGAL ASPECTS FOR THE HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL* (Amirala Pasha ed., 2022, Springer)

Business Law Beyond Business, 46 *J. CORP. L.* 521 (2021)

Agreements, Algorithms, and Agency, in *THE CAMBRIDGE HANDBOOK OF THE LAW OF ALGORITHMS* 153 (Woodrow Barfield ed., 2020, Cambridge University Press)

Are Autonomous Entities Possible?, 114 *NW. U. L. REV. ONLINE* 23 (2019)

Methodological Failures in Leading American Economic Analyses of the Private Law, 5 *CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF LAW* 19 (2018)

Artificial Intelligence and Private Law, in *RESEARCH HANDBOOK ON LAW AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE* (Woodrow Barfield & Ugo Pagallo eds., 2017, Edward Elgar)

An Unintended Consequence of Reducing the Corporate Tax Rate, 157 *TAX NOTES* 1137 (2017)

Contract Meta-Interpretation, 49 *U.C. DAVIS L. REV.* 1097 (2016)

Three Problems (and Two Solutions) in the Law of Partnership Formation, 49 *U. MICH. J.L. REF.* 605 (2016)

Offer and Acceptance in Modern Contract Law: A Needless Concept, 103 *CALIF. L. REV.* 67 (2015)

The Implications of Modern Business-Entity Law for the Regulation of Autonomous Systems, 19 STAN. TECH. L. REV. 93 (2015) (also published at 7 EUR. J. RISK REG. 297 (2016))

The Limits of Economic Reasoning in Analyzing Duress, 99 MINN. L. REV. HEADNOTES 141 (2015)

The Nature and Timing of Contract Formation, in COMPARATIVE CONTRACT LAW: BRITISH AND AMERICAN PERSPECTIVES (Martin Hogg & Larry DiMatteo eds., 2015, Oxford University Press)

Of Bitcoins, Independently Wealthy Software, and the Zero-Member LLC, 108 NW. U. L. REV. 1485 (2014) (also published at 108 NW. U. L. REV. ONLINE 257 (2014))

Dynamic Common Law and Technological Change: The Classification of Bitcoin, 71 WASH. & LEE L. REV. ONLINE 22 (2014) (invited contribution)

The Expectation Measure and Its Discontents (with Melvin A. Eisenberg), 2013 MICH. ST. L. REV. 1

Against Certainty, 41 HOFSTRA L. REV. 53 (2012)

False Efficiency and Missed Opportunities in Law and Economics, 86 TUL. L. REV. 135 (2011)

The Limits of Formal Economics in Tort Law: The Puzzle of Negligence, 75 BROOK. L. REV. 707 (2010)

Rational Ignorance, Rational Closed-Mindedness, and Modern Economic Formalism in Contract Law, 97 CALIF. L. REV. 943 (2009)

Case Interpretation, 36 FLA. ST. U. L. REV. 125 (2009)

The Significance of Private Burdens and Lost Benefits for a Fair-Play Analysis of Punishment, 12 NEW CRIM. L. REV. 1 (2009)

Comment, *Explaining the American Norm Against Litigation*, 93 CALIF. L. REV. 1697 (2005)

Shorter Works and Op-Eds

Adventures with an Artificially Intelligent Language Model (and What It Might Say About the Law), 25 GREEN BAG 2D 177 (2022)

Moving Beyond Mutual Funds, COLUMBIA LAW SCHOOL BLUE SKY BLOG, Aug. 13, 2021

The Implications of Modern Unincorporated Entities Beyond Business Law, OXFORD BUSINESS LAW BLOG, May 20, 2021

Autonomous Legal Entities Are Already Possible Under American Law, OXFORD BUSINESS LAW BLOG, Nov. 4, 2019

Company Law and Autonomous Systems: A Blueprint for Lawyers, Entrepreneurs, and Regulators, 9 HASTINGS SCI. & TECH. L.J. 135 (2017) (with Thomas Burri (St. Gallen), Thomas Grant (Cambridge), Daniel Häusermann (St. Gallen), Florian Möslin (Marburg), and Richard Williams (Cambridge))

Gesellschaftsrecht und autonome Systeme im Rechtsvergleich, 2 AKTUELLE JURISTISCHE PRAXIS (AJP) 2017, 192 (with Thomas Burri (St. Gallen), Thomas Grant (Cambridge), Daniel Häusermann (St. Gallen), Florian Möslin (Marburg), and Richard Williams (Cambridge))

A Reassessment of General Partnership Law, COLUMBIA LAW SCHOOL BLUE SKY BLOG, May 10, 2016

Convergence in the Law of Contract Formation: A Reply to Hector MacQueen, in COMPARATIVE CONTRACT LAW: BRITISH AND AMERICAN PERSPECTIVES (Martin Hogg & Larry DiMatteo eds., 2015, Oxford University Press)

The Uneasy Case for a Theory of Law, 2 J.L.: PERIODICAL LABORATORY OF LEG. SCHOLARSHIP 491 (2012) (with Jeffrey Kahn)

A Formal System for Analyzing Conveyances of Property Under the Common Law, in FRONTIERS IN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND APPLICATIONS: LEGAL KNOWLEDGE AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS 139 (R.G.F. Winkels ed., 2010, IOS Press)

Making Financial Regulation Work: The Elephants of Banking, WASHINGTON POST: THE HEARING, June 29, 2009 (with Zephyr Teachout)

Toward Nonprofit Financial Services, HUFFINGTON POST, May 12, 2009

Amicus Briefs

Author, *Brief of Contract Law Professors in Support of Respondent, Astra USA, Inc., v. County of Santa Clara*, United States Supreme Court, No. 09-1273 (arguing that a public hospital should be able to enforce, as a third-party beneficiary, a contract between pharmaceutical companies and the Secretary of Health and Human Services)

SELECTED NON-LEGAL PUBLICATIONS

Books

JSTL IN ACTION (2003, Manning Publications)

WEB DEVELOPMENT WITH JAVASERVER PAGES (2d ed. 2002, Manning Publications) (with Duane K. Fields & Mark A. Kolb)

Shorter Works and Op-Eds

Google Deserves More Cynicism, HUFFINGTON POST, May 20, 2010

Synchronized Recursion, DR. DOBB'S J., June 2001, at 151

MEMBERSHIPS AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

American Law Institute (elected member, 2017 –)

Adviser, Restatement (Third) of Torts: Miscellaneous Provisions (2019 –)

Adviser, Restatement (Third) of Torts: Medical Malpractice (2019 – 2024)

Member, Members Consultative Group for many projects (2017 –)

European Law Institute (fellow, 2022 –)

National Conference of Bar Examiners, Multistate Essay Examination (MEE) Drafting Committee, (member, 2023 – ; invited guest, 2022 – 2023)

Law School Admission Council, Assessments Committee (responsible for oversight of the LSAT) (2025 –)

Center for American Studies (nonprofit institute based in Poland) (volunteer faculty, 2024): online course on Anglo-American law for lawyers in Poland and Ukraine

World Economic Forum/Wharton DAO Project Series (working group member, 2022 – 2023)

Peer reviewer of manuscripts and proposals for publishers and publications including Cambridge University Press, Edward Elgar Publishing, Hart Publishing, Routledge, Springer, Wolters-Kluwer, *Science*, the *Oxford Journal of Legal Studies*, the *Harvard Law Review*, and the *Yale Law Journal*

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Presenter, “Legal Personhood and Legal Interfaces,” Legal Personhood in Private Law workshop, Rome, Italy, November 2025

Presenter, “Navigating Technology & AI Agreements,” Bloomberg Law Webinar, September 2024

Presenter, “Are Bespoke DAO Forms Needed in Organizational Law?,” Foundations of Decentralized Organizations, London School of Economics, June 2024

Panelist, “Overview of AI,” Holland & Knight AI Summit, Washington DC, April 2024

Presenter, “Organizational Liability,” UCLA Business Law Workshop, March 2024

Presenter, “Artificial Intelligence and the Courts,” Judicial Management Council of Florida, Florida Supreme Court, Tallahassee, FL, December 2023

Presenter, “Force Majeure During the End of the World,” Florida Government Bar Association (CLE, shifted online because of COVID-19), July 2020

Panelist, “Consumer Law Meets CyberLaw” Panel, Florida Bar Annual Convention 2020 (CLE, shifted online because of COVID-19), June 2020

Presenter, “The End of Entity Selection,” AALS Agency, Partnership, LLCs and Unincorporated Associations Section’s panel entitled “Entity Selection in the 21st Century,” AALS 2020 Annual Meeting, January 2020.

Presenter, “Are Autonomous Entities Possible?”, Vanderbilt Roundtable on Artificial Intelligence and Law, Vanderbilt Law School, Nashville, TN, April 2019

Presenter, “The Radical Implications of Modern Legal Organizations,” Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law Faculty Workshop Series, April 2019

Debate participant, “Should Robots and Artificial Intelligence Become Persons?”, University of St. Gallen, Switzerland, April 2018

Presenter, “Contracts, Robots, and Legal Personality,” 13th Annual International Contracts Conference, Orlando, FL, February 2017

Keynote speaker, “A Legal Introduction to Bitcoin,” The Chester Bedell American Inn of Court, Jacksonville, FL, November 2017

Presenter, “The Analytical Failures of Law and Economics,” University of Surrey faculty lecture, UK, June 2017

Presenter, “A Crisis of Faith in Expectation Damages,” 12th Annual International Contracts Conference, Feb. 2017

Presenter, “The American Law and Economics Movement: An American Revolution in Private Law,” Obligations VIII: Revolutions in Private Law, Cambridge University, UK, July 2016

Presenter, “In the Company of Robots” – A Symposium on Zero-Member LLCs and Autonomous Entities, Munich, Germany, July 2016 (two-day symposium organized by the University of St. Gallen and the Munich Center on Governance at the University of Munich (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität) to discuss the comparative implications of my work on zero-member LLCs and autonomous legal entities)

Presenter, “Introduction to Modern Business Organizations,” continuing legal education lecture, Young Lawyers Division of the Florida Bar, Tampa, FL, May 2016

Presenter, “Contracts as Contracts,” Mel Eisenberg Festschrift Conference, Berkeley Law, Oct. 2015

Presenter, “The Analytical Failures of ‘Law and Economics’ in Contract Law: An American Perspective,” Legal Research Network Conference, University of Turku, Finland, Sept. 2015

Faculty Commencement Address, Berkeley Law, Professional LL.M. Commencement Ceremony, July 2015 (selected by student vote)

Presenter, “The Implications of Modern Business-Entity Law for the Legal Governance of Autonomous Systems,” The Man and the Machine: When Systems Take Decisions Autonomously, University of St. Gallen, Switzerland, June 2015

Co-teacher, “LLC Law for Judges” (day-long course), Florida College of Advanced Judicial Studies, June 2015

Presenter, “Offer and Acceptance in Modern Contract Law: A Needless Concept,” 10th Annual International Contracts Conference, Feb. 2015

Presenter, “Meta-Contextual Contract Interpretation,” 9th Annual International Contracts Conference, Feb. 2014

Presenter, “The Nature and Timing of Contract Formation,” Transatlantic Perspectives on Contract Law, University of Edinburgh, Aug. 2013

Presenter, “A Theory of Contract Formation,” 8th Annual International Contracts Conference, Mar. 2013

Presenter, Roundtable on Foundational Principles of Contract Law, Berkeley Law, Jan. 2013

Presenter, “Offer and Acceptance in Modern Contract Law: A Needless Concept,” Obligations VI Conference, London, Ontario, July 2012

Faculty Workshop, “Against Certainty,” University of Florida Levin College of Law, Faculty Workshop Series, Mar. 2012

PROFESSIONAL LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Judge Harris Hartz, United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit
Law Clerk, September 2006 – August 2007

Office of the Solicitor General, United States Department of Justice
Law Clerk, June 2006 – August 2006

Appellate Staff, Civil Division, United States Department of Justice
Law Intern, July 2005 – August 2005

Covington & Burling (Washington, D.C.)
Summer Associate, May 2005 – July 2005

Judge Sandra B. Armstrong, United States District Court for the Northern District of California
Law Extern, June 2004 – August 2004

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Java Community Process
Reference-Implementation Lead, JSP Standard Tag Library (JSTL), May 2001 – June 2003

Served on “expert groups” responsible for creating and specifying programming languages (such as the popular JavaServer Pages language). Directed a team of Sun Microsystems employees and volunteers as the principal engineer for a widely used open-source programming project.

Yale University Information Technology Services, Technology and Planning
Researcher, June 1999 – June 2003

Conceived and developed the Central Authentication Service (CAS), a software framework and protocol for computer security adopted by universities and other institutions worldwide. (In 2006, Yale received a \$50,000 award from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation in honor of its creation of CAS.)

Independent Activities

June 1999 – June 2003

Created and developed several online services, including Time Cave, a website with about 40,000 users that was featured in *PC World* as one of the “best free” sites on the Internet in 2003. Consulted for a variety of start-up and established organizations and led several open-source software projects at the Apache Software Foundation. Served as a frequent conference speaker and corporate trainer on technological matters.

In 2001, developed a machine-learning system to play “Rock, Paper, Scissors” against human opponents online. The New York Times used this system as the basis for a simulation on the front page of nytimes.com several years later, and the system and its dataset (of millions of rounds of play) have since been studied by several research groups, used in a Ph.D. dissertation, etc.

OTHER SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

Member, Board of Trustees, Long Island School for the Gifted, 2022 –
Vice President, 2025 –

Member of multiple-choice question panel, Helix Bar Review, AccessLex Institute, 2019 – 2023; presenter of recorded bar-review lectures on Florida business associations, 2023; author of national Torts outline, 2020

Presenter of several recorded bar-review lectures for Themis Bar Review, 2011 – 2022

iPhone/iPad application development, including a free, searchable edition of the United States Code released in early 2010, downloaded approximately 35,000 times, and adopted by some federal agencies

Writer for various testing organizations, including ACT, Inc.

Instrumental musical composition

Honors: Music Aid International Music Awards, 2006, 2007, 2009: Special Mention

Former General Securities Representative (NASD/FINRA Series 7)