

Grace Family,

A couple years ago we invited Matthew Kacsmaryk here to speak about Liberty Institute, a group of lawyers dedicated to preserving our religious liberties.

Matthew later shared with me over the phone that President Trump was to appoint him as a federal judge, and he wanted our elders to join the elders in his church to regularly pray for his confirmation. He was expected to be harshly attacked and opposed by the left for his conservative stance on several issues, which indeed happened. Finally he has been confirmed! This is great news that we wanted you to know.

Dave and the Elders



First on the Bench: First Liberty Dep. Gen. Counsel Matthew Kacsmaryk Confirmed as Federal Judge

Today we celebrate another historic moment of impact for First Liberty Institute.

We are proud to announce that earlier today, the U.S. Senate confirmed one of our own, [Matthew Kacsmaryk](#), to be a U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Texas. Few people are more qualified to fulfill a lifetime appointment to the federal bench and are more deeply committed to the principles of the Constitution than Matthew.

Matthew has spent his career fighting to defend our God-given, Constitutionally protected rights. His confirmation is further evidence that presidential appointees who strictly adhere to the text of the Constitution and the Founder's original intent for our most fundamental freedoms, including religious liberty, can and WILL be confirmed by the U.S. Senate.

As one of the top legal minds in the country, Matthew is the one of over 110 judges

confirmed during the current administration—and the latest in a stream of originalist, conservative judges to be appointed to the federal bench over the past two-plus years.

Most recently, Matthew served as our Deputy General Counsel. Before joining us at First Liberty Institute, he worked as an Assistant United States Attorney for the Northern District of Texas. In 2013, he was given the Attorney General's Award for Excellence in Furthering the Interests of U.S. National Security.

He graduated with honors from The University of Texas School of Law, where he served as an Executive Editor of the Texas Review of Law & Politics.

Matthew is not the only appointee with ties to First Liberty Institute. In 2017, the Senate confirmed Jim Ho to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. Prior to his appointment, Jim was one of our most active network attorneys, contributing thousands of pro bono hours to protect religious freedom.

The confirmation to lifetime judgeships of Matthew and Jim, and a number of our other network attorneys across the country, is great news for religious freedom in America, because they are judges who will faithfully uphold the written text of the Constitution and protect our first freedom according to the original meaning of the First Amendment.

What's more, like Matthew and Jim, many of the judges being confirmed are younger than in previous administrations, meaning that they will be sitting in our federal courts for the next 30 or 40 years.

We at First Liberty Institute are thrilled about Matthew's confirmation and we extend to him our heartiest congratulations.

Even though we've seen tremendous success so far in the confirmation of excellent judges, the work isn't yet finished. Today, there are still nearly 130 judicial vacancies and close to 60 nominees who are yet to be confirmed. Because the courts are critical to the preservation of your religious liberty, judicial nominations are our first priority.

We will continue to closely monitor developments from Washington D.C. and provide you with the latest updates on judicial confirmations. You can also learn more about judicial nominees by [visiting our website](#), where you will find interactive maps and exclusive expert analysis, as well as a petition you can sign to help speed up the confirmation of more excellent judges like Matthew.

Gratefully,

Kelly Kelly J. Shackelford, Esq.
President, CEO & Chief Counsel
First Liberty Institute

