Alexander Smith

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# Research Interests

Research interests encompass the interrelated fields of constitutional law and judicial politics. Primary interests are the Supreme Court’s efforts to limit and expand the Constitution’s grant of congressional power as well as the influence of the Legislative and Executive branches upon the Supreme Court’s engagement in policy-making.

# Education

**Middle Tennessee State University**, Murfreesboro, Tennessee May 2022

 *B.S. Political Science (Pre-law concentration)*

 Minored in Political and Civic Engagement

 Summa Cum Laude

# Honors and Awards

**Middle Tennessee State University** Fall 2018-Spring 2019, Spring 2020-Present

**Dean’s List**

**Middle Tennessee State University** Fall 2018-Present

**Trustee Scholarship**

Highest four-year, merit-based award

**Tennessee Legislative Internship Candidate** Fall 2021

Selected to participate in the statewide program for the Spring 2022 legislative term beginning in January 2022

**Mock Trial Outstanding Witness Award** Fall 2019

Awarded for my portrayal of the defendant in a regional mock trial competition

# Research Experience

**Undergraduate Research** December 2020-May 2021

Middle Tennessee State University

Advisor: Dr. Michael Federici, Chair, Department of Political Science

Research Paper: “The Old Originalism is Dead, Long Live Pragmatic Originalism”

* Synthesized journal articles and treatises relating to the commerce clause and the evolution of originalism
* Briefed and analyzed Supreme Court cases applying originalism to the expansion of Congress’s commerce power
* Created a literature review of relevant works
* Formatted using Chicago Manual of Style

# Leadership Experience

**Mock Trial**  Fall 2019-Present

Middle Tennessee State University

 **Team Captain**, Spring 2021-Present

* Competed in attorney and witness roles in competitions around the eastern United States
* Planned and led weekly team meetings
* Helped students in witness roles to develop acting skills
* Assisted students in attorney roles with writing direct and cross examinations and opening and closing statements

**Treasurer**, Fall 2020-Spring 2021

* Worked with faculty advisors to create a budget proposal for the fall and spring semesters
* Devised solutions to conform the budget to COVID-19 funding restrictions

# Professional Experience

**Target Corporation**  June 2021-July 2022

Front of Store Attendant, Mt. Juliet, Tennessee

* Trained and supervised front of store attendants
* Collaborated with store managers and team leads to resolve customer issues
* Streamlined item stocking for checkout lanes and supplies storage

**Law Office of R. Timothy Hogan** January 2021-May 2021

Legal Intern, Murfreesboro, Tennessee

* Drafted memorandums, parenting plans, and discovery requests and responses
* Conducted analyzes of document production from clients and opposing parties
* Researched legal issues within the family law practice area and summarized findings
* Attended client meetings and discussed legal solutions

**Food City**  April 2019-March 2020

Fuel Clerk, Cook, Cashier. Knoxville Tennessee

* Trained employees as a cook and fuel clerk
* Prepared food and cleaned work areas to meet company and FDA standards
* Performed regular maintenance and upkeep of the gas pumps
* Closed the store and accurately tendered the nightly fuel deposit

# Professional Affiliations

**Pi Sigma Alpha National Political Science Honor Society** Spring 2021-Present

Zeta Nu Chapter

**American Mock Trial Association**  Fall 2019-Present

# Community Service

**Raphah Institute** February 2020

Volunteer, Murfreesboro Tennessee

* Registered individuals with prior convictions to vote as a part of the institute’s Healing Justice Day

# Skills and Interests

Limited Working Proficiency in Chinese. Adept in trombone, euphonium, tuba, and bass guitar.