

J. Brent Walker
Executive Director
Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty

EDUCATION

Southern Baptist Theological Seminary Louisville, Ky.
Master of Divinity, May, 1989

Stetson University College of Law Tampa, Fla.
Juris Doctor, 1976 (*Cum Laude*)

University of Florida Gainesville, Fla.
M.A. Public Administration, 1973
B.A. Political Science, 1972 (*with honors*)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty **Washington, D.C.**
Executive Director, 1999-Present
General Counsel, 1993-1999
Associate General Counsel, 1989-1993

Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond **Richmond, Va.**
Adjunct Professor, 2003-present

Georgetown University Law Center **Washington, D.C.**
Adjunct Professor, 1994-2003

Carlton Fields **Tampa, Fla.**
Partner, 1982-1986
Associate, 1976-1981

LEGAL LICENSES

Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States
Bar of the District of Columbia

MINISTERIAL EXPERIENCE

Pulpit Supply, 1989-Present
Pastor, Richland Baptist Church, Falmouth, Kentucky, 1988-1989
Ordained to Ministry, Bayshore Baptist Church, Tampa, Florida, August 14, 1988

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES & AWARDS

Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree, John Leland Center for Theological Studies (2013)
Abner V. McCall Religious Liberty Award, presented by Baylor University Alumni Association (2013)
Inducted into the Baylor University Alumni Association Hall of Fame (2013)
Adrian Westney Religious Liberty Award, presented by the Columbia Union Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church (2013)
Virginia First Freedom Award, presented by the First Freedom Center (2011)
Distinguished Alumnus Award, Stetson University College of Law (2009)
Panelist, *Newsweek/Washington Post* "On Faith" online section, 2007-2013
Board of Governors, The Florida Bar (Young Lawyers' Section), 1985-1986
Chairman, Hillsborough County Code Enforcement Board, 1985-1986

PUBLISHED WORKS

Since 1989, Walker has written for the Baptist Joint Committee's regular publication, *Report from the Capital*, including more than 200 columns. Below are selected examples of his work outside of BJC publications, including books and scholarly articles.

BOOKS AUTHORED:

Church-state Matters: Fighting for Religious Liberty in Our Nation's Capital
Mercer University Press, 2008

What a Touchy Subject! Religious Liberty and Church-State Separation
Nurturing Faith, 2014

BOOKS EDITED:

The Trophy of Baptists
Smyth & Helwys Publishing, 2003

James Dunn: Champion for Religious Liberty
Smyth & Helwys Publishing, 1999

PUBLISHED IN:

Stetson Law Review, Florida Bar Journal, Florida Civil Practice Before Trial, Basic Construction Disputes, Liberty Magazine, Pulpit Digest, Doran's Ministers Manual, Proclaiming the Baptist Vision: Religious Liberty, The Baptist Heritage Library – Religious Liberty and Church-State Separation.

CONGRESSIONAL & OFFICIAL TESTIMONY

Walker has provided testimony to committees and subcommittees in the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate on several occasions, including:

- Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights and Property Rights of the Committee on the Judiciary of the U.S. Senate, June 8, 2004
Topic: Hostility to religious expression in the public square

- Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunity, Committee on Financial Services of the U.S. House of Representatives, March 25, 2003
Topic: Government support of religious housing ministries, proposed changes to HUD rules
- Subcommittee on the Constitution, Committee on the Judiciary of the U.S. House of Representatives, April 24, 2001
Topic: "Charitable Choice" programs
- Committee on the Judiciary of the U.S. Senate, Oct. 25, 1995
Topic: School prayer/religious equality amendments

Walker has spoken at dozens of press briefings and discussions on matters of religious liberty and church-state separation with a variety of groups, including:

- U.S. House of Representatives: March 2011 press briefing with representatives from a variety of religions and Christian denominations as part of the Shoulder-to-Shoulder campaign standing against religious bias and discrimination.
- Department of Justice: September 2010 with representatives from Muslim Advocates, Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism, and The Interfaith Alliance
- U.S. Supreme Court steps after oral arguments in many religious liberty cases, including *Salazar v. Buono* (2009), *Van Orden v. Perry* (2005) and *McCreary Co., Ky. v. ACLU of Ky.* (2005)
- Senate Democrats Policy Committee Luncheon, on the dangers of government-funded church ministries, April 26, 2001
- National Public Radio "Justice Talking" debate on "Charitable Choice" program, held at Carpenters' Hall in Philadelphia, Pa., April 2, 2001
- Steps of the U.S. Capitol introducing the "Religious Liberty Protection Act" with Sen. Ted Kennedy, D-Mass., Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, and other religious and political leaders, June 9, 1998
- Constitutional Forum Debate, U.S. House of Representatives, with co-chairs Rep. David Skaggs, D-Colo., and Rep. Jim Leach, R-Iowa, June 21, 1994

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Walker speaks frequently on church-state issues at churches, conferences, seminars and university and seminary campuses. He also speaks to dozens of groups each year at the BJC's Center for Religious Liberty. Some recent presentations outside of Washington, D.C., include:

The Ambassador John L. Loeb Jr. Initiative On Religious Freedom and Its Implications

Panelist, Inaugural Symposium

Moderated by Henry Louis Gates, Jr.; Co-panelists: Rabbi Angela Buchdahl and Sheikh Yasir Qadhi
Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.

May 1, 2014

2014 James A. Auchmuty Lecture

"Exploring the Myths of the Separation of Church and State"

Samford University, Birmingham, Ala.

February 20, 2014

2013 Shurden Lectures

Walter B. and Kay W. Shurden Lectures on Religious Liberty and Separation of Church and State

Stetson University, DeLand, Fla.
Three presentations on April 9-10, 2013

2013 C.O. and Eliza Green Endowed Lectureship

Gardner-Webb University, Boiling Springs, N.C.
March 25, 2013

Selected International Lectures:

“Findings and Forecasts on the Role of Religion in the U.S.A. and the Church-State Relationship”
Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences, Shanghai, China
October 26, 2009

“Religious Liberty Issues in the U.S.A.: Retrospective on the Presidential Elections”
Friedrich Naumann Foundation, Bonn, Germany
November 22, 2008

“Church and State in the U.S.A.: Promises and Challenges”
Argentine Council for Religious Liberty, Buenos Aires, Argentina
April 28, 2008

MEDIA APPEARANCES

Walker provides commentary to the media on church-state matters. Among others, he has appeared on “Hardball with Chris Matthews” (MSNBC), “MacNeil/Lehrer Newshour” (PBS), the “Today” show (NBC), “The O’Reilly Factor” (Fox News), National Public Radio’s “All Things Considered” and “Morning Edition,” and CNN’s “Talk Back Live.” He is often quoted in newspapers and magazines, including the *Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, *Boston Globe*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Christianity Today* and *Tampa Tribune*.

Op-ed columns and news articles written by Walker have been published by a diverse group of news outlets and publications over the years, including Religion News Service, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Huffington Post*, Baptist News Global and *Liberty* magazine.

This resume is not comprehensive. For additional information on Brent Walker, please contact the Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty at bjc@BJCOnline.org or 202-544-4226.