

Oral Argument - Advocates

Overview

	OT10	OT11	OT12	OT13
Number of different advocates	143	118	120	121
Number of total appearances	196	182	193	185

Appearances by Advocates Who...	OT10	OT11	OT12	OT13
...Are from the Office of the Solicitor General	57 (29%)	58 (32%)	64 (33%)	61 (33%)
...Have experience in the Office of the Solicitor General	<i>Not Available</i>	<i>Not Available</i>	<i>Not Available</i>	85 (47%)
...Have argued at least twice during the Term	81 (41%)	98 (54%)	104 (54%)	96 (52%)
...Are “expert” Supreme Court litigators*	<i>Not Available</i>	<i>Not Available</i>	137 (71%)	131 (71%)
...Are based in Washington, D.C.**	106 (54%)	122 (67%)	125 (65%)	119 (64%)
...Are female	33 (17%)	27 (15%)	33 (17%)	28 (15%)
...Are female and not from the Office of the Solicitor General***	19 (14%)	14 (11%)	17 (13%)	11 (9%)

Most Popular Advocate Origins

State	Total
Washington, D.C.	119
California	9
New York	8
Michigan	7
Texas	5

Most Popular Supreme Court Clerkships

Clerkship	Appearances	Advocates
Antonin Scalia	17	9
William Brennan	13	4
Stephen Breyer	12	5
John Paul Stevens	10	4
Ruth Bader Ginsburg	7	3

Most Popular Law Schools

Law School	Appearances	Advocates
Harvard	38	26
Yale	30	15
Chicago	14	9
Stanford	9	6
George Washington	7	5

* We adopt Richard Lazarus’s definition of an “expert” Supreme Court litigator: one who has argued five or more times before the Supreme Court or works in an office where lawyers have collectively argued more than ten times. See Richard J. Lazarus, *Advocacy Matters Before and Within the Supreme Court: Transforming the Court by Transforming the Bar*, 97 GEO. L.J. 1487, 1490 n.17 (2008).

** An advocate’s “origin” is simply the state of origin listed for an advocate on the Court’s monthly hearing lists. If attorneys from the Office of the Solicitor General are omitted, lawyers based in Washington, D.C., have appeared fifty times during OT13.

*** The percentage figures for this category omit all advocates from the Office of the Solicitor General. As such, they demonstrate the percentage of female advocates from positions other than those within the Office of the Solicitor General as a percentage of all men or women arguing from positions other than those within the Office of the Solicitor General.

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Advocates Who Have Appeared More than Once During OT13

Rank	Name*	Appearances		Position	Law School	Supreme Court Clerkship	U.S. Solicitor General Experience**
		OT13	All-Time				
1	Donald B. Verrilli, Jr.	7	36	Solicitor General	Columbia	William Brennan	Yes
2	Michael R. Dreeben	5	93	Deputy Solicitor General	Duke	None	Yes
	Paul D. Clement	5	74	Bancroft PLLC	Harvard	Antonin Scalia	Yes
4	Edwin S. Kneedler	4	125	Deputy Solicitor General	Virginia	None	Yes
	Seth P. Waxman	4	69	WilmerHale LLP	Yale	None	Yes
	Malcolm L. Stewart	4	67	Deputy Solicitor General	Yale	William Brennan	Yes
	Neal K. Katyal	4	21	Hogan Lovells LLP	Yale	Stephen Breyer	Yes
	Ian H. Gershengorn	4	5	Principal Deputy Solicitor General	Harvard	John Paul Stevens	Yes
9	Thomas C. Goldstein	3	31	Goldstein & Russell PC	American	None	No
	Nicole A. Saharsky	3	20	Assistant to the Solicitor General	Minnesota	None	Yes
	Curtis E. Gannon	3	17	Assistant to the Solicitor General	Chicago	Antonin Scalia	Yes
	Anthony A. Yang	3	17	Assistant to the Solicitor General	Yale	None	Yes
	Ginger D. Anders	3	12	Assistant to the Solicitor General	Columbia	Ruth Bader Ginsburg	Yes
	Sarah E. Harrington	3	11	Assistant to the Solicitor General	Harvard	None	Yes
	Melissa A. Sherry	3	11	Assistant to the Solicitor General	Virginia	John Paul Stevens	Yes
	Joseph R. Palmore	3	10	Assistant to the Solicitor General	Virginia	Ruth Bader Ginsburg	Yes
	Kevin K. Russell	3	10	Goldstein & Russell PC	Yale	Stephen Breyer	No
	Eric J. Feigin	3	9	Assistant to the Solicitor General	Stanford	Stephen Breyer	Yes
	John J. Bursch	3	8	Solicitor General of Michigan	Minnesota	None	No
	Mark A. Perry	3	6	Gibson Dunn LLP	Chicago	Sandra Day O'Connor	No
	21	Carter G. Phillips	2	78	Sidley Austin LLP	Northwestern	Warren Burger
Jeffrey L. Fisher		2	23	Stanford Supreme Court Clinic	Michigan	John Paul Stevens	No
Eric Schnapper		2	19	University of Washington	Yale	None	No
Benjamin J. Horwich		2	10	Assistant to the Solicitor General	Stanford	Sandra Day O'Connor	Yes
Ann O'Connell		2	8	Assistant to the Solicitor General	George Washington	John Roberts	Yes
Peter Keisler		2	5	Sidley Austin LLP	Yale	Anthony Kennedy	No
Elaine J. Goldenberg		2	4	Assistant to the Solicitor General	Harvard	None	Yes
John F. Bash		2	3	Assistant to the Solicitor General	Harvard	Antonin Scalia	Yes
Jonathan I. Blackman		2	2	Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP	Harvard	None	No
William L. Messenger		2	2	National Right to Work Foundation	George Washington	None	No
Jonathan F. Mitchell		2	2	Solicitor General of Texas	Chicago	Antonin Scalia	No
	Total: 31	96	808			23	17

* Yellow indicates that an advocate currently works in the Office of the Solicitor General. Blue indicates that an advocate has prior experience in the Office of the Solicitor General.

** For the purposes of this category, we do not consider whether an advocate served as a Bristow Fellow.