Joshua "J.B." Branch

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

- Expert in AI governance and the intersection of civil liberties and technology with experience in legislative advocacy, AI Safety frameworks, child online safety, data privacy and governance, and regulatory compliance.
- Advisory work has included the White House, foreign governments, federal agencies, Congress, governors, state attorneys general, and the California legislature on AI and technology Policy.
- Recognized thought leader on AI with work and commentary highlighted in *The Washington Post*, *TechCrunch*, *Axios*, *NPR*, *Le Monde*, *Roll Call*, *Wired*, and *Tech Policy Press* underscoring broad national and global media impact.
- Proven record passing state and federal legislation; experience testifying; coalition building; direct lobbying; media relations; bipartisan collaboration; and translating complex issues for non-technical audiences.

EDUCATION

Harvard University, John F. Kennedy School of Government   **Cambridge, M.A.**
Master in Public Administration (Artificial Intelligence Governance)

- Harvard-MIT AI Policy & Technical AI Safety Fellowship one of 100 students selected studying technical and governance challenges related to advanced AI systems and regulatory frameworks for frontier AI.
- Center for Public Leadership Gleitsman Fellow, full scholarship awarded to 2 students out of a class of 240, recognizing dedication to tackling complex AI governance and technology policy challenges.

Georgetown University Law Center   **Washington, D.C.**
Juris Doctor

- Public Interest Law Scholar (2018) selected as one of six students recognized for dedication to public service.
- *Pro Bono* Exceptional Service (175+ hours) recognized for legal services provided to nonprofit organizations.

The Pennsylvania State University, Schreyer Honors College   **University Park, P.A.**
Bachelor of Arts, Political Science; Minor in Sociology

- *Phi Beta Kappa* awarded for graduating in the top 10 percent of the Class of 2013.
- Rhodes Scholarship nominee and finalist to represent Penn State University.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Public Citizen   **Washington, D.C.**
Big Tech Accountability Advocate   April 2025 – Present

- Serve as Public Citizen's lead expert and spokesperson on AI and emerging technology policy, driving legislative strategy, coalition efforts, and regulatory advocacy.
- Lead Public Citizen's AI and technology policy portfolio, directing federal advocacy, regulatory engagements, and public education campaigns in collaboration with the organization's Co-Presidents.
- Produced a widely cited 50-state analysis of AI regulations, used by Congress, Senate staff, journalists, and civic tech advocates to assess the impact of a proposed federal AI moratorium.
- Draft and submit congressional testimony, agency comments, public letters, and petitions to shape technology regulation and platform governance.
- Author reports, briefs, fact sheets, and think pieces to inform lawmakers, regulators, and media on AI oversight.
- Prepare invited witnesses for Congressional testimony, developing responses to hostile and supportive questions.

Journal of Computational Law and Technology   **Washington, D.C.**
Journal Reviewer   October 2025 – Present

- Peer-reviewed, interdisciplinary publication on law, computer science, and emerging technologies.
- Evaluate scholarly manuscripts at the intersection of law, artificial intelligence, and computational methods to assess quality, originality, and methodological rigor.
- Provide detailed feedback to authors to strengthen clarity, analytical precision, and academic contribution.
- Recommend publication decisions based on scholarly merit, relevance, and adherence to academic standards.
- Contribute to advancing legal technology research by engaging with emerging work on AI, machine learning, natural language processing, RegTech, and legal reasoning systems.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE CONTINUED

Center for AI and Digital Policy   **Washington, D.C.**
Clinic Participant & Legal Fellow   January 2025 – May 2025
- Advised the California Attorney General's office on regulatory authority to enforce data privacy, child online safety, and product liability compliance for major tech firms.
- Submitted statements to Senate and House committees on AI, social media, and tech regulation, in forming lawmakers on product harms in the U.S. market.
- Responded to agency rulemaking on best practices in AI governance, data privacy, and liability.

Tulsa Mayor's Office   **Tulsa, O.K.**
Taubman Transition Term Fellow   January 2025 – January 2025
- Assisted the first Black mayor of Tulsa Monroe Nichols' administrative team as they transitioned into office.
- Recommended creation of a local talent and development pipeline by enhancing K-12 STEM programs in Tulsa aligning with a $75 million federal grant designating the city as a technology innovation hub.
- Met with local organizations and grassroot organizers to understand citizens' policy priorities.

The Arc of the United States, National Center on Criminal Justice and Disability   **Washington, D.C.**
Program and Attorney Manager   November 2022 – August 2024
- Educated nonprofits, families, and communities supporting people with disabilities and Alzheimer's on locative devices, emphasizing data privacy, safety, autonomy, and informed consent.
- Managed a 17-person cross-functional team to deliver the first online training on law enforcement ADA compliance for people with disabilities, overseeing budget, product launch, vendor management, and strategic communications.
- Selected as a national expert on criminal justice by the Department of Justice and Department of Transportation.

DATA PRIVACY and PUBLIC INTEREST TECHNOLOGY PUBLICATIONS

- J.B. Branch, *Digital Proof, Real Risk: A Policy Analysis of Car Insurance Apps and User Privacy*, Harvard Journal of Technology Science (forthcoming).
- J.B. Branch, *Who Owns the Human Code in the AI Health Economy?* Landslide, American Bar Association (forthcoming).
- J.B. Branch, *Handcuffed for Eating Doritos: Schools Shouldn't be Test Sites for AI 'Security'*, EdWeek (2025).
- J.B. Branch, *AI Chatbots Shouldn't be Talking to Kids – Congress Must Step In*, The Hill (2025).
- J.B. Branch, *The US Government's Use of Elon Musk's Grok AI Undermines its Own Rules*, Tech Policy Press (2025).
- J.B. Branch, *AI Companions Are Not Your Teen's Friend*, Issues in Science and Technology, National Academy of Science (Fall 2025).
- J.B. Branch, *Congress Must Reject Deregulation and Pass Enforceable Federal Protections*, Public Citizen (2025).
- J.B. Branch, *FTC Should Investigate Meta-Scale AI Deal*, Public Citizen (2025).
- J.B. Branch et. al., *Coalition Urges OMB to Block Federal Adoption of xAI's Grok*, Public Citizen (2025).
- J.B. Branch et. al., *The Trump AI Action Plan is Deregulation Framed as Innovation*, Tech Policy Press (2025).
- J.B. Branch, Congressional Statement: *Congress Must Stay Vigilant on AI Enabled Crime*, Public Citizen (2025).
- J.B. Branch, Congressional Statement: *Bankruptcy Code in Wake of 23andMe DNA Data Sale,* Public Citizen (2025).
- J.B. Branch, Privacy, *Consent, and National Security After the 23andMe Bankruptcy*, Lawfare (2025).
- J.B. Branch, Statement to Congress: *The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: AI Generated Deepfakes*, Public Citizen (2025).
- J.B. Branch & Ilana Beller, *Buried in Congress's Budget Bill is a Push to Halt AI Oversight*, Tech Policy Press (2025).
- J.B. Branch, *Intimacy on Autopilot: Why AI Companions Demand Urgent Regulation*, Tech Policy Press (2025).
- J.B. Branch, *Arrested Development: Delayed Tech Policies in Law Enforcement Risk Fourth Amendment Rights*, Harvard Kennedy School Policy Review, Shorenstein Center (2025).
- J.B. Branch, *Australia Says No to Young Teens on Social Media—It Won't Work*, Tech Policy Press, (2024).
- Joshua Branch, *The New National Mental Health Crisis Line is Coming. Who will Respond to the Calls?* Slate (2022).