



Ryan Bangert

ALLIANCE DEFENDING FREEDOM

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, STRATEGIC INITIATIVES & SPECIAL COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

Ryan Bangert serves as senior vice president for strategic initiatives and special counsel to the president at Alliance Defending Freedom. He oversees ADF's Government Affairs Team and Blackstone Legal Fellowship Program. He also serves as a member of ADF's Executive Leadership Team.

Before joining ADF, Bangert served as deputy first assistant attorney general and deputy for legal counsel in the office of the Texas attorney general. In those roles, he oversaw the state's Special Litigation Unit, which handled critical litigation for the state of Texas, and oversaw multiple divisions within the office. Prior to that, he served as deputy for civil litigation for Missouri Attorney General Josh Hawley, overseeing the state's civil litigation divisions, including the consumer protection and antitrust divisions, with over 200 attorneys and staff. During his time in government service, Bangert handled a diverse array of matters involving Big Tech, election law, civil rights, multistate antitrust and consumer protection investigations, and many other issues.

Prior to his government service, Bangert was a litigation partner at Baker Botts L.L.P., where he was a member of the firm's commercial litigation and appellate practice sections. A seasoned trial attorney, *The Texas Lawyer* ranked the verdict Bangert achieved in the *Janvey v. Maldonado* case as the #1 verdict in the securities category for 2015-2019, and *The National Law Journal* ranked it in its "Top 100 Verdicts of 2015." He was named a "Texas Rising Star" for multiple years by *Texas Lawyer* and *Law and Politics* magazines. While at Baker Botts, he was a volunteer attorney for ADF and served as amicus counsel in numerous cases, including *Trinity Lutheran v. Comer* and *Salazar v. Buono*, receiving the firm's *Opus Justitae* Award in recognition of his outstanding commitment to pro bono service.

Bangert earned his J.D. from Southern Methodist University, where he was a Hatton Sumner's scholar and graduated first in his class. He also participated in ADF's Blackstone program and is a Blackstone Fellow. Following law school, he clerked for the Honorable Patrick E. Higginbotham on the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Bangert is a member of the Philadelphia Society and Federalist Society. He is admitted to practice law in Texas, before the U.S. Supreme Court, and in numerous federal district and appellate courts. A frequent op-ed contributor, his work has appeared in *First Things*, *National Review*, *Daily Wire*, *Law & Liberty*, *Civitas Outlook*, *The Hill*, *Washington Examiner*, *The Federalist*, and *Fox News*, among other outlets. He speaks nationally on artificial intelligence, freedom of speech and religion, and other legal and cultural issues.