



## **Noel Sterett, JD**

Attorney Noel W. Sterett's practice is devoted to "ensuring people are free to serve God and their neighbors in their communities and in the marketplace." Noel has helped churches, not-for-profit ministries and numerous pregnancy centers all across the country overcome zoning and land use barriers. He has helped win dozens of land use cases in federal court enabling ministries to use newly-purchased buildings, land and even mobile ultrasound vehicles to accomplish their noble missions.

The Religious Land Use & Institutionalized Persons Act (RLUIPA) is an area of particular focus for Noel. Enacted in 2000, the law protects religious institutions from zoning and land use regulations that substantially interfere with their religious exercise. In addition to litigating religious land use cases, Noel regularly advises religious groups on civil rights matters and how best to secure zoning approval for religious land uses.

Prior to joining Dalton & Tomich, PLC in May 2018, Noel worked as an attorney and partner for Mauck & Baker, LLC in Chicago for 11 years. He is an allied attorney and member of the National Litigation Academy Honor Corps of the Alliance Defending Freedom and the Christian Legal Society.

Noel co-authored an amicus brief on behalf of 23 Illinois pregnancy care centers in the landmark Supreme Court case of *NIFLA v. Becerra*, and he continues to represent many Illinois pregnancy care centers in their challenge to an Illinois law that is similar to the California law at issue in the *NIFLA* case.

Noel sits on the board and is an active volunteer for Courtside Ministries, a prayer ministry that organizes volunteers from local churches to pray for people as they come in and out of courthouses across the country.

Noel is a graduate of Regent University's School of Law in Virginia. He is a member in good standing and admitted to practice in the State of Illinois (2007), United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois (2007), United States District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin (2012), United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit (2012), United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit (2018), and United States Supreme Court (2018).

Noel resides in Rockford, Illinois with his wife and four children.