

News

POLAND IN 'LAW360' AND WOLTERS KLUWER ON SCOTUS DECISION INVOLVING MINISTERIAL EXCEPTION

Jul 09, 2020

Chicago Partner Christian Poland was quoted July 8 by *Law360* and in Wolters Kluwer's *Labor & Employment Law Daily* concerning the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Our Lady of Guadalupe v. Morrissey-Berru*, which gives faith-based institutions wider leeway to hire and fire employees whose jobs involve religious duties. Poland, leader of BCLP's Religious Organizations Practice Group, authored an amicus brief in the case on behalf of a religious university and a Baptist church. He told *Law360* that the ruling expands the scope of the ministerial exception to teachers with "less religious indicia" than the teacher involved in a previous case. "There is occasional and unavoidable tension between religious autonomy and enforcement of societal expectations regarding nondiscrimination. ... While some may view today's decision as 'immunizing' religious groups from complying with statutory nondiscrimination directives, the First Amendment required the outcome of the Our Lady case," he told Wolters Kluwer. "A religious institution's mission and identity is protected from governmental intrusion when it comes to the selection and retention of its message bearers."

RELATED PRACTICE AREAS

- Religious Organizations
- Employment & Labor

MEET THE TEAM



Christian Mark Poland

Chicago

christian.poland@bclplaw.com

+1 312 602 5085

This material is not comprehensive, is for informational purposes only, and is not legal advice. Your use or receipt of this material does not create an attorney-client relationship between us. If you require legal advice, you should consult an attorney regarding your particular circumstances. The choice of a lawyer is an important decision and should not be based solely upon advertisements. This material may be “Attorney Advertising” under the ethics and professional rules of certain jurisdictions. For advertising purposes, St. Louis, Missouri, is designated BCLP’s principal office and Kathrine Dixon (kathrine.dixon@bclplaw.com) as the responsible attorney.