

Vince Chhabria is a federal district judge in the San Francisco Division of the Northern District of California. He was nominated by Barack Obama on July 25, 2013 and confirmed by the Senate on March 5, 2014.

Before taking the bench, Chhabria was Chief of Appellate Litigation for the San Francisco City Attorney's office. In addition to supervising the office's appellate work, Chhabria was a member of the government litigation team, where he defended challenges to City ordinances and programs. He defended City in: an ERISA preemption challenge to San Francisco's universal health care program; a First Amendment challenge to an ordinance requiring retailers to convey information to customers about Rf energy exposure from cell phones; an Establishment Clause challenge to a resolution passed by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors criticizing Vatican statements and policies regarding adoption by same-sex couples; separate First Amendment and Equal Protection challenges to an ordinance banning tobacco sales in drug stores; a state law preemption challenge to an ordinance requiring landlords to pay relocation assistance to evicted tenants; and a Due Process challenge to the City's red light camera program.

Chhabria was also on the City Attorney's affirmative litigation task force, where he served as lead counsel in several matters involving the failure of businesses to pay employees the minimum wages and benefits required by San Francisco law. And he was on the City Attorney's team of lawyers that challenged California's ban on marriage by same-sex couples.

Prior to joining the San Francisco City Attorney's Office, Chhabria worked in the San Francisco office of Covington & Burling, where he focused primarily on criminal defense litigation.

Chhabria served as a law clerk to Stephen Breyer of the United States Supreme Court during the 2001-2002 term. Before that, he served as a law clerk at the Ninth Circuit (James Browning), and at the Northern District of California (Charles Breyer).

Chhabria attended law school at Berkeley from 1995-1998. Before that, he spent three years working as a Legislative Assistant to Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey in Washington, D.C. He received his undergraduate degree in Politics at the University of California, Santa Cruz in 1991.