

2008

*American University*  
*Washington College of Law*

# Constitutional Interpretation & Litigation after *Heller*

Wednesday, September 24, 2008

9:00 am – 1:00 pm

American University Washington College of Law  
4801 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Room 603, Washington, DC

The Supreme Court's landmark June decision in *District of Columbia v. Heller*, holding that the Second Amendment protects an individual's right to bear arms and that D.C.'s handgun ban violates that right, raises almost as many questions as it answers. With respect to constitutional interpretation, how could the *Heller* majority and Justice Stevens's dissent look at the same text, history, and historical sources, and come to such radically different conclusions? With respect to constitutional litigation, what is the significance of the *Heller* majority's refusal to articulate a standard of review? How does *Heller* change the landscape of constitutional interpretation and litigation going forward? To start attempting to answer these questions, American University Washington College of Law will host a pair of conversations featuring some of the key players in the *Heller* litigation, along with leading experts on constitutional interpretation and litigation.

**8:45 a.m. Registration/Breakfast**

**9:15 a.m. Introductory Remarks**

**9:30 a.m. Panel I: Constitutional Interpretation**

**Moderator:** Robert Tsai, Professor of Law, Washington College of Law

**Discussants:** Eric Claeys, Associate Professor of Law, George Mason University School of Law; Walter Dellinger, Counsel for the Petitioners in *District of Columbia v. Heller*; Lynda Dodd, Assistant Professor of Law, Washington College of Law; Tom Goldstein '95, Partner, Akin Grump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP; Alan Morrison, Visiting Professor (2008–09), Washington College of Law; Former Lead Counsel for the District in *District of Columbia v. Heller*

**11:15 a.m. Coffee Break**

**11:30 a.m. Panel II: Constitutional Litigation**

**Moderator:** Amanda Frost, Associate Professor of Law, Washington College of Law

**Discussants:** Robert Cottrol, Harold Paul Green Research Professor of Law, George Washington University; Andrew L. Frey, Partner, Mayer Brown LLP and Counsel of Record for the City of Chicago as amicus curiae in *Heller*; Clark M. Neily III, Senior Attorney, Institute for Justice and Co-counsel for *Heller* before the Supreme Court; Steve Vladeck, Associate Professor of Law, Washington College of Law

To register: please go to [www.wcl.american.edu/secleregistration](http://www.wcl.american.edu/secleregistration)

3 CLE credits available

For further information, please contact: Office of Special Events & Continuing Legal Education,  
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