

## REGISTRATION FORM

### The Erosion of Public Constitutional Knowledge: How Should the Legal Profession Respond?"

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

#### CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX

- Regular Admission \$30.00  
 WCL Students, Alumni & Public Interest No Charge  
 CLE Credit (4 hrs) \$140.00

To register, please forward this form to the return address in the next panel or fax to 202.274.4079. If you have additional questions, please contact us at 202.274.4075 or via e-mail at [secl@wcl.american.edu](mailto:secl@wcl.american.edu).

YOU MAY ALSO REGISTER ON LINE AT  
[WWW.WCL.AMERICAN.EDU/SECL/](http://WWW.WCL.AMERICAN.EDU/SECL/)  
AND CLICK ON EVENT REGISTRATION

#### PARKING

To help us maintain good relations with our neighbors, we ask that you park in the law school's underground lot at the rate of \$2.00 an hour or \$8.00 a day.

#### SPECIAL NEEDS

Any person with disabilities attending the conference who believes he or she might need a reasonable accommodation to participate should contact us at least two weeks in advance at: (202) 274-4075 or via e-mail at [secl@wcl.american.edu](mailto:secl@wcl.american.edu)

THE PROGRAM ON LAW AND GOVERNMENT  
AND MARSHALL-BRENNAN  
CONSTITUTIONAL LITERACY PROJECT

*PRESENT*

# The Erosion of Public Constitutional Knowledge: How Should the Legal Profession Respond?"

THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2005  
12:30 PM – 8:00 PM  
ROOM 603

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY  
WASHINGTON COLLEGE OF LAW  
4801 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, NW  
WASHINGTON, DC 20016

**CLE CREDIT AVAILABLE**

# The Erosion of Public Constitutional Knowledge: How Should the Legal Profession Respond?"

Recent studies suggest that America is experiencing dramatic erosion in public understanding of the Constitution. This loss of constitutional literacy corresponds to a rise in disrespect for constitutional norms and values. Please join the beginning of an important national conversation as we discuss how law schools, lawyers, judges, public schools and young people---working together--can intervene to change the cycles of constitutional ignorance and disregard for the rule of law.

Panel discussions will address the nature of the problem, including evidence from the recent Knight Foundation study of young people's ignorance of the First Amendment; current constitutional literacy programs in law schools and other bar-related civic outreach and legal learning efforts; the legal education responsibilities of law schools and lawyers and how seriously they are being taken; and creative brainstorming for a major national expansion of the constitutional literacy movement.

## DISTINGUISHED INVITED SPEAKERS

**Professor Gerald Torres**, University of Texas Law and President of the Association of American Law Schools

**Judge Royal Furgeson**, United States District Court (WD, Texas)

**Kenneth Starr**, Dean, Pepperdine Law School

**Jamin Raskin**, Professor, Washington College of Law and author, *We the Students*

**Mary Beth Tinker**, union organizer and student plaintiff in *Tinker v. Des Moines School District* (1969)

**Carmia Caesar**, Howard Law School

**Roy Karp**, Executive Director, Civic Education Project, Boston, MA.

**Steve Wermiel**, Professor, Washington College of Law

**Maryam Ahranjani**, co-author, *Youth Justice in America*

*And many other leading educators, lawyers and activists*

**Reception with Mrs. Thurgood Marshall**

*"If there is one central responsibility of the American Secondary school's curriculum, it would seem to be to transmit an appreciation of those individual rights and liberties, and reciprocal responsibilities, which form the spine of our constitutional heritage. That heritage, particularly the Bill of Rights, assures our precious liberties, but it also creates a duty of responsible citizenship." - Justice William J. Brennan, Jr. in 1967*

## CONFERENCE INFORMATION

### TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

Please indicate if you need assistance with hotel or flight arrangements.

- Flight
- Hotel

---

(Name of Participant)

*A block of rooms has been reserved at the Embassy Suites in Friendship Heights*

### RSVP & REGISTRATION

Please RSVP by Friday, March 11, 2005 to Maryam Ahranjani via phone at 202-274-4305 or via email at [mahranjani@wcl.american.edu](mailto:mahranjani@wcl.american.edu).

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Please direct all questions or comments regarding the conference event to:

Maryam Ahranjani  
202-274-4305

Email: [mahranjani@wcl.american.edu](mailto:mahranjani@wcl.american.edu).

### CONSTITUTIONAL LITERACY SEMINAR

On Friday, March 18, we will have a special one-day intensive constitutional literacy seminar for high school and junior high school teachers coming to the conference.

The cost is \$200 for a 9:30AM—3:00 PM program.