

## Figley Biography

Paul Figley joined the faculty of the Washington College of Law in the Fall of 2006. He serves as the Associate Director of the Legal Writing and Rhetoric Program. For the previous fifteen years he was Deputy Director in the U.S Department of Justice Civil Division's Torts Branch.

At the Washington College of Law Professor Figley has taught Legal Rhetoric, first year Torts, and upper level Advanced Lawyering Skills: Tort Litigation. He has presented at scholarly symposia and conferences, written for national legal writing publications and scholarly journals, and taught writing workshops to national organizations and government agencies.

During his career at Justice, Professor Figley represented the United States and its agencies in appellate and district court litigation involving torts, national security, and information law. As Torts Branch Deputy Director he worked to protect the public fisc and develop Federal Tort Claims Act jurisprudence by supervising litigation, setting litigative priorities and supervising tort settlements. He managed over twenty attorneys and worked closely with numerous agency counsel and Assistant United States Attorneys. In 2005, he received the Civil Division Award for Dedicated Service, an honor given to six of 700 attorneys serving in the Civil Division.

Professor Figley's expertise is in legal writing, tort law, and motions practice. His success in practice is reflected in his 78 reported decisions. By way of representative sample, he supervised the government's defense of tort litigation arising from Hurricane Katrina and personally represented the United States in tort litigation brought by owners of the Sudanese chemical plant President Clinton ordered destroyed.

Professor Figley graduated from Southern Methodist University School of Law where he was Leading Articles Editor for the *Journal of Air Law & Commerce*. He earned his B.A., *cum laude*, from Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.