

PAUL F. FIGLEY

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

Washington College of Law, American University, Washington, D.C.

Legal Rhetoric Program – Associate Director (2006 to present)

Classes Taught – Legal Rhetoric; Torts; Advanced Lawyering Skills: Tort Litigation

Honors – Emalee C. Godsey Scholar Award (for Faculty Scholarship), 2017

WCL Student Bar Association *Faculty Member of the Year* for 2014-15

WCL Student Bar Association *Professor of the Year* for 2012-13

U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

Civil Division, Torts Branch, Federal Tort Claims Act Staff

Deputy Director (1991-2006) Second in command in office that
manages the tort litigation of the federal government.

Prior service in various roles in Civil Division offices responsible for Federal Tort
Claims Act, Freedom of Information Act, and Privacy Act litigation.

Honors – Civil Division Award for Dedicated Service, 2005

(One of six to receive this award from among 700 attorneys.)

Two Civil Division Special Commendation Awards

Numerous Special Achievement Awards

EDUCATIONAL HISTORY

Southern Methodist University School of Law, Dallas, Texas - Juris Doctor

Leading Articles Editor, JOURNAL OF AIR LAW & COMMERCE

Hatton W. Sumners Scholar

(One of five in class to receive three-year grant for full tuition and expenses.)

Admissions Committee

Franklin & Marshall College, Lancaster, Pennsylvania - B.A. *Cum Laude*

History major, Office of Public Relations, Varsity Soccer (MVP), Varsity Baseball.

PUBLICATIONS

Paul Figley, *A GUIDE TO THE FEDERAL TORT CLAIMS ACT* (ABA, 2012).

Paul Figley, *The Judgment Fund: America's Deepest Pocket & its Susceptibility to Executive
Branch Misuse*, 18 U. PA. J. CONST. L. 145 (2015).

Paul Figley, *Using Problems to Teach Quantitative Damages in a First Year Torts Class*, 63. J.
OF LEGAL ED. 113 (2013).

Paul Figley, *Ethical Intersections & the Federal Tort Claims Act: An Approach for
Government Attorneys*, 8 ST. THOMAS U. L. J. 347 (2011).

Paul Figley, *In Defense of Feres: An Unfairly Maligned Opinion*, 60 AM. U. L. REV. 393
(2011).

Paul Figley, *Teaching Rule Synthesis with Real Cases*, 61. J. OF LEGAL ED. 245 (2011).

Paul Figley & Jay Tidmarsh, *The Appropriations Power and Sovereign Immunity*, 107
MICH. L. REV. 1207 (2009).

Paul Figley, *Understanding the Federal Tort Claims Act: A Different Metaphor*, 44 TORT TR. & INS. PRAC. L.J. 1105 (2009).

Paul Figley, *Calls for Justice & "Joint and Several Liability,"* in MATERIALS ON TORT REFORM 89-91 (Andrew F. Popper ed., 2010).

Paul Figley, *Teaching Novice Legal Writers to Complete Their Arguments; A Useful Metaphor*, THE SECOND DRAFT, THE BULLETIN OF THE LEGAL WRITING INSTITUTE (Fall, 2007).

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Torts, Sovereign Immunity, Federal Tort Claims Act, Legal Writing

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Congressional Testimony on "Oversight of the Judgment Fund" before the Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice, United States House of Representatives (Washington, D.C., March 2, 2017).

Congressional Testimony on "Oversight of the Judgment Fund: Iran, Big Settlements, and the Lack of Transparency" before the Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice, United States House of Representatives (Washington, D.C., September 2, 2016).

Congressional Testimony on the "Stop Settlement Slush Funds Act of 2016," before the Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law, United States House of Representatives (Washington, D.C., April 28, 2016).

"The Federal Tort Claims Act as a Model for Tort Reform," at the American Tort Reform Assn. Annual Membership Meeting (Washington, D.C., March 22, 2016).

"An Overview of American Tort Law," at the Embassy of Kazakhstan (Washington, D.C., March 18, 2016).

"Suing the Government: The Ins and Outs of the Federal Tort Claims Act," at the States & Nation Policy Summit, American Legislative Exchange Council (Scottsdale, Az., December 4, 2015).

"Minimizing Medical Liability Exposure in Clinical Decision Making: A Prescription for Improving Patient Outcomes and Avoiding Litigation" – Panel, at the MedStar Health Legal Symposium (Washington, D.C., June 11, 2014).

"Development of Legal Drafting Skills," at the Profile of the Judicial Officer Seminar, The Washington Center (Washington, D.C., May 12-14, 2014).

"Teaching Rule Synthesis with Real Cases," at the Central States Legal Writing Conference, University of Kansas School of Law (Lawrence, Kansas, September 27-28, 2013).

"Creating Better Documents: Planning, Revising, & the Review Process," at the U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Office of the General Counsel Attorney Retreat (Washington, D.C., Oct. 13, 2011).

"Ethical Issues in Defending Federal Tort Claims Act Cases," at the Symposium: Official Wrongdoing and the Civil Liability of the Federal Government and Officers, University of St. Thomas School of Law (Minneapolis, March 17-18, 2011).

- “Structured Legal Analysis from Express Check-Out to Recreational Use,” at the Legal Writing Institute One Day Workshop, American University - Washington College of Law (Washington, D.C., December 4, 2010).
- “Clear, Concise, and Correct: Effective Writing in Administrative Law” (with Prof. David Spratt) Seminar, U.S. Food and Drug Administration (Silver Spring, Md., February 22, 2010).
- “Paired Workshops: Teaching CREAC and Appellate Process” at the Central Region Legal Writing Conference, Marquette University Law School (Milwaukee, Wis., October 16-17, 2009).
- “Festival of Damages Arguments: An Exercise for a First Year Torts Class,” at the “Implementing Best Practices and Educating Lawyers: Teaching Skills and Professionalism Across the Curriculum” Conference of the Institute for Law Teaching and Learning (Spokane, Washington, June, 2009).
- “Writing the Brief: How to Write (and Re-Write) a First-Rate Appellate Brief,” at the Appellate Practice Conference of the National Attorney General Training and Research Institute (Washington, D.C., March 2009).
- Three Presentations: “An Overview of Advocacy in Motion;” “Creating Better Documents: Planning, Revising, Self-Editing;” and “A Systematic Approach to Brief Writing” at the Motions Practice Seminar, National Advocacy Center (Columbia, S.C., June 2008).
- “The Problem of the First Assignment: What Do Beginning Law Students Need to Learn and How Can We Teach It?” at the Central Region Legal Writing Conference (Kansas City, Mo., October, 2007).
- “Creating Better Documents: Planning, Revising and Self-Editing,” at the Convention of the Council of Appellate Staff Attorneys (Washington, D.C., September, 2007).