

GEORGETOWN LAW

2021 ORIENTATION FACULTY TALKS

Tuesday, August 24, 2021 and
Friday, August 27, 2021

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Title of Talk: Asylum and the Southern Border in the Trump and Biden Administrations

Speaker: Professor Philip Schrag ([bio](#))

Room: McDonough Hall, Room 205

Date and Time: August 24th at 9:00 a.m.

Talk Description: The right to have an asylum claim adjudicated is guaranteed by treaty and by the Refugee Act that Congress passed in 1980. For decades, both Republican and Democratic administrations honored the law, providing protection and safety in the United States for hundreds of thousands of people fleeing from political, religious, and other forms of persecution in their own countries. From 2018 through 2020, however, the Trump administration used several policies, regulations and programs, some of them in secret, to prevent migrants from seeking asylum in America. These actions included family separation, decisions barring asylum for victims of domestic and gang violence, and many other practices. This orientation talk will provide background on U.S. asylum law, details of how the Trump administration subverted it, and an assessment of what the Biden administration has and has not done to restore the asylum system so that the nation meets its obligations to refugees. It will also highlight roles that lawyers and law students have played and continued to play in representing asylum seekers and challenging restrictions on asylum.

Professor Philip Schrag is co-director of Georgetown's asylum law clinic, the Center for Applied Legal Studies, and the author or co-author of 17 books, including six books on asylum policy and adjudication.

Title of Talk: TikTok v. Trump

Speaker: Professor Anupam Chander ([bio](#))

Room: McDonough Hall, Room 206

Date and Time: August 24th at 9:00 a.m.

Talk Description: A year ago, President Trump declared TikTok a national security threat and banned it from the country because of its Chinese origins. But courts intervened to block the ban. How did TikTok beat the President of the United States? And what did we learn from this struggle between a big tech enterprise and the President of the United States?

Friday, August 27, 2021

Title of Talk: Public Interest Lawyering: Opportunities and Challenges

Speaker: Professor Peter Edelman ([bio](#))

Room: McDonough Hall, Room 203

Date and Time: August 27th at 9:00 a.m.

Talk Description: In the world of Thurgood Marshall, simple justice was available by a vote of 9 to 0. (Or was it?) In the world of John Roberts, lawyers who want to pursue the public interest (as defined by people like Justice Marshall) have to use multiple strategies, in multiple venues, involving multiple skills. What is justice – economic, social, or racial – is not so simple to articulate, and getting it actualized is not so easy (not that achieving Brown was so easy). This session will explore the evolution of public interest lawyering since Brown and what various public interest lawyering careers and roles look like in a new century.

Title of Talk: How Can You Represent Those People?

Speaker: Professor Abbe Smith ([bio](#))

Room: McDonough Hall, Room 205

Date and Time: August 27th at 9:00am

Talk Description: Professor Smith is Director of the Criminal Defense and Prisoner Advocacy Clinic, which offers students an intensive experience in indigent criminal defense and prisoner advocacy. She will discuss her latest book, GUILTY PEOPLE, as well as her own evolution as a criminal lawyer.

Title of Talk: Law School for Libertarians and Conservatives

Speaker: Professor Randy Barnett ([bio](#))

Room: McDonough Hall, Room 206

Date and Time: August 27th at 10:30 a.m.

Talk Description: Whatever school they attend, libertarian and conservative law students face special challenges. In this session, Professor Barnett -- who also directs the Georgetown Center for the Constitution -- will candidly identify these challenges, and offer tips for meeting them at Georgetown Law, so you can get the most from your law school experience.

Title of Talk: Race, Adolescence, and Trauma: The Criminalization of Black Youth in America

Speaker: Professor Kris Henning ([bio](#))

Room: McDonough Hall, Room 201

Date and Time: August 27th at 10:30 a.m.

Talk Description: Black adolescence has long been under attack in America. Professor, defender, and author Kristin Henning will talk about her book, RAGE OF INNOCENCE: HOW AMERICA CRIMINALIZES BLACK YOUTH and her work as the Director of Georgetown's Juvenile Justice Clinic & Initiative. Professor Henning explains how discriminatory and aggressive policing has socialized a generation of Black teenagers to fear and resent the police and details the long-term consequences of racism they face at the hands of police and their vigilante surrogates. In this interactive talk, students will explore how race and bias impact the lives and legal rights of Black youth in America.