

The Emerging Debate over Religion in Public Life Presenters Biographical Information



Alan Brownstein teaches Constitutional Law, Law and Religion, and Torts. While the primary focus of his scholarship relates to church-state issues and free exercise and establishment clause doctrine, he has also written extensively on freedom of speech, privacy and autonomy rights and other constitutional law subjects. His articles have been published in numerous academic journals including the Stanford Law Review, Cornell Law Review, UCLA Law Review and many others. Professor Brownstein is a frequent lecturer at academic conferences and regularly participates as a speaker or panelist in law related programs before civic, legal, religious and educational groups.

Professor Brownstein graduated from Harvard Law School in 1977. After serving as a clerk to the Honorable Frank M. Coffin, Chief Judge, Federal Court of Appeals, First Circuit, he practiced law with the firm of Tuttle & Taylor in Los Angeles.

"Most lawyers do not practice constitutional law," Brownstein notes, "but members of the Bar bear a special responsibility for understanding constitutional doctrine and communicating its meaning to non-lawyers. The role that constitutional law plays in our society depends in part on the interplay between courts and the political culture. If judicial decisions are unintelligible to the polity and no group accepts responsibility for explaining the Constitution's evolving meaning to the polity, we undermine part of the foundation of the constitutional scheme of things."

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Steven K. Green, Associate Professor of Law, J.D. University of Texas, Ph.D. University of North Carolina, M.A. University of North Carolina, B.A. Texas Christian University, Phi Beta Kappa.

Professor Steven K. Green joined the Willamette faculty in August 2001, after serving for nine years as General Counsel and Director of Policy for Americans United for Separation of Church and State, a national public interest organization in Washington D.C. that concentrates on First Amendment issues. Green has extensive litigation and appellate experience in First Amendment law involving issues such as school-prayer, public funding of religious institutions, public religious displays, religious discrimination, religious free exercise and freedom of speech. Green has participated in several cases before the U.S. Supreme Court, including *Zelman v. Simmons-Harris* (2002), the Cleveland school vouchers case, *Mitchell v. Helms* (2000), authorizing state-paid computers and educational equipment to religious schools, and *Santa Fe Ind. Sch. Dist. v. Doe* (2000), striking prayer at public school football games.

Green also has extensive legislative experience, having testified before Congress and several state legislatures. He helped draft federal and state laws affecting religious liberty interests including the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (1993) and the Religious Land-Use and Institutionalized Persons Protection Act (2000). Green is a widely sought speaker at national conferences and a prolific author whose writings have been cited by the U.S. Supreme Court and lower courts. He is a prolific scholar and in addition to the publications listed below Green is a contributor to the Encyclopedia of American Civil Liberties and the Yale Biographical Dictionary of American Law. He is currently writing a case book on church-state law to be published by Baylor University Press.

Green holds a Ph.D. in American Constitutional and Religious History and an M.A. in American Religious and Constitutional History from the University of North Carolina, a J.D. from the University of Texas, and a B.A. in History and Political Science, Phi Beta Kappa, from Texas Christian University. Green also took post-graduate study at Duke Law and Divinity Schools.

Green serves on the Religious Liberty Committee of the National Council of Churches, the Editorial Council of the Journal of Church and State, and the Legal Advisory Committee of the National Center for Science Education. He is currently Recorder for Oregon Law Commission's study of the Faith-Based Initiative in Oregon.

Professor Green teaches Constitutional Law I and II, First Amendment Law, Legal History, the Lawmaking Process, Administrative Law and Criminal Law. Green also directs an academic program in public law.

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Marci A. Hamilton, one of the nation's leading church/state scholars, holds the Paul R. Verkuil Chair in Public Law at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, Yeshiva University. She has been a visiting professor at New York University School of Law and Emory University School

of Law and a Visiting Scholar at the Princeton Theological Seminary. Her most recent work is *GOD VS. THE GAVEL: RELIGION AND THE RULE OF Law* (Cambridge 2005). She is a columnist on constitutional issues for www.findlaw.com.

Hamilton was lead counsel for the City of Boerne, Texas, in *Boerne v. Flores*, 521 U.S. 507 (1997), the Supreme Court's seminal federalism and church/state case holding the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA) unconstitutional. She is also a leading national expert on RFRA's successor, the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act.

Professor Hamilton clerked for Associate Justice Sandra Day O'Connor of the United States Supreme Court and Judge Edward R. Becker of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. She is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania Law School, Pennsylvania State University, and Vanderbilt University.

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Roman Storzer has represented both municipalities and religious institutions in a variety of church-state issues. Formerly the Director of Litigation at the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty, Mr. Storzer spearheaded that organization's RLUIPA project, assisting scores of churches, temples and synagogues in religious land use cases. He is now in private practice, representing clients nationwide on First Amendment matters. Some of his notable cases involving local governments as either clients or opponents include *Tong v. Chicago Park Dist.*, 316 F. Supp. 2d 645 (N.D. Ill. 2004), *Cottonwood Christian Center v. Cypress Redevelopment Agency*, 218 F. Supp. 2d 1203 (C.D. Cal. 2002), *Freedom Baptist Church v. Tp. of Middletown*, 204 F. Supp. 2d 857 (E.D. Pa. 2002), and *ACLU-NJ v. Township of Wall*, 246 F.3d 258 (3d Cir. 2001).

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