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Taking Your Case to the Court of Public Opinion – Strategic, Legal and Ethical Implications Conference

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University of Georgia School of Law and ICLE of Georgia presents:

Conference on

**Taking Your Case to the Court of Public Opinion -
Strategic, Legal and Ethical Implications**

Friday, November 4, 2005 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Athens, Georgia

6 CLE HOURS including:

1 Legal Ethics Hour, 1 Professionalism Hour and 3 Trial Practice Hours

Conference Overview

If you have ever been called by a reporter to discuss your case, contemplated calling a press conference, seen your client pictured on the evening news or cringed upon reading or hearing comments made by other lawyers about ongoing cases, you won't want to miss this conference at the University of Georgia School of Law.

- *Is "no comment" still the best response if a reporter asks about your case?*
- *Is it appropriate for an advocate to look strategically beyond the courtroom to the court of public opinion to try to win her case? Is she obligated to do so?*
- *In speaking publicly about a case, what can or should the lawyer say? What can or should the client say?*
- *Should lawyers who serve as media commentators adhere to the same professional norms that govern lawyers participating in criminal prosecutions or civil suits? What are those norms or rules of professional conduct?*
- *Should judges explain their views on controversial legal decisions to a wider public audience through their written opinions? In election campaigns or confirmation hearings? In press interviews?*

Following opening remarks by Professor Geoffrey C. Hazard, Jr., the country's foremost expert on the law governing lawyers and rules of professional conduct, panels of distinguished lawyers, academics and judges will tackle these and other questions to explore the strategic, legal and ethical considerations and implications involved when lawyers take their cases to the court of public opinion.

Conference Schedule

8:30 a.m. - Registration and Continental Breakfast

9:05 a.m. - Welcome and Overview

Rebecca H. White, Dean and J. Alton Hosch Professor of Law
University of Georgia School of Law

C. Ronald Ellington, A. Gus Cleveland Chair of Legal Ethics and Professionalism
University of Georgia School of Law

9:15 a.m. - Keynote Address

Geoffrey C. Hazard, Jr., Trustee Professor
University of Pennsylvania School of Law

9:45 a.m. - Advocacy in the Court of Public Opinion (Part I)

Erica Hashimoto, Moderator
Assistant Professor
University of Georgia School of Law

David K. Balser
McKenna, Long & Aldridge, LLP

Paul Butler
Professor of Law
The George Washington University School of Law

Peter C. Canfield
Dow, Lohnes & Albertson, PLLC

Bruce S. Harvey
Attorney at Law

Sally Q. Yates
First Assistant U.S. Attorney, Northern District of Georgia

10:45 a.m. - Break

11:00 a.m. – Advocacy in the Court of Public Opinion (Part II)

Lonnie T. Brown, Jr., Moderator
Associate Professor
University of Georgia School of Law

Kenneth S. Canfield
Doffermyre Shields Canfield Knowles & Devine, LLC

Linda K. DiSantis
City Attorney for Atlanta

Joseph R. Gladden
Former General Counsel of The Coca-Cola Company

Robert L. Rothman
Arnall Golden & Gregory, LLP

Larry D. Thompson
General Counsel of PepsiCo and Former U.S. Deputy Attorney General

12:00 - 1:15 p.m. - Lunch

Speaker: Adam Liptak, National Legal Correspondent
The New York Times

1:30 p.m. – Legal Commentary in the Court of Public Opinion

Ronald L. Carlson, Moderator
Fuller E. Callaway Chair of Law Emeritus
University of Georgia School of Law

Brenda Joy "B.J." Bernstein
The Bernstein Firm

S. Richard Gard, Jr.
President, Legal Communications Corp. (St. Louis) and Former Editor and Publisher,
Fulton County Daily Report

William Lee, Ph.D.
Professor
University of Georgia Grady College of Journalism & Mass Communication

Laurie L. Levenson
Professor of Law, William M. Rains Fellow and Director
Center for Ethical Advocacy, Loyola Los Angeles Law School

David C. Vigilante
Turner Broadcasting System, Inc.

2:45 p.m. – Break

3:00 p.m. – Judging in the Court of Public Opinion

C. Ronald Ellington, Moderator
A. Gus Cleveland Chair of Legal Ethics & Professionalism
University of Georgia School of Law

Honorable Thomas Penfield Jackson
Former Judge
U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia

Honorable William C. O’Kelley
Senior Judge
U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia

Honorable Carol W. Hunstein
Supreme Court of Georgia

Honorable Hilton Fuller
Senior Judge
DeKalb County Superior Court

Geoffrey C. Hazard, Jr.
Trustee Professor
University of Pennsylvania School of Law

4:15 p.m. – Questions and Answers

4:30 p.m. – Adjourn

Registration Information

Early Registration Fee = \$150.00

On-Site Registration Fee = \$170.00

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The forms are in PDF format and require Adobe Acrobat Reader to view, complete and print. [Click here to obtain Adobe Acrobat Reader](#)

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