SONJA R. WEST

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

The University of Georgia School of Law
Associate Professor of Law
Assistant Professor of Law

Athens, Georgia 2010 to present 2006 to 2010

Courses: Constitutional Law I, Constitutional Law II, Media Law The U.S. Supreme Court: Current Term, The Press & the Constitution

The University of Alabama School of Law	Tuscaloosa, Alabama
Hugo Black Faculty Fellow	Jan., 2005 to May, 2006

Teaching fellowship for former U.S. Supreme Court law clerks *Courses*: Constitutional Law and Media Law

JUDICIAL CLERKSHIPS

- Law Clerk The Honorable John Paul Stevens, Supreme Court of the United States, Washington, D.C. 1999-2000
- Law Clerk The Honorable Dorothy W. Nelson, United States Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit; Pasadena, Cal. 1998-1999

EDUCATION

University of Chicago Law School; J.D. with High Honors. *June 1998* Honors: Order of the Coif; Executive Editor, *The University of Chicago Law Review*; John M. Olin Fellowship in Law and Economics: Tony Patino Fellow

University of Iowa; B.A. with Honors and Distinction. May 1993
Double Major: Journalism and Communication Studies
Honors: Honors Collegiate Scholar and Honors Collegiate Scholar Student
Speaker; Phi Beta Kappa, Omicron Delta Kappa and Mortar Board Honor
Societies; inaugural recipient of *The Daily Iowan* Scholarship

ARTICLES AND ESSAYS

- The "Press," Then & Now, 77 OHIO STATE L. J. ____ (forthcoming 2016)
- *Student Press Exceptionalism*, 2 EDUC. L. & POL'Y REV. (forthcoming 2015) (peer invited and reviewed symposium.)
- *Press Exceptionalism*, 127 HARV. L. REV. 2434 (2014) (invited symposium)
- The Stealth Press Clause, 48 GA. L. REV. 730 (2014) (invited symposium)
- *First Amendment Neighbors*, 66 ALA. L. REV 357 (2014) (invited symposium)
- Monster in the Courtroom, 2012 BYU L. REV. 1953 (invited symposium)
- Awakening the Press Clause, 58 UCLA L. REV. 1025 (2011)
- The Story of Us: Resolving the Face-off Between Autobiographical Speech and Privacy, 67 WASH. & LEE L. REV. 589 (2010)
- *No Civilized System of Justice*, 11 GREEN BAG 521 (2008) (invited book review of *The Day Freedom Died*, Charles Lane)
- Sanctionable Conduct: How the Supreme Court Stealthily Opened the Schoolhouse Gate, 12 LEWIS & CLARK L. REV. 27 (2008) (invited symposium)
- *The Story of Me: The Underprotection of Autobiographical Speech*, 84 WASH. U. L. REV. 905 (2006)
- *Concurring in Part & Concurring in the Confusion*, 104 MICH. L. REV. (2006)
- *"Possessing with Intent to Distribute" Under the Schoolyard Statute*, 64 U. CHI. L. REV. 1399 (1997)

SHORTER WORKS

- A Constitutional Challenge to NYC's Ban on Dancing, HUFFINGTON POST, April 30, 2015, <u>http://www.huffingtonpost.com/sonja-west/a-constitutional-challeng_b_7181186.html</u>
- *Shadow Trial*, SLATE, Nov. 26, 2014, http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/jurisprudence/2014/11/fer guson_grand_jury_investigation_a_shadow_trial_violates_the_public_s_rig ht.html (with Dahlia Lithwick)
- *Stop Draggin' My Heart Around*, SLATE, Oct. 9, 2014, http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/jurisprudence/2014/10/sup reme_court_gay_marriage_chaos_which_states_allow_same_sex_marriage. html (with Dahlia Lithwick)

- Advice for Ferguson from the Supreme Court, SLATE, Aug. 19, 2014, http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/jurisprudence/2014/08/fer guson_protesters_rebrand_yourselves_as_sidewalk_counselors.html (with Dahlia Lithwick)
- *Quick Change Justice*, SLATE, July 4, 2014, http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/jurisprudence/2014/07/wh eaton_college_injunction_the_supreme_court_just_sneakily_reversed_itself .html (with Dahlia Lithwick)
- *Censorship 101*, SLATE, Dec. 6, 2013, http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/jurisprudence/2013/12/wh en_you_censor_student_speech_you_re_mostly_teaching_kids_to_live_wit h.html
- *Texas Hold 'Em*, SLATE, Sept. 11, 2013, http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/jurisprudence/2013/09/tex as_and_gay_marriage_will_texas_refusal_to_grant_divorces_to_same_sex. html (with Dahlia Lithwick)
- *What is Anthony Kennedy Thinking*?, SLATE, June 12, 2013, http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/jurisprudence/2013/06/ant hony_kennedy_s_gay_marriage_views_the_supreme_court_justice_may_se e_banning.html
- *Rare Supreme Court photos offer brief connection to the Constitution in action,* GEORGIA LAW ADVOCATE MAGAZINE 47:1 at 8-10 (2013)
- Smile for the Camera: The long lost photos of the Supreme Court at work and what they reveal, SLATE, Oct. 1, 2012, http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/jurisprudence/2012/10/the supreme_court_forbids_cameras_in_the_courtroom_but_twice_rogue_pho tographers_have_snapped_a_picture_of_the_justices_at_work_.html
- Judge Not: Why won't progressives fight for federal judges?, SLATE, Oct. 24, 2011, http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/jurisprudence/2011/10/wh y won t progressives fight for federal judges .html
- Unplugged: When do Supreme Court justices need to just sit down and be quiet?, SLATE, Dec. 14, 2010, <u>http://www.slate.com/id/2277915/</u> (with Dahlia Lithwick)
- *The Law of Student Journalism in the Information Age*, Education Law Association, Nov. 11, 2010 (with Frank LeMonte, et al)
- *Constitutional Interpretation: There's No App for That,* SLATE, June 23, 2010, <u>http://www.slate.com/id/2257941/</u>
- *The Least Popular Dissent*, SCOTUSblog, May 4, 2010, http://www.scotusblog.com/2010/05/the-least-popular-dissent/
- *The Unsung Empathy of Justice Stevens,* SLATE, April 9, 2010, http://www.slate.com/id/2250370/ (with Dahlia Lithwick)

- Some Hot-Button Issues, 29 NAT'L L.J. 8 (2008)
- *A Conservative Shift*, 29 NAT'L L.J. 32 (2007)
- *Post*-Bartnicki v. Vopper: *Matters of "Public Concern,"* LDRC BULLETIN 55 (Libel Defense Resource Center, New York, NY) March 27, 2002 (with Theodore J. Boutrous, Jr.)
- *Reporter's Privilege: 9th Cir.*, in REPORTER'S PRIVILEGE COMPENDIUM 09-1 (Reporter's Committee for Freedom of the Press ed. 2002) (with Theodore J. Boutrous, Jr.)
- *Update: Latest Development in* Boehner v. McDermott, LDRC LIBELLETTER 21 (Libel Defense Resource Center, New York, NY), January 2002
- *Factual Misstatements,* in INTERNET AND ONLINE LAW 3-1 (Kent D. Stuckey ed., 2001) (with Theodore J. Boutrous, Jr. and Jarrert D. Arp)
- *Survey of California Libel Law* in MEDIA LIBEL LAW 262 (Libel Defense Resource Center ed., 2001) (with Theodore J. Boutrous, Jr. and Rex Heinke)
- Supreme Court: Courts May Review Punitive Damage Awards De Novo, LDRC LIBELLETTER 13 (Libel Defense Resource Center, New York, NY), June 13, 2001 (with Theodore J. Boutrous, Jr. and Thomas H. Dupree, Jr.)

PRESENTATIONS AND PANELS

- Speaker, "Non-Media Speech: Is it Free?" Federalist Society Teleforum (May 15, 2015)
- "The 'Press,' Then & Now," Freedom of Expression Scholars Conference, Yale Law School, New Haven, CT (May 2, 2015)
- Panelist, "Important Cases of the United States Supreme Court's 2014 Term," Georgia Political Review, Athens, GA (
- "The 'Press,' Then & Now," Tulane Law School, New Orleans, LA (Sept. 29, 2014)
- Panelist, "The Press, the Supreme Court and the Constitution," Chicago-Kent Law School, Chicago, IL (Sept. 9, 2014)
- Keynote speaker, Phi Beta Kappa Georgia chapter initiation, Athens, GA (April 29, 2014)
- Panelist, "Supreme Sunshine: Shining a Light on the High Court," NYU-Washington, Washington, DC (March 21, 2014) (broadcast on C-SPAN)
- "First Amendment Neighbors," Alabama Law Review Symposium on the 50th Anniversary of New York Times v. Sullivan, Tuscaloosa, AL (March 1, 2014)
- "Press Exceptionalism," *Harvard Law Review* Symposium on Press Freedom, Cambridge, MA (Feb. 15, 2014)

- "Press Exceptionalism," University of Georgia Law School, Athens, GA (Nov. 20, 2013)
- "The Stealth Press Clause," *Georgia Law Review* Symposium on the 50th Anniversary of *New York Times v. Sullivan*, Athens, GA (Nov. 6, 2013) (broadcast on C-SPAN)
- Introductory Speaker and Moderator, Justice John Paul Stevens' Key Note Address, *Georgia Law Review* Symposium on the 50th Anniversary of *New York Times v. Sullivan*, Athens, GA (Nov. 6, 2013)
- Moderator, "Supreme Court Cases and Issues," SCOTUSblog conference, University of Georgia, Athens, GA (Sept. 9, 2013) (broadcast on C-SPAN)
- "The Stealth Press Clause," the Southeastern Association of Law Schools Annual Conference, (Aug. 9, 2013)
- "Press Exceptionalism," Freedom of Expression Scholars Conference, Yale Law School, New Haven, CT (May 4, 2013)
- "Press Exceptionalism," Association of American Law Schools Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA (Jan. 5, 2013) (winner of the Sections on Internet & Computer Law and Mass Communications Call for Papers)
- "The Uneasy Relationship between United States Supreme Court Justices and Cameras," Israeli Law and Society Association Annual Conference, Tel Aviv, Israel (Dec. 19, 2012)
- "The Obama Administration and Federal District Court Judgeships," on panel titled, "President Obama and the Courts," Southeastern Association of Law Schools Annual Conference, (July 31, 2012)
- "Press Exceptionalism," Emory Law School and the University of Georgia School of Law Works-in-Progress Conference (June 27, 2012)
- "Monster in the Courtroom," University of Georgia Honors Lunchbox Lecture, Athens, GA (Feb. 16, 2012)
- "Monster in the Courtroom" at Brigham Young University Law Review symposium titled "The Press, the Public, and the U.S. Supreme Court," Provo, UT (Jan. 24, 2012)
- "In Support of a Narrow Interpretation of 'Press'," Southeastern Association of Law Schools Conference, Hilton Head, SC (July 24, 2011)
- Panelist, "Game Over: Violent Video Games and Juvenile Crimes," Working in the Public Interest Conference, Athens, GA (April 2, 2011)
- Speaker, "Hasta La Vista, Bloodshed: First Amendment Concerns with Schwarzenegger's Ban on Violent Games," American Constitution Society and the Entertainment Law Society, Athens, GA (Feb. 16, 2011)
- Panelist, "Mortal Kombat: How Video Game Violence Could Shape the 21st Century First Amendment," Vance Forum, Atlanta, GA (Feb. 7, 2011)

- Panelist, "The Law of Student Journalism in the Information Age," Education Law Association Annual Conference, Vancouver, BC (Nov. 11, 2010)
- "The Empathy of Justice Stevens," Southeastern Association of Law Schools Conference, Palm Beach, FL (Aug. 1, 2010)
- "Awakening the Press Clause," Emory Law School and the University of Georgia School of Law Works-in-Progress Conference, Atlanta, GA (July 13, 2010)
- "Awakening the Press Clause," Georgia State Law School, Atlanta, GA (April 2010)
- Panelist, "Media and the Public Interest" for the UGA Law School Working in the Public Interest Conference, Athens, GA (Feb. 27, 2010)
- "Fringe Protection Absolutism," PrawfsFest!, Southwestern Law School, Los Angeles, CA (Dec. 4, 2009)
- Speaker, "Issues in Reproductive Law," UGA Law Students for Reproductive Justice (Nov. 11, 2009).
- "The Story of Us: The Face-Off Between Autobiographical Speech and Privacy," Southeastern Association of Law Schools Conference, Palm Beach, FL (July 28, 2008)
- Speaker, Federalist Society's Event with Alan Gura, Athens, GA (Feb. 24, 2009)
- Panelist, "Law and Media," Emory Public Interest Conference, Atlanta, GA (Oct. 13, 2007)
- Panelist, "Race & Education: A Discussion on Diversity, Desegregation, and American Education Policy," Athens, GA (Feb. 22, 2007)
- Panelist, American Constitution Society and the Federalist Society's joint event on Constitution Day discussing the importance of judicial independence (Sept. 19, 2006)
- Speaker, "Scalia and Textualism" UGA Federalist Society program, Athens, GA (Sept. 1, 2006)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

American Association of Law Schools Section on Mass Communication Law (2013-2016) (Chair, Chair-Elect and Treasurer), Lead pro bono counsel for the Student Press Law Center, et al., as amicus curiae in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court of the United States in the case of Morse v. Frederick (2007), Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States (2007 – present), State of California Bar (2001 – present)

UNIVERSITY AND LAW SCHOOL SERVICE AND COMMITTEES

University of Georgia Libraries Committee (2015), Law Library Committee (2014-2015), Promotions and Tenure Ad-Hoc Committee (2014-2015), Third-Year Review Committees (2013, 2014), Faculty Recruitment Committee (2012-2013), University Program Review and Assessment Committee (2011-2013), Student Affairs Committee (2011-2012) (Chair), Law School Judicial Clerkship Program (2010-2011) (Faculty advisor), Student Affairs Committee (2008-2010), Law Library Director Search Committee (Spring, 2010), Peabody Awards (2007, 2011, 2012) (Faculty Judge), Russell Undergraduate Teaching Awards Committee (2010-2012), OUTLaws (2008-present) (Faculty Advisor), Brumby Chair Search Committee (2007), Facilities/ Law Library/Technology committee (2006-2007),

MEDIA

Commentator on legal issues for various news media outlets such as *The New York Times, The National Law Journal,* MSNBC's *The Last Word with Lawrence O'Donnell, Slate, Bloomberg News, Huffington Post, The Guardian, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, The Boston Globe,* National Public Radio and Public Radio International.