

Tulane University

5th Annual Political Economy & Access to Justice Judicial Education Seminar (PEAJJES)

JUSTICE AND THE RULE OF LAW: THE FUNCTIONS OF JUDICIAL DECISION-MAKING

The concept of justice is central to the work of judges not only because of the roles judges play in administering justice but also because of the roles judicial decision-making plays in shaping the legal, social, and economic structures that engender just and orderly societies. The 5th Annual Political Economy and Access to Justice Judicial Education Seminar brings the concept of justice and the varying functions of judicial-decision-making into relief to contemplate what happens when these functions fail or are at risk of failing in a constitutional republic. The seminar offers participants frameworks for exploring these questions in relation to broad ethical and philosophical themes, such as judicial independence and public confidence, as well as in relation to issues that impact the material conditions of people's daily lives, including permitting and licensing, civil forfeiture, affordable housing shortages, land use and loss, financial security, and public safety. *To register, visit www.peajjes.com. For more information, email peajjes@tulane.edu, or call (985) 497-5508.*

9.5 (1.5 ethics) CLE credits have been approved by the Louisiana State Bar and 10 (1.25 ethics) CLE credits have been approved by the State Bar of Texas. Applications for CLE credits are pending with the Alabama State Bar and Mississippi Bar.

2027 Schedule

Day 1: January 8, 2027

Session I (1 Hour)

9:00AM-10:00AM

Welcome and Introduction: How Judicial Decision-Making and Political Economy Interact

Gary A. Hoover, PhD, Professor of Economics and Executive Director of The Murphy Institute

Professor Hoover is the Executive Director of The Murphy Institute and Professor of Economics at Tulane University. His research focuses on the intersection of economics, race, and public policy. He is the current and founding editor of

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the *Journal of Economics, Race and Policy*, past Vice-President of the Southern Economic Association, and a fellow of CESifo Group Munich.

Professor Hoover's recent book, *Ladder or Lottery: Economic Promises and the Reality of Who Gets Ahead* (2025) situates the study of political economy in relation to the notion of "social contracts," the idea that people in America act, with anticipated outcomes that may or may not materialize, to achieve upward social and economic movement. This study, and Professor Hoover's broader expertise, will serve as bases for introducing participants to the concept of political economy and illustrating how this economic theory interacts with broad theories of justice and judicial decision-making.

10:00-10:15AM

Break and Evaluation

SESSION II (1.5 Hours)

10:15-11:45M

(Re) Paving the Way: Understanding the Relationship between Driver's License Suspension and Financial Stability, and Modeling Practicable Processes for Restoring Suspended Privileges

In *Wooley v. Maynard*, 430 U.S. 705 (1977), the United States Supreme Court recognized a protected property interest in possessing a driver's license and underscored the role that having a valid driver's license plays in fostering financial stability. The economic consequences of not being able legally to drive are, thus, potentially dire. In recognition of this fact, many jurisdictions, in partnership with corporate sponsors, have launched successful drivers license restoration programs. This session considers the success of one such program operating in the state of Louisiana. As well it discusses the social and economic logic of license restoration and the various ways that scaling and implementing license restoration programs benefit society.

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Presenters:

Honorable (Ret) Regina Bartholomew-Woods, 4th Circuit Court of Appeal, State of Louisiana

The Honorable Regina Bartholomew-Woods (ret.), a native of New Orleans, obtained her Bachelor of Arts Degree in English, with a minor in Political Science from Southern University at New Orleans in 1994. She earned her Juris Doctorate degree from Loyola University College of Law in 1999, where she ranked in the top 20% of her graduating class. She was admitted to the Louisiana State Bar in 1999.

A four-year PEAJJES veteran, Judge Bartholomew-Woods currently serves as an Assistant General Counsel with Energy Services, LLC, a utility corporation headquartered in New Orleans, Louisiana. Under the leadership of Judge Bartholomew-Woods, Energy has, in partnership with Second Parish Court in Jefferson Parish, hosted several successful license restoration programs.

Judge Bartholomew-Woods retired from the Louisiana Judiciary, serving as an Appellate Court Judge at the Louisiana Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal, as well as a former Civil Trial Court Judge at the Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans. Prior to the judiciary, Judge Bartholomew-Woods served as *Of Counsel* with the law firm of Boykin, Ehret & Utey, APLC. Her prior employment included serving as General Counsel for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools in Charlotte, North Carolina, as well as the Orleans Parish School Board; Staff Attorney with McGlinchey Stafford, PLLC; an attorney in private practice with several law firms, and a trial attorney with the United States Government at the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of the Solicitor in Dallas, Texas.

Judge Bartholomew-Woods is married to Jimmie Woods, Sr., and is a mother to three (3) sons: United States Air Force Captain David Bartholomew, IV, Reginald Bartholomew, and Jimmie Woods, Jr.

Honorable Sharlayne Jackson-Prevost, Second Parish Court, State of Louisiana, Division A

Judge Sharlayne Jackson-Prevost was born in Marrero, Louisiana and is a lifelong resident of Jefferson Parish. She is a graduate of O. Perry Walker High School, Southern University at New Orleans and Southern University Law Center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana in 2003.

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While in law school, Judge Prevost worked for Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans as a law clerk. She also worked as student attorney for the Innocence Project of New Orleans.

Following law school, Judge Prevost entered into private practice and served as the Executive Director of Making Great Strides, a non-profit organization which bridged the gap for high school students from high school to college. Her practice consisted of personal injury, criminal, domestic and civil litigation.

Judge Jackson-Prevost was elected as the First African American Judge of Second Parish Court for the Parish of Jefferson, Division “A”, in 2020. She has coordinated successful driver’s license restoration seminars for residents of Jefferson Parish.

Daniel E. Stainkamp, Esq., Associate, WilmerHale

Daniel Stainkamp, Esq., focuses his practice on complex litigation matters. Before joining WilmerHale, Mr. Stainkamp worked as an Intake Manager and Law Clerk at a North Carolina-based legal service platform, where he liaised with attorneys to prepare client case files, managed daily intakes, and consulted clients regarding high-level offenses. He also previously served as Editorial Coordinator, Trial Manager, and Researcher at a litigation support firm, where he compiled juror data for civil litigation trials and developed client education presentations and training materials. A graduate of the University of North Carolina School of Law, Mr. Stainkamp is the author of *Auto-Jubilee: A Case for Massive Automatic Driver’s License Restoration for Debtor-Suspendees* (2023) and *Closer to the Heart: A Proposal to Reduce Police Involvement in Involuntary Commitment in North Carolina* (2025).

11:30-11:45AM

Break and Evaluation

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SESSION III (1.25 Hours)

11:45AM-1:00PM

Housing Security and Public Safety: Bedfellows in Crime Prevention

Research on the economics of crime and crime prevention consistently identifies affordable housing and housing security as important factors in stabilizing communities and keeping communities safe. This session considers the effects of housing shortages on families and children; how access to affordable housing intersects with access to other community needs, including quality healthcare; and how current affordable housing crises impact neighborhood crime.

Presenter:

Williams P. Quigley, Esq., Emeritus Professor of Law, Loyola University New Orleans College of Law

Bill Quigley is an emeritus professor of law. He served as Director of the Law Clinic and the Gillis Long Poverty Law Center at Loyola University New Orleans for more than 30 years. Professor Quigley has been an active public interest and human rights lawyer since 1977. He has served as counsel with a wide range of public interest organizations on issues including Katrina social justice issues, public housing, voting rights, death penalty, living wage, human rights, civil liberties, educational reform, constitutional rights and civil disobedience. He has litigated numerous cases with the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc., the Advancement Project, and with the ACLU of Louisiana, where he was General Counsel for over 15 years. He has been an active lawyer with School of the Americas Watch and the Institute for Justice and Democracy in Haiti. He served as Legal Director of the Center for Constitutional Rights in NYC from 2009 to 2011 before returning to Loyola.

Professor Quigley teaches in the Law Clinic and teaches courses in Law and Poverty, Social Justice Lawyering, and Catholic Social Teaching and Law. His research and writing has focused on community lawyering, living wage, the right to a job, legal services, community organizing as part of effective lawyering, civil disobedience, high stakes testing, international human rights, revolutionary lawyering and a continuing history of how the laws have regulated the poor

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since colonial times. He has served as an advisor on human and civil rights to Human Rights Watch USA, Amnesty International USA, and served as the Chair of the Louisiana Advisory Committee to the US Commission on Civil Rights.

Professor Quigley is the author of *Ending Poverty As We Know It: Guaranteeing A Right to A Job At A Living Wage* (2003) and *Storms Still Raging: Katrina, New Orleans and Social Justice* (2008).

1:00-1:15PM

Break and Evaluation

SESSION IV (1.25 Hours)

1:15-2:30PM

To Seize or Not to Seize, To Pay or Not to Pay: Fines, Fees, and Forfeitures

The Eight Amendment to the United States Constitution provides that “excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.” Restitution, in the context of state and federal criminal law, refers to the mechanism through which people convicted of financial crimes, or crimes that cause victims to incur financial loss, repay ill-gotten gains and/or compensate victims for their losses. Civil forfeiture statutes permit the government to seize property believed to be involved in the commission of a crime, regardless of whether a criminally accused person has been found guilty. This session considers the broad legal, social, and economic implications of restitution and civil forfeiture laws for victims of crimes and alleged criminal perpetrators who have not been convicted.

Presenter:

Bart Wilson, PhD, Donald P. Kennedy Chair in Economics and Law Director, Smith Institute for Political Economy and Philosophy

Dr. Wilson is Professor of Economics and a founding member of the Economic Science Institute and founding member and Director of the Smith Institute for Political Economy and Philosophy at Chapman University. His research uses

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experimental economics to explore the foundations of exchange and specialization and the origins of property. Dr. Wilson has published papers in the *American Economic Review*, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, *Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*, and *Nature Human Behaviour*. His research has been supported with grants from the National Science Foundation and the Federal Trade Commission. In 2019 he co-authored with Vernon Smith a Cambridge University Press book entitled, *Humanomics: Moral Sentiments and the Wealth of Nations for the Twenty-First Century*. He is also the author of *Meaningful Economics: Making the Science of Prosperity More Human* and *The Property Species: Mine, Yours, and the Human Mind*, both published by Oxford University Press.

2:30-2:45PM

Evaluation

SESSION V (1.25 Hours)

2:45-4:00PM

The Cost of Removal: Examining the Relations Among Tort, Environmental, and Federal Removal Law

This session uses the U.S. Supreme Court's recent unanimous decision in *Chevron USA Inc. et. al. v. Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, et. al.* 24-813 (2026), as a case study for unpacking and analyzing the complex relations among tort, environmental, and federal removal law. While the Court unanimously affirmed the right of corporations that privately contract with the federal government to remove lawsuits filed against them in state court to federal court and to assert preemption, it did not reach the merits of claims brought against Chevron, and, thus, left open the question of whether liability for alleged damage to Louisiana's coast rests with the corporation. The implications of the Court's procedural ruling are broad-ranging for corporate litigants, coastal residents, and environmentalists.

Presenter:

Alessandra Jerolleman, PhD, JD, MPA, CFM, Director of Research, Center on Environment, Land and Law, Loyola University New Orleans College of Law

Dr. Jerolleman is a subject matter expert in climate adaptation, hazard mitigation, and resilience with a long history of

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working in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors. She is involved in various aspects of planning and policy and the national and local level, including participation in several workshops each year. Her experience includes the following: conducting independent research on disaster risk reduction and hazard mitigation for various organizations; working on resilience initiatives for the First Peoples' Conservation Council, through her role with the Lowlander Center on coastal community resettlement; community-based resilience planning across the United States; working with Save the Children USA along the Gulf Coast following hurricanes and tornadoes, on a resilience initiative around children's needs in emergencies; hazard mitigation planning at the local, state and campus level; community education and outreach regarding mitigation measures and preparedness; development of collaborative networks and information sharing avenues among practitioners; and, delivery of training and education to various stakeholders.

Dr. Jerolleman recently published "Disaster Recovery Through the Lens of Justice" and is the co-author of two textbooks, *Natural Hazard Mitigation* and *The Private Sector's Role in Disasters*, both published by CRC Press.

4:00-4:30PM

Evaluations and Afternoon Winddown

5:30PM

Dinner Debriefing and Social Gathering—Irene's, 529 Bienville Street, New Orleans 70130

Day 2: January 9, 2027

8:30AM-9:00AM

Registration and Breakfast

SESSION VI (1.25 Hours)

9:00-10:15AM

Banks and Security: Protecting the Financial Interests of Children in Foster Care

Children in the custody of the state due to parental abuse or neglect have, arguably, heightened need for financial protection. This session considers how a wide variety of funds-holding mechanisms, including children's savings

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accounts, tax-advantaged savings accounts, and public trust accounts, can be used to protect children subject to foster care.

Presenter:

William Elliott, III, PhD, Professor of Social Work, Director Doctoral Programs, University of Michigan

Dr. William Elliott is a leading researcher in the fields of college savings accounts, college debt, and wealth inequality. Shaped by his personal roots in poverty in a small steel mill city in Pennsylvania, Professor Elliott pursues challenging individual beliefs and cultural values that surround funding for college, student debt, inequality, systemic patterns of poverty, and educational justice. Being refined in poverty allows him to approach questions in his research differently. Some of the college savings account programs he is currently conducting research on are the Oakland Promise in California, Prosperity Kids in New Mexico, K2C in San Francisco, Promise Indiana, and the Harold Alfond College challenge in Maine. He's published in journals such as Economics and Education Review, Journal of Poverty, Race and Social Problems, Educational Policy, and his most recent book is, "Making Education Work for the Poor: The Potential of Children's Savings Accounts". His research adds fuel to debates about how to imagine ways of financing college other than by student debt. He believes that there are real possibilities and his research bears this out. He asks if college education can truly be the great equalizer it is meant to be when wealth inequality remains the defining feature of American society. He calls for the next great wealth transfer in America. The seemingly naive premise behind Professor Elliott's research is that there are better, more effective, and more just ways of financing college and delivering on the promise of the American dream. He suggests people must just be shown once again that more is possible

10:15-10:30AM

Evaluations & Break

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SESSION VII (1.25 Hours)

10:30AM-11:45AM

“Judicial Fidelity” and Judicial Decision-Making: Upholding the Ideals of Justice

This session considers the long history of scrutiny to which the judiciary has been subjected in relation to recent challenges to judicial competency and independence by legislative and executive branches. The session underscores why faithfulness to transparency, accuracy, and clarity in how judges interpret the law and render decisions is vital to upholding the rule of law.

Presenter:

***Discussions are ongoing to confirm a speaker for this session.**

11:45AM-NOON

Evaluations and Break

SESSION VIII (1.25 Hours)

12:00PM-1:15PM

Order in the Court: Using AI to Promote Efficiency and Professionalism

As Artificial Intelligence continues rapidly to evolve and to impact every sector of society, the need for practical know-how regarding the professional, ethical, and efficient use of AI by judges and lawyers increases. This session considers the myriad ways that AI affects the day-to-day work of judges and lawyers. It offers insight into how the use of AI can build greater precision and cost-efficiency into judicial case management, while strengthening professional interactions among stakeholders in the justice system.

Presenter:

Hon. Martin B. (Marty) McGee, Senior Resident, Superior Court Judge, North Carolina, RAILS Fellow, Duke University

Martin B. (Marty) McGee is the Senior Resident Superior Court Judge in Judicial District 19A (Cabarrus County, North Carolina) and serves as the chief administrator of justice in his community. He was elected in November 2014 to his

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current position. Prior to serving on the Superior Court Bench, Judge McGee served as a District Court Judge in Judicial District 19A from October 2000 until January 2014. He was originally appointed to that position by North Carolina's Governor and retained the position in three subsequent elections. As a District Court Judge, Judge McGee heard tens of thousands of cases involving family law, misdemeanor criminal cases, infractions, other civil cases, and pleas in lower-level felonies in some of North Carolina's busiest courtrooms. He also served on the Education Committee for the Association of District Court Judges and regularly taught continuing judicial and legal education courses. As a Superior Court Judge, he has held court in more than 40 counties. He has presided over various types of civil matters including being appointed by the Chief Justice to three three-judge panels to address constitutional challenges to laws passed by the General Assembly.

In addition to his service on the bench, Judge McGee currently serves as a fellow in the inaugural cohort of Duke University's Responsible AI in Legal Services (RAILS) program. In concert with the Duke Center on Law & Technology, RAILS fellows innovate development of responsible AI initiatives in legal services through research, resource creation, policy development, public engagement, and applied innovation.

1:15PM-1:45PM

Summative Evaluations and Closing