

# Legal Clinic – Supreme Court Information Packet

*This year-long clinic provides pro bono legal representation before the U.S. Supreme Court, giving students the opportunity to work closely with experienced attorneys to identify cases of interest, research legal issues, and draft Supreme Court briefs.*

## Supervising Professors:

William Consovoy

Tom McCarthy

J. Michael Connolly

## Course & Credit Available:

Law 185: This is a year-long letter graded course providing two (2) in-class credits in the fall and in the spring semester.



Updated December 2016

## **Overview**

The Legal Clinic – Supreme Court provides *pro bono* legal representation before the United States Supreme Court. The year-long clinic provides George Mason law students with the opportunity to work closely with experienced attorneys to identify cases of interest, research legal issues, and draft Supreme Court briefs on behalf of parties and *amici* at both the *certiorari* and merits stages. In addition to working with attorneys on Supreme Court cases, students accepted into the clinic will receive classroom instruction, analyze federal and state appellate decisions for possible litigation opportunities, and attend at least one Supreme Court argument per Term.

## **Educational Objectives of the Legal Clinic – Supreme Court**

The Legal Clinic – Supreme Court is designed to meet the objectives of the American Bar Association’s Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar for professional skills training, live-client or other real life experiences, and study outside of the classroom. The teaching of “professional skills” involves teaching and evaluating law student performance on real cases or problems, with the goal of mastering basic lawyering skills, professional responsibility, substantive and procedural law and the theory of legal practice.

## **Student Requirements & Responsibilities**

1. Students must complete one academic year of legal education and Constitutional Law I: Structure of Government to be eligible to apply for the clinic.
2. Application and permission of Professors Consovoy, McCarthy and Connolly is required for registration in the clinic. Applications for the clinic will be solicited in March or April each year. Students will be

notified, via the student listservs, of the date when applications may be submitted. If selected to participate, students must enroll in the clinic for the fall and spring semesters of the upcoming academic year. The clinic is a year-long, letter graded class, with two credits awarded each semester.

3. No compensation may be received for work performed in the clinic.
4. Students will work under the supervision of Professors Consovoy, McCarthy and Connolly are expected to assist with identifying cases of interest, researching legal issues, and drafting Supreme Court briefs on behalf of parties and *amici* at both the *certiorari* and merits stages.
5. Students must attend at least one Supreme Court argument during the semester.