



AMERICAN
CONSTITUTION
SOCIETY FOR
LAW AND POLICY

2009 ACS National Convention Wrap-Up

ACS Honors Authors, Top Chapters, Public Interest Lawyers at ACS Convention

***Winners Announced for \$10,000 ACS David Carliner Public Interest Award,
Richard D. Cudahy Writing Competition, Others***

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Washington, D.C. – The American Constitution Society for Law and Policy (ACS) presented the first ever ACS David Carliner Public Interest Award, carrying a \$10,000 cash prize, to **Tim Freilich** of the Legal Aid Justice Center of Charlottesville, Va. for his extraordinary commitment to immigrants’ rights. ACS recognized many other top scholars, practitioners and students at a Saturday, June 22 banquet, capping the 2009 ACS National Convention, with featured keynote remarks by *Keeping Faith with the Constitution* co-author Prof. **Pamela Karlan** of Stanford Law School.

The full slate of award winners is listed below:

The ACS David Carliner Public Interest Award: Honoring the memory of David Carliner (1918-2007), one of the great public interest lawyers of the 20th century.

- Winner, **Tim Freilich**, Legal Aid Justice Center, presented the first ever Carliner Award by Mr. Carliner’s daughter **Deborah Carliner**.
- Other finalists for the Carliner Award were **Ahilan T. Arulanantham**, ACLU of Southern California, Los Angeles; **Monica Ramirez**, Southern Poverty Law Center, Atlanta; **Shirin Sinnar**, Asian Law Caucus, San Francisco Bay Area; and **McGregor Smyth**, The Bronx Defenders, New York City.

The Richard D. Cudahy Writing Competition: Rewarding the top lawyer and student papers that best reflect Seventh Circuit Judge Richard Cudahy’s deep insight into the institutional forces that determine how doctrine is implemented, and appreciation of the public impact of doctrinal and institutional choices. Each winner received a \$1,500 cash prize.

- The winning entry in the lawyer category is “Standing for the Public: A Lost History,” written by **Elizabeth Magill**, the Joseph Weintraub Distinguished

Professor at the University of Virginia School of Law and the Roscoe Pound Visiting Professor at Harvard Law School.

- The winning student entry is “Litigation-Fostered Bureaucratic Autonomy: Exploring the Institutional Roots of a Post-*Chevron* Moment in Administrative Law and Politics,” written by **Dan Walters**, a law student and graduate student at the University of Wisconsin-Madison Department of Political Science and the University of Wisconsin Law School.

The National Student Writing Competition: Honoring the top contributions on the topic “Liberty, Security and Democracy in Our Evolving Society.” The winning article will be published in the *University of Pennsylvania Journal of Constitutional Law*, which co-sponsored the competition.

- The winning submission was “*Doniger v. Niehoff*: An Example of Public Schools’ Paternalism and the Off-Campus Restriction of Students’ First Amendment Rights,” by **Nathan Fronk**, Marquette University School of Law.
- Runners-up in this year’s competition were “Standing in the Way of Cooperation: Citizen Standing and Compliance with International Environmental Agreements,” by **Neil Gormley**, Harvard Law School, and “Imputing Sexual Intent to Minors: The Case for an Age-Based Exception,” by **Stephanie Holmes**, The University of Chicago Law School.

The Constance Baker Motley National Moot Court Competition: The final two teams, whittled from 130 competitors from 45 law schools, sparred over questions about the ability of U.S. Citizens to invoke the jurisdiction of federal courts to challenge warrantless wiretapping by the federal government. The championship round took place at the 2009 ACS National Convention, and was heard by Judges Stephen Reinhardt, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit; Karen Nelson Moore, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit; and Myron H. Thompson, U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Alabama.

- Winner: **John Harabedian & Sina Kian**, Stanford Law School
- Runner-Up: **Marjorie Daily & Thomas Fleming**, Concord Law School

Lawyer Chapter Awards: Three of ACS’s 30 lawyer chapters were recognized for their outstanding efforts over the past year.

- Chapter of the Year: The **Bay Area Lawyer Chapter** showed the greatest overall strength in meeting ACS’s mission and goals among ACS’s 30+ lawyer chapters.
- Diversity Award: The **Columbus Lawyer Chapter** made the greatest strides in achieving diversity among its membership and in its programming.
- Network Building Award: The **Kansas City Lawyer Chapter** had the highest percentage increase in membership over the past year.

Student Chapter Awards: Recognizing the best of ACS’s 170 student chapters.

- Chapter of the Year: The **University of Michigan Law School**
- Network Building Award for Continuing Commitment to Diversity: Boston College Law School, UCLA School of Law & Yale Law School

- Network Building Award for Special Recognition for Membership: Harvard Law School, Indiana University Maurer School of Law-Bloomington & Stanford Law School
- Network Building Award for Largest Membership: The University of Chicago Law School
- Network Building Award for Special Recognition of Programming: Boston College Law School, Harvard Law School, Northwestern University School of Law, Stanford Law School, UC Berkeley School of Law, The University of Michigan Law School, UCLA School of Law, The University of Chicago Law School & Yale Law School

For more information, or to contact any of the winners, please contact Chris Cassidy at CCassidy@ACSLaw.org or 202.393.6181.

The American Constitution Society for Law and Policy is one of the nation's leading progressive legal organizations, comprised of lawyers, judges, students and policy makers committed to promoting the vitality of the Constitution and the fundamental values it expresses. The views of the speakers are their own and should not be attributed to ACS. For more information about ACS, visit www.ACSLaw.org.

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