

CHRISTOPHER J. PETERS

The University of Akron School of Law

C. Blake McDowell Law Center

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Professor of Law June 2017-present  
Courses taught: first year Civil Procedure (both semesters) / Constitutional Law: Government Structure / Constitutional Law: Individual Rights / Lawyers as Leaders seminar

Previous Administrative Appointments

The University of Akron School of Law, Akron, Ohio. Dean June 2017-Feb. 2022  
Provided executive oversight of all functions of the School of Law, a public law school with 430 staff, a day and evening division, 16,000 students, 40 diverse urban public university with five degree-granting colleges and nearly 20,000 students. Regularly taught constitutional law, civil procedure, and a

University of Baltimore School of Law

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Baltimore. Associate Dean for Faculty Scholarship, 2015-2017; Coordinator of Faculty Scholarship Development, 2014-2015. Also served as interim dean of the law school from 2013-2014, and

Wayne State University Law School

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Detroit. Interim Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, 2008-2009. School's second ranking academic office. Oversaw all academic programs, including the law school, and the law school's relationship with the law firm, and the law school's relationship with the law firm.



*Christopher J. Peters*

- [Adjudicative Speech and the First Amendment](#), 51 UCLA LAW REVIEW 705 (2004)
- Participation, Representation, and Principled Adjudication, 81 CAL THEORY 185 (2002) (peerreviewed)
- [Persuasion: A Model of Majoritarianism as Adjudication](#), 96 NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY LAW REVIEW 1 (2001)
- Federalism and Two Conceptions of Rights, 47 WAYNE LAW REVIEW 945 (2001) (symposium contribution)
- [Assessing the New Judicial Minimalism](#), 100 COLUMBIA LAW REVIEW 1454(2000)
- [Outcomes, Reasons, and Equality](#), 80 BOSTON UNIVERSITY LAW REVIEW 1095 (2000)
- [Slouching Towards Equality](#), 84 IOWA LAW REVIEW 801 (1999)
- [Equality Revisited](#), 110 HARVARD LAW REVIEW 1210(1997)
- [Adjudication as Representation](#), 97 COLUMBIA LAW REVIEW 312 (1997)
- [Foolish Consistency: On Equality, Integrity, and Justice in Stare Decisis](#), 105 YALE LAW JOURNAL 2031 (1996)
- Sounding the Floating Lien Creditor's Safe Harbor: "Value" and "Prejudice" Under Section 547(c)(5) of the Bankruptcy Code, 5 JOURNAL OF BANKRUPTCY LAW & PRACTICE 29 (1995) (Part I), 5 JOURNAL OF BANKRUPTCY LAW & PRACTICE 169 (1996) (Part II)

Lawyers as Leaders (seminar)

Other

Teacher of the Year for Upperclass Courses ~~1999~~, Wayne State University Law School (awarded by the Student Board of Governors)

Teacher of the Year for First Year Courses 1997~~1998~~, Wayne State University Law School (awarded by the Student Board of Governors)

Clarence Darrow Scholarship, University of Michigan Law School ~~1989~~ (1992) (full-tuition merit scholarship)

Fisher Book Award, University of Michigan Law School (1989~~1990~~) (for excellence in first-year legal writing course)

Alfred F. Havighurst Prize, Amherst College ~~1989~~ (for outstanding senior honors thesis in History)

## PRESENTATIONS

### Decanal Presentations

Panelist, "Deaning," 2019 ABA Associate Deans Conference, Chicago, IL (June 26, 2019)

Panelist, "The Role of Universities and Law Schools in Advancing Access to Justice," 2018 Society of American Law Teachers Teaching Conf 3tyes

- “Legal Formalism, General Principles, and Judicial Discretion,” Conference of the European American Consortium on Legal Education, Parma, Italy (May 20, 2014)
- “Process, Substance, and Constitutional Rights: The Case of the Second Amendment,” Constitutional Law Colloquium, Loyola University Chicago School of Law (Nov. 12, 2013)
- “Federalism and Individual Rights in the United States,” Conference of the European-American Consortium on Legal Education, Baltimore (May 22, 2013)
- “Originalism, Stare Decisis, and Constitutional Authority,” Faculty Research and Development Presentation, University of Baltimore School of Law (Feb. 12, 2013)
- “Originalism, Stare Decisis, and Constitutional Authority,” Constitutional Law Colloquium, Loyola University Chicago School of Law (Nov. 22, 2012)
- “Constitutional Stare Decisis as Dispute Resolution,” Symposium, Precedent on the U.S. Supreme Court: Theory and Practice, University of Baltimore School of Law (Mar. 28, 2012)
- “What Are Constitutional Rights For?,” Constitutional Law Colloquium, Loyola University Chicago School of Law (Oct. 21, 2011)
- “A Matter of Dispute; or, Law as a Wrench,” Faculty Research and Development Presentation, University of Baltimore School of Law (Oct. 4, 2011)
- “A Matter of Dispute: An Account of Democracy under Law,” Legal Theory Workshop, University of Oregon School of Law (Oct. 27, 2008)
- “A Matter of Dispute: In Defense worse

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- “Constitutional Rights and Reasonable Disagreement” Faculty Forum, Wayne State University Law School (Feb. 1, 2006)
- “Constitutional Rights and Disagreement” Humanities Center Brown Bag Workshop Series, Wayne State University (Dec. 2005)
- “Free Speech and Evidentiary Rules” First Annual Constitutional Theory Conference, Vanderbilt University Law School (Apr. 11-12, 2003)
- “Free Speech and Evidentiary Rules” Brown-Bag Workshop Luncheon, Wayne State University Law School (Apr. 1, 2003)
- “Legal Interpretation and Political Legitimacy” Humanities Center Brown Bag Workshop Series, Wayne State University (Jan. 21, 2003)
- “Free Speech and Evidentiary Rules” Sawley Luncheon Series, University of Michigan Law School (Jan. 8, 2003)
- “The Problematic Political Case for Originalism” Legal Theory Workshop, University of Michigan Law School (Nov. 4, 2002)
- “Adjudication and Political Legitimacy” Wayne State Academy of Scholars Annual Outstanding Junior Faculty Lecture, Wayne State University (Feb. 20, 2002)
- “Persuasion: A Model of Majoritarianism as Adjudication” Faculty Workshop, Florida State University College of Law (Sep. 5, 2001)
- “Federalism and Two Conceptions of Rights” Symposium on Federalism, Sovereignty, and Individual Rights, Wayne State University Law School (Mar. 29, 2001)
- “Statutory Interpretation: A Conceptual Framework” Faculty Workshop, Wayne State University Law School (Oct. 24, 2000)
- “A Double Security ... to the Rights of the People” The Supreme Court as Referee in the Ongoing Federal-State Conflict,” University Forum, Wayne State University Academy of Scholars, Wayne State University (Mar. 8, 2000)

#### Public, CLE, and Similar Presentations

- “Big Pharma vs. Big Government” panelist, University of Akron Health Law Society (Feb. 13, 2024)
- “Roundtable: Tump and the Remaking of the Federal Judiciary,” panelist, University of Mt. Union and University of Akron Bliss Institute (Apr. 7, 2023)
- “The Judicial Protection of Unenumerated Rights” “Doubts” commentator on remarks by Dr. Roger Pilon of the Cato Institute, University of Akron Federalist Society (Feb. 15, 2023)
- “A Constitutional Game Changer? Religious Freedom & a Football Coach’s Right to Pray at the Fifty Yard Line in Kennedy v. Bremerton School District” panelist (virtual), Kent State University (Oct. 11, 2022)



- “Women’s Right to Choose or an Unborn Fetus’ Right to Life? The Past, Present & Future of Abortion Rights in America,” panelist (virtual), Kent State University (Sep. 13, 2022)
- “U.S. Supreme Court Blockbuster Term Review,” panelist, Federal Bar Association, Northern District of Ohio Chapter (July 25, 2022)
- “Toward a More Perfect Union: The Constitution in Times of Change,” Keynote Address, Medina County Bar Association Law Day Luncheon, Medina, OH (May 6, 2022)
- “The U.S. Supreme Court: Constitutional Issues in the October 2021 Term (with a Review of the 2020 Term),” 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Akron Law Winter Institute, Naples, FL (Feb. 3, 2022)
- “The U.S. Supreme Court: Constitutional Issues in the October 2019 Term (with a Review of the 2018 Term),” 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Akron Law Winter Institute, Naples, FL (Feb. 6, 2020)
- Moderator, “Amending the Constitution,” Conference on the 10<sup>th</sup> Amendment at 100: From the Vote to Gender Equality, The Center for Constitutional Law at Akron, The University of Akron School of Law, Akron, OH (Sep. 20, 2019)
- “Recent Developments in Federal Civil Procedure,” 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Akron Law Winter Institute, Naples, FL (Feb. 8, 2019)
- “The U.S. Supreme Court: Constitutional Issues in the 2018 Term,” 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Akron Law Winter Institute, Naples, FL (Feb. 7, 2019)
- “Having Your Cake and Eating It Too: The Supreme Court’s Masterpiece Cakeshop Decision,” Walsh University Law Society, North Canton, OH (Nov. 15, 2018)
- Interviewer, “A Conversation with The Hon. Solomon J. Oliver, U.S. District Court, Northern District of Ohio,” Akron, OH (Oct. 18, 2018)
- Moderator, Federalist Society and American ConsFet Too: . Disonal Is Wa4( )Tj EMC /P <<.S a

- "The U.S. Supreme Court: Constitutional Issues in the 2017 Term," Annual Akron Law Winter Institute, Naples, FL (Feb. 8, 2018)
- Participant, Federalist Society Debate on the Second Amendment, The University of Akron School of Law, Akron, OH (Oct. 4, 2017) (with Prof. George Moscaro (Sthn. III.))
- Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence Second Amendment Litigation and Jurisprudence Conference, panelist, "Applied Challenges," Washington, DC (Dec. 7, 2016)
- Commentator, Federalist Society Presentation, "The Curse of Voting? How the Seventeenth Amendment Has Changed America," University of Baltimore School of Law (Nov. 10, 2016)
- Moderator, "The Law According to Trump: The Executive Branch and Executive Power," University of Baltimore School of Law (Jan. 19, 2016)
- Moderator, Federalist Society Debate, "Rational Basis: A Constitutional Shell Game," University of Baltimore School of Law (Sep. 10, 2015)
- "Citizens United v. FEC," Odyssey Continuing Education Program "Mini Law School," Johns Hopkins University (April 18, 2015)
- ABA Washington Health Law Summit, panelist, "Once More Unto the Breach: The Supreme Court Revisits the Affordable Care Act," ABA Health Law Section, Washington, DC (Dec. 9, 2014)
- "District of Columbia v. Heller," Odyssey Continuing Education Program "Mini Law School," Johns Hopkins University (March 24, 2014)
- "Common Law Adjudication," Clarewood Institute, Baltimore (March 1, 2011) (lecture to visiting judges from People's Republic of China)
- "Highlights of the 2009 Supreme Court Term," Iowa Federal Bar Association Federal Practice Seminar (Dec. 17, 2010) (remote video presentation)
- Presenter, "Student Speech in Public Schools" Symposium, "Civil Rights in Education," George Mason University Civil Rights Law Journal, George Mason University School of Law (Oct. 21, 2009)
- Panelist, Constitution Day Symposium, "Judicial Selection and the Supreme Court," University of Baltimore School of Law (Sep. 17, 2009)
- Moderator, Book Club, Federal Bar Association, E.D. Mich. Chapter, Detroit (Jan. 28, 2009) (discussion of Kevin Boyle, Arc of Justice)
- Presenter, "The Supreme Court," Presidential Inauguration Program, "Legal Perspectives on the Obama Administration," Wayne State University Law School (Jan. 20, 2009)
- Moderator, Book Club, Federal Bar Association, E.D. Mich. Chapter, Detroit (Apr. 28, 2008) (discussion of Antonin Scalia, A Matter of Interpretation)

- Moderator, Book Club, Federal Bar Association, E.D. Mich. Chapter, Detroit (Jan. 22, 2008) (discussion of Jeffrey Toobin, *The Nine: Inside the Secret World of the Supreme Court*)
- Panelist, Constitution Day Symposium, "The Supreme Court's 2006 Term in Review," Wayne State University Law School (Sep. 17, 2007)
- Debate participant, "What Is Judicial Activism in Constitutional Law?," ACLU of Michigan, West Michigan Branch, Kalamazoo, MI (March 15, 2006)
- Panelist, "The NSA Warrantless Surveillance Program: Is It Legal?," Wayne State University Law School/ACLU of Michigan, Detroit (Feb. 13, 2006)
- Presenter, The Qualifications of a Supreme Court Nominee, Federalist Society Brown-Bag Lunch Series, Wayne State University Law School (Nov. 30, 2005)
- Presenter, Free Speech and the Right of Privacy in Public High Schools, Oakland County Bar Association Youth Law Conference, Troy, MI (Apr. 2005)
- Panelist, "The Crosswhite Case: A Judge's Dilemma over the Rule of Law," Wayne State University Law School (Nov. 17, 2004)
- Presenter, Free Speech and the Right of Privacy in Public High Schools, Oakland County Bar Association Youth Law Conference, Troy, MI (Apr. 2004)
- Moderator, Debate, "Gay Marriage and the Constitution," Wayne State University Law School (Apr. 1, 2004)
- Presenter, Symposium, "Perspectives on Michigan Judicial Elections," Wayne State University Law School/Michigan Campaign Finance Network et al. (Jan. 12, 2004)
- Presenter, Symposium, "Blame Canada? Trash in Michigan," Wayne State University Law School (Oct. 29, 2003)
- Presenter, "The First and Fourth Amendments," Oakland County Bar Association Youth Law Conference, Troy, MI (Apr. 2003)
- Presenter, "The First and Fourth Amendments," Oakland County Bar Association Youth Law Conference, Troy, MI (Apr. 2002) (with Robert Sedler)
- Moderator, Faculty Fellows Conference, Session Humanities Center, Wayne State University (February 23, 2002)
- Presenter, "The First and Fourth Amendments," Oakland County Bar Association Youth Law Conference, Troy, MI (Apr. 2001) (with Robert Sedler)
- Symposium on Federalism, Sovereignty, and Individual Rights, Wayne State University Law School (March 29, 2001)
- Presenter, Symposium, "Darwinism and Public Education," Wayne State University (Jul. 21, 1999)





[Trump nominates University of Akron prof for judgeship](#), *Opinion's Cleveland Business* (Sep. 29, 2017) (quoted)

[Trump's List](#), *Baltimore Afro-American* (May 20, 2016) (op ed)

[Kentucky county clerk Kim Davis is Martin Luther King Jr.](#), *Baltimore Afro-American* (Sep. 16, 2015) (op ed)

Overrule the Supreme Court on campaign finance reform, *Baltimore Sun* (Jul. 6, 2011) (op ed)

Misusing "marketplace of ideas": The Supreme Court may have damaged that metaphor beyond repair, *National Law Journal* (Feb. 22, 2010) (op ed)

Silly linguistic games: Let's drop the name-calling and recognize that judges do make law, and their "personal preferences" play a role, *National Law Journal* (Jun. 8, 2009) (op ed)

Should the president be removed from office? Pro: Clinton deserves firing for violating public trust and constitutional duties, *Detroit News* (Jan. 10, 1999) (op ed)

Clinton perverts Constitution to save his own political skin, *Detroit News* (Dec. 24, 1998) (op ed)

Public opinion should play a role in impeachment procedure, *Detroit Free Press* (Sep. 24, 1998) (op ed)

Cure for Watergate excess has created a new plague, *Detroit Free Press* (Jan. 27, 1998) (op ed)

#### Broadcast Media

Fox 45 News, WBFF TV, Baltimore (Aug. 16, 2013)  
Interviewed on camera regarding Obama plan to impose net neutrality fees

The Nancy Skinner Show, WDTW AM 1310 radio, Detroit (Nov. 16, 2005)  
Commentator on constitutional status of "In God We Trust" on currency

The Nancy Skinner Show, WDTW AM 1310 radio, Detroit (Sep. 7, 2005)  
Commentator on Rehnquist legacy and John Roberts nomination

The Nancy Skinner Show, WDTW AM 1310 radio, Detroit (Apr. 28, 2005)  
Commentator on alleged religious harassment at Air Force Academy

The Nancy Skinner Show, WDTW AM 1310 radio, Detroit (Mar. 24, 2005)  
Commentator on Terri Schiavo case

Currently Speaking, WDCQ/WDCP public television, University Center, MI (Jan. 25, 2005)  
Commentator on prospects for Supreme Court during second Bush term

The Legal Huddle, i.e. America Radio Network (Feb. 2004)  
Commentator on constitutional issues surrounding same-sex marriage

- Michigan Public Radio (Nov/Dec. 2003)  
Commentator on dormant Commerce Clause implications of Michigan's attempts to restrict out-of-state waste
- Spotlight on the News/WXYZ Channel 7, Detroit (Oct. 7, 2001)  
Commentator on civil liberties issues following Sept. 11 attacks
- The Legal Insider/GPWM Channel 5, Grosse Pointe, MI (Apr. 2001)  
Commentator on electoral college in wake of 2000 presidential election
- Spotlight on the News/WXYZ Channel 7, Detroit (Nov. 19, 2000)  
Commentator on constitutional issues implicated by 2000 presidential election
- Spotlight on the News/WXYZ Channel 7, Detroit (Feb. 7, 1999)  
Commentator on presidential impeachment trial

## SERVICE

### Boards and Organizations

- Supreme Court of Ohio  
Member, Commission on Certification of Attorneys as Specialists (2012-present)
- Association of American Law Schools  
Member, Planning Committee for the Workshop Appointments Committees (2021-present)
- Ohio State Bar Association  
Member, Deans and Practitioners Advisory Council (2017-2022)  
Member, Public Policy Coalition (2020-present)
- Akron Bar Association  
Member(ex officio), Board of Directors(2019-2022)
- Federal Bar Association, Northern District of Ohio Chapter  
Member (ex officio), Board of Directors(2017-present)
- Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence  
Volunteer consultant on Second Amendment and other constitutional issues for national gun violence prevention organization (2014-2024)

J&J Const. Co. v. Bricklayers and Allied Craftsmen Local 1, No. 119357 (Mich. Sup. Ct. 2002)

Co-author of amicus brief defending SLAPP lawsuit against union official who spoke against award of city contract to union employer

Sylvester Material Co., Inc. v. Fromham No. 04-40125 (E.D. Mich. 2004)

Co-attorney defending SLAPP lawsuit against /P <</(t)-2 (o) (t)-2 ( /PTT3 1 Tf /P << (c)4 (



Professional Service

Service as Peer Reviewer

Springer (academic books)  
Legal Theory (journal)  
Law and Philosophy (journal)

Academic Service

Grants Received

Fund for Excellence Grant, University of Baltimore Foundation (2015-16)  
Authored successful proposal for \$25,000 grant to support [The Fate of Scholarship in American Law Schools](#) a national conference at UB in spring 2016

University of Akron School of Law

Chair, McDowell Professorship Recommendation Committee (2023)  
Curriculum Committee (2023-present)

University of Akron

UA Leadership Team (2017-2022)  
Council of Deans (2017-2022)  
Chair, College of Engineering and Polymer Science Dean Search Committee (2021-22)  
Chair, Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences Dean Search Committee (2020)  
Chair, College of Health Professions Dean Search Committee (2017-18)  
Chair, College of Business Administration Dean Review Committee (2018-19)  
University Council, Committee on Talent Development and Human Resources (2017-2022)

University of Baltimore Law School

ABA Self-Study Committee: member (2016-present)  
Ad hoc task force to review policies on faculty scholarship: chair (2016-present)  
Faculty Appointments Committee: chair (2010-12), member (2009-2010), ex officio member (2014-present)  
Faculty Research and Development Committee: chair (2013-present), member (2010-11)  
Post-Tenure Review Committee: member (2014), ex officio member (2014-present)  
Promotion and Tenure Policy Committee: ex officio member (2014-present)  
Summer Stipends and Sabbaticals Committee: ex officio member (2014-present)  
Faculty Activities Information Management Working Group: chair (2014-15)  
Faculty Scholarship Mentor, 2009-2014  
Academic Standards Committee: chair (2013)

