

PAUL F. FIGLEY

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

Washington College of Law, American University, Washington, D.C.
Legal Rhetoric Program – Associate Director (2006-2019), Acting Director (2019)
Classes Taught – Torts, Legal Rhetoric
Honors – Emalee C. Godsey Scholar Award (for Faculty Scholarship), 2017
WCL Student Bar Association *Faculty Member of the Year* for 2014-15
WCL Student Bar Association *Professor of the Year* for 2012-13

U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

Civil Division, Torts Branch, Federal Tort Claims Act Staff
Deputy Director (1991-2006) - Second in command in office that manages the tort litigation of the federal government.
Prior service in various roles in Civil Division offices responsible for Federal Tort Claims Act, Freedom of Information Act, and Privacy Act litigation.
Honors – Civil Division Award for Dedicated Service, 2005
(One of six to receive this award from among 700 attorneys.)
Two Civil Division Special Commendation Awards
Numerous Special Achievement Awards

EDUCATIONAL HISTORY

Southern Methodist University School of Law, Dallas, Texas - Juris Doctor
Leading Articles Editor, *JOURNAL OF AIR LAW & COMMERCE*
Hatton W. Sumners Scholar
(One of five in class to receive three-year grant for full tuition and expenses.)
Admissions Committee
Franklin & Marshall College, Lancaster, Pennsylvania - B.A. *Cum Laude*
History major, Office of Public Relations, Varsity Soccer (MVP), Varsity Baseball.

PUBLICATIONS

Paul Figley, *A GUIDE TO THE FEDERAL TORT CLAIMS ACT* (ABA, 2d ed. 2018).
Paul Figley, *Defending Government Tort Litigation: Considerations for Scholars*, 13 J. Tort L. 259 (2020).
Paul Figley, *The Judgment Fund: America's Deepest Pocket & its Susceptibility to Executive Branch Misuse*, 18 U. PA. J. CONST. L. 145 (2015).
Paul Figley, *Using Problems to Teach Quantitative Damages in a First Year Torts Class*, 63. J. OF LEGAL ED. 113 (2013).
Paul Figley, *Ethical Intersections & the Federal Tort Claims Act: An Approach for Government Attorneys*, 8 ST. THOMAS U. L. J. 347 (2011).
Paul Figley, *In Defense of Feres: An Unfairly Maligned Opinion*, 60 AM. U. L. REV. 393 (2011).
Paul Figley, *Teaching Rule Synthesis with Real Cases*, 61. J. OF LEGAL ED. 245 (2011).

Paul Figley & Jay Tidmarsh, *The Appropriations Power and Sovereign Immunity*, 107 MICH. L. REV. 1207 (2009).

Paul Figley, *Understanding the Federal Tort Claims Act: A Different Metaphor*, 44 TORT TR. & INS. PRAC. L.J. 1105 (2009).

Paul Figley, *Calls for Justice & "Joint and Several Liability,"* in MATERIALS ON TORT REFORM 89-91 (Andrew F. Popper ed., 2010).

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Torts, Law & Government, Sovereign Immunity, Federal Tort Claims Act, Legal Writing

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Congressional Testimony on “Feres Doctrine – A Policy in Need of Reform?” before the Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Military Personnel, United States House of Representatives (Washington, D.C., April 30, 2019).

Congressional Testimony on “Oversight of the Judgment Fund” before the Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice, United States House of Representatives (Washington, D.C., March 2, 2017).

Congressional Testimony on “Oversight of the Judgment Fund: Iran, Big Settlements, and the Lack of Transparency” before the Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice, United States House of Representatives (Washington, D.C., September 2, 2016).

Congressional Testimony on the “Stop Settlement Slush Funds Act of 2016,” before the Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law, United States House of Representatives (Washington, D.C., April 28, 2016).

“The Federal Tort Claims Act as a Model for Tort Reform,” at the American Tort Reform Assn. Annual Membership Meeting (Washington, D.C., March 22, 2016).

“An Overview of American Tort Law,” at the Embassy of Kazakhstan (Washington, D.C., March 18, 2016).

“Suing the Government: The Ins and Outs of the Federal Tort Claims Act,” at the States & Nation Policy Summit, American Legislative Exchange Council (Scottsdale, Az., December 4, 2015).

“Minimizing Medical Liability Exposure in Clinical Decision Making: A Prescription for Improving Patient Outcomes and Avoiding Litigation” – Panel, at the MedStar Health Legal Symposium (Washington, D.C., June 11, 2014).

“Development of Legal Drafting Skills,” at the Profile of the Judicial Officer Seminar, The Washington Center (Washington, D.C., May 12-14, 2014).

“Creating Better Documents: Planning, Revising, and the Review Process,” at the Dept. of Commerce, Office of the General Counsel Attorney Retreat (National Archives, Washington, D.C., October 13, 2011).

“Ethical Issues in Defending Federal Tort Claims Act Cases,” at the Symposium: Official Wrongdoing and the Civil Liability of the Federal Government and Officers, University of St. Thomas School of Law (Minneapolis, March 17-18, 2011).

“Writing the Brief: How to Write (and Re-Write) a First-Rate Appellate Brief,” at the Appellate Practice Conference of the National Attorney General Training and Research Institute (Washington, D.C., March 2009).

RECENT MEDIA APPEARANCES

LAW 360, May 7, 2021, "Justices' Snub Has Military Rape Claimants Eyeing Congress." Quoted in story about the Federal Tort Claims Act.

Newsweek Magazine, April 21, 2020, "Federal Government Not Liable for Border Agent Who Assaulted, Terrorized Migrants, Appeals Court Says." Quoted in story about the Federal Tort Claims Act.

The Indiana Lawyer, April 15, 2020, "SCOTUS case highlights qualified immunity questions." Quoted in story about the Federal Tort Claims Act.

New York Times, December 12, 2019, "U.S. Troops Could Soon be Able to Sue Over Medical Blunders." Quoted in story about the Federal Tort Claims Act.

Military Times, December 11, 2019, "A dent to Feres Troops to be able to file claims – but not sue – for medical malpractice." Quoted in story about the Federal Tort Claims Act.

Fair Warning, January 24, 2019, "With Smack-Talking Invective, Lawyer Groups Appeal to Public as One Big Jury Pool" Quoted in story about litigation abuse.

Washington Free Beacon, January 23, 2018, "Expert: Suit Against FBI's Undercover Activity in ISIS Attack Faces Long Odds." Quoted in story about the Federal Tort Claims Act.