



**Karen M. Blum**

*Professor Emerita, Suffolk University Law School  
Author: Police Misconduct Law and Litigation*

### **Qualified Immunity: How Public Officials Can Violate Constitutional Rights and Get Away with It**

What are the immunity standards facing litigants who sue police for 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment use of force violations and why do so few claims succeed?

The media rarely addresses the fact that there is a long line of Supreme Court precedent protecting police and public officials from civil lawsuits and as the Supreme Court tilts conservative, those protections are certain to continue. In a post-Ferguson world, public sentiment may change about making public officials accountable for use of force, but our courts are unlikely to do the same.

**Richard A Wilson**

*Gladstein Chair of Human Rights, Professor of Law and Anthropology  
University of Connecticut School of Law*

### **Hate Speech and Hate Crimes in America: How First Amendment Law Could Better Protect Vulnerable Communities**

What does our First Amendment law say about threat, fighting words and incitement to violence, and how might law developed for traditional media be applied in an age of online social media? How might we balance the need to protect freedom of expression (and, importantly, political dissent), while at the same time protecting the physical security of targeted individuals and communities?

**Sheila Hayre**

*Carmen and Waring Partridge Faculty Fellow, Visiting Associate Professor of Law  
Quinnipiac University*

### **Separating Parents and Children at the Border: The Ghost of the Flores Settlement Past, Present, and Future**

In 2014, when faced with an influx of almost 70,000 unaccompanied minors crossing the southwest border into the U.S., and nearly as many parents arriving with young children, the Obama Administration adopted a policy of detaining families together without the possibility of release, creating “family detention centers” in Texas and Pennsylvania. Immigrant rights advocates successfully challenged this policy based on the Flores Settlement, a court-ordered agreement dating back to 1997 which regulates the release and placement of immigrant children. In the aftermath of the Trump Administration’s separations of children and parents at the border, opposing sides are again fighting over the contours and the longevity of the Flores Settlement. Pro-immigrant groups have won some recent battles, but who will win the war?

***The Connecticut Association of Schools in conjunction with the American Board of Trial Advocates is offering a unique experience for social studies teachers throughout the state in this day-long program.***



American Board  
of Trial Advocates

# SCHEDULE

- 8:00-8:30**      **Breakfast and Registration**
- 8:30-8:45**      **Welcome by CAS and ABOTA representatives**
- 8:45-10:45**      ***Qualified Immunity: How Public Officials Can Violate Constitutional Rights and Get Away with It***
- 10:45-11:00**      **Break**
- 11:00-12:15**      ***Hate Speech and Hate Crimes in America: How First Amendment Law Could Better Protect Vulnerable Communities***
- 12:15-1:15**      **Lunch**
- 1:15-2:15**      ***Separating Parents and Children at the Border: The Ghost of the Flores Settlement Past, Present, and Future***

A continental breakfast and a light lunch will be provided.

