March 2, 2016

The Life & Legacy of Justice Antonin Scalia: A Panel Discussion Hosted by Dean Ruger

Time: 12:00pm
Location: Gifts 213, Kushner Classroom

On February 13, 2016, the legal world was shocked to learn of the passing of one of the finest minds to grace the halls of the Supreme Court. Justice Scalia was a larger-than-life figure. Born in Trenton, New Jersey, Justice Scalia attended Harvard Law School. He then made his way through academia, teaching at UVA and Chicago. In 1982, he was appointed to the U.S. Court of the Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. Finally, President Reagan elevated him to the Supreme Court where he remained until his death. Almost single-handedly, Justice Scalia reintroduced formalism and judicial minimalism, calling for the courts to interpret the Constitution according to its original public meaning. He also emphasized that judges should seek to apply the law according to the written text, not vague ideas of the legislature’s purpose. As Justice Kagan noted, Justice Scalia’s “views on textualism and originalism, his views on the role of judges in our society, on the practice of judging, have really transformed the terms of legal debate in this country.”

However, what will the long-term impact of Justice Scalia’s time on the Court be? How will the transformation of the legal debate continue to unfold absent his guidance? Please join the Federalist Society and Dean Ruger for a panel discussion on the life and legacy of Justice Scalia.

Lunch will be served.