March 24, 2016


Time: 4:30pm - 7:00pm
Location: Gokin 100, Michael A. Fitzs Auditorium

Penn Law will host its first government and public affairs symposium, Is Government Broken?, on March 24-25, 2016. This is the inaugural symposium of law school’s new Model Initiative on Government and Public Affairs as well as of the student-run Journal of Law and Public Affairs. Today, federal, state, and local government face major questions about effectiveness, capacity, and legitimacy. This symposium will bring together leading scholars and thought leaders to discuss the current state of governmental performance in the United States and possible avenues for improvement.

Thursday Keynote Address: Kasim Reed, Mayor of Atlanta

Co-sponsored by the Penn Program on Regulation, the Penn Wharton Public Policy Initiative, and the Fels Institute of Government, the symposium will open on Thursday afternoon with a keynote address by Mayor Kasim Reed of Atlanta. On Friday, March 25th, the symposium will feature panels of leading experts addressing four major questions: (1) Does democracy work? (2) is the rule of law out of control? (3) Is government failing to solve problems? and (4) Is it time to re-assess government’s legitimacy? The symposium aims to promote thoughtful and interactive discussion on some of the most vital questions facing society today.

Registration: https://upenn.co1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_2nqmbvyljnpbl81gV

Symposium speakers include Cary Coglianese (University of Pennsylvania Law School), John Dilulio (University of Pennsylvania), Cristie Ford (University of British Columbia), James Gibson (Washington University In St. Louis), Anna Greenberg (Greenberg Quinlan Rosner Research), Lani Guinier (Harvard Law School), John Hollway (University of Pennsylvania Law School), Philip Howard (Common Good - Covington & Burling), Sally Katzen (Podesta Group), Rebecca Maynard (University of Pennsylvania), Anne Meuwese (Tilburg University), Diana Mutz (University of Pennsylvania), Eric Patashnik (University of Virginia), Nathaniel Persily (Stanford Law School), Kasim Reed (Mayor of Atlanta), Richard Revesz (NYU School of Law), Peter Schuck (Yale Law School), Rogers Smith (University of Pennsylvania).

Sponsored by: Model Government Service & Public Affairs Initiative, Penn Program on Regulation, Penn Wharton Public Policy Initiative and The Fels Institute of Government

This program has been approved for 5.5 total CLE credits (4.5 substantive, 1.0 ethics) for Pennsylvania lawyers. CLE credit may be available in other jurisdictions as well. Attendees seeking CLE credit should bring separate payment in the amount of $110.00 ($55.00 public interest/non-profit attorneys) cash or check made payable to The Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania.

The symposium itself is free of charge and open to the public.
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**Thursday, March 24**

4:30-6:00 pm  Keynote Address: **Kasim Reed**, Mayor of Atlanta  
              Michael A. Fitts Auditorium

6:00-6:30 pm  Reception  
              Davis Student Union
Friday, March 25
Michael A. Fitts Auditorium

8:00-8:30 am  Continental Breakfast
8:30-9:00 am  Welcome and Introductions
Miriam Archibong, Editor in Chief, Journal of Law & Public Affairs
Dean Theodore Ruger, Bernard G. Segal Professor of Law, University of Pennsylvania Law School
Cary Coglianese, Edward B. Shils Professor of Law and Professor of Political Science; Director, Penn Program on Regulation, University of Pennsylvania Law School
John Dilulio, Frederic Fox Leadership Professor of Politics, Religion, and Civil Society, University of Pennsylvania

9:00-10:15 am  Panel 1: Does Democracy Need to be Fixed?
How well is the electoral process working? How serious are the problems of corporate money and other inequalities in campaign financing? Are citizens participating actively enough in both voting and other aspects of the governmental process?
Lani Guinier, Bennett Boskey Professor of Law, Harvard Law School
Diana Mutz, Samuel A. Stouffer Professor of Political Science and Communication, Director, Institute for the Study of Citizens and Politics, University of Pennsylvania
Nate Persily, James B. McClatchy Professor of Law, Stanford Law School
Moderator: John Dilulio, Frederic Fox Leadership Professor of Politics, Religion, and Civil Society, University of Pennsylvania

10:30-11:45 am  Panel 2: Is the Rule of Law Out of Control?
How well is the legal system helping government? Are detailed rules and excessive litigation getting in the way of innovative solutions?
Philip Howard, Chair - Senior Counsel, Common Good - Covington & Burling
Matthew Lee Wiener, Executive Director, Administrative Conference of the United States
Richard Revesz, Lawrence King Professor of Law and Dean Emeritus, NYU School of Law
Moderator: John Hollway, Executive Director, Quattrone Center for the Fair Administration of Justice, University of Pennsylvania Law School

11:45-12:30 pm  Lunch
Davis Student Union
12:30-1:45 pm  Panel 3: Is Government Failing to Solve Problems
Do federal domestic programs achieve their goals? In his recent book, Why Does Government Fail So Often and What Can be Done About It?, Peter Schuck argues that these programs regularly fail. Are claims of rampant ineffectiveness warranted? What are the solutions?

Peter Schuck, Baldwin Professor of Law Emeritus, Yale Law School
Anne Meuwese, Professor Dr., Tilburg Law School
Eric Patashnik, Professor of Public Policy and Politics, University of Virginia
Moderator: Rebecca Maynard, University Trustee Professor of Education and Social Policy, University of Pennsylvania

2:00-3:15 pm  Panel 4: Re-assessing Government’s Legitimacy
Do large and increasing income disparities in American society, persistent concerns about racial discrimination especially in criminal law, and widening political polarization suggest that American society is coming hopelessly apart at the seams? What can be done to reverse these trends and strengthen the legitimacy of American government and society?

James Gibson, Sidney W. Souers Professor of Government, Washington University in St. Louis
Anna Greenberg, Greenberg Quinlan Rosner Research
Rogers Smith, Christopher H. Browne Distinguished Professor of Political Science; Associate Dean for Social Sciences, University of Pennsylvania
Moderator: Cary Coglianese, Edward B. Shils Professor of Law and Professor of Political Science; Director, Penn Program on Regulation, University of Pennsylvania Law School

3:15-3:30 pm  Conclusion

Cary Coglianese, Edward B. Shils Professor of Law and Professor of Political Science; Director, Penn Program on Regulation, University of Pennsylvania Law School

Marlon Amprey, Symposium Editor, Journal of Law & Public Affairs

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Model Government Service & Public Affairs Initiative
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