**2023 Joseph Story Award: Story Chair Remarks**

The Joseph Story Award is given annually to a young academic who has demonstrated excellence in legal scholarship, a commitment to teaching, a concern for students, and who has made significant public impact in a manner that advances the rule of law in a free society. Its namesake, Justice Story, was a prolific scholar, jurist, and public servant, whose sharp legal mind and incredible wit helped guide our nation through her early years. I can hardly think of a scholar today who better emulates Justice Story’s remarkable career than this year’s Story Award recipient, Professor Jennifer Mascott.

Professor Mascott is an Assistant Professor of Law and Co-Executive Director of The C. Boyden Gray Center for the Study of the Administrative State at the Antonin Scalia Law School at George Mason University. Her impressive scholarly work focuses on administrative law, constitutional law, and the separation of powers. She has published in numerous reputable journals throughout her career, including the Stanford Law Review, the Supreme Court Review by the University of Chicago Press, the Cato Supreme Court Review, and the Harvard Journal of Law and Public Policy. She is also the co-author of *Administrative Law: Cases and Materials* for the 2022 annual supplement and the upcoming 9th edition of the Beermann/Cass/Diver/Freeman casebook. Additionally, she is a permanent contributor at the Yale Journal of Regulation’s Notice and Comment Blog and provides regular commentary and frequently publishes in the national media.

Undoubtedly Professor Mascott’s greatest contribution is her immense body of work on the separation of powers. Her most-cited article, *Who Are “Officers of the United States”?*, is an originalist tour-de-force, combining careful use of corpus linguistics and detailed analysis of early appointment practices to uncover the original meaning of our constitutional design. In fact, Professor Mascott was one of the first scholars to seriously grapple with corpora and examine its application to a discrete issue, thus demonstrating that she is a true intellectual trailblazer. Undoubtedly this seminal work reshaped the debate around Article II accountability, and for this reason it has been cited on many occasions by the Supreme Court, federal courts of appeals, and federal district courts. Meanwhile, Professor Mascott’s other scholarship focuses in on equally-important structural constitutional issues such as agency adjudication, non-delegation, and deference in interpretation. In an era where many are reconsidering the role of the administrative state in our constitutional system, Professor Mascott stands at the forefront of the national debate and is a stalwart defender of the rule of law.

Beyond her academic work, Professor Mascott has also exhibited incredible thought leadership within the legal profession and beyond. As Co-Executive Director of the Gray Center, she developed the Article I venture, which provides educational seminars for U.S. Senate and House policy and legal staff on structural constitutional doctrines. She is a Public Member of the Administrative Conference of the United States, Vice Chair of the Constitutional Law and Separation of Powers Committee within the ABA’s Section of Administrative Law and Regulatory Practice, and Executive Committee Member of the Separation of Powers Practice Group at the Federalist Society. She has also testified before both chambers of the U.S. Congress on constitutional issues, and has appeared during confirmation hearings for two U.S. Supreme Court Justices. As of January 2023, she is serving as a Campbell Visiting Fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University.

Professor Mascott is not only a leading scholar, but also a tireless public servant. In 2019, she took a leave of absence to serve as Deputy Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Legal Counsel, and was then appointed as Associate Deputy Attorney General, serving in both roles from November 2020 to January 2021. During this time she argued cases before federal appellate and trial courts. Rare is it that such an incredible mind puts its talents into action, and for her service to our nation we owe Professor Mascott a great debt of gratitude.

Finally, Professor Mascott is a dedicated teacher and mentor to her students. While at Scalia law, she has served as the faculty director for the law school’s Supreme Court and Administrative Law clinics and founded the Separation of Powers Clinic in spring 2022. She has also co-taught classes with two Supreme Court Justices and the former head of OLC, affording students the unique opportunity to engage with these public figures in an intimate setting. Unsurprisingly, she is beloved and greatly admired by her students. Professor Mascott, they say, works tirelessly to serve their Federalist Society chapter and is always available to meet with students in one-on-one settings. They describe her as a “fantastic instructor” and “wonderful person” who “models a commitment to family and takes genuine joy in her profession.” Professor’s Mascott’s selfless devotion to her students is a laudable example that all should strive to emulate.

For all these reasons, and more, I am honored to present the 2023 Joseph Story Award to Professor Jennifer Mascott.