

## Professor Kathryn E. Kovacs

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### Academic Appointments

**Rutgers Law School**, The State University of New Jersey, Camden. Professor. 2011-present.  
Teaching Administrative Law, Natural Resources Law, Environmental Law, and Property.

**George Washington University Law School**, Washington, D.C. Visiting Professor. Fall 2020.  
Taught Legislation & Regulation and Environmental Law.

**University of Cambridge**, United Kingdom. Visitor to the Faculty of Law. Jan.–Feb. 2019.  
Lectured on U.S. separation of powers.

**University of Iowa College of Law**, Iowa City, IA. Visiting Associate Professor. Fall 2015.  
Taught Administrative Law and Natural Resources Law.

### Digital Compilation

THE BREMER-KOVACS COLLECTION: HISTORIC DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT OF 1946 (Emily S. Bremer, Co-Editor; Charlotte Schneider, Research Editor, HeinOnline 2021), winner of the American Association of Law Libraries, Joseph L. Andrews Legal Literature Award (2022).

### Articles

*Introduction to The Bremer-Kovacs Collection: Historic Documents Related to the Administrative Procedure Act of 1946* (Emily S. Bremer, Co-Author), 106 **MINN. L. REV. HEADNOTES** 218 (2022).

*From Presidential Administration to Bureaucratic Dictatorship*, 135 **HARV. L. REV. F.** 104 (2021) (invited response).

*The Origins of Federal Wildlife Regulation under the Commerce Clause*, 45 **HARV. ENVTL. L. REV. ONLINE** 1 (2021).

*Avoiding Authoritarianism in the Administrative Procedure Act*, 28 **G.M.U. L. Rev.** 573 (2021) (invited symposium contribution).

*The Supersecretary in Chief*, 94 **S. CAL. L. REV. P.S.** 61 (2020).

*Constraining the Statutory President*, 98 **WASH. U. L. REV.** 62 (2020), reviewed by Mila Sohoni, *Administrative Law All the Way Up*, **JOTWELL: THE JOURNAL OF THINGS WE LIKE (LOTS)** (Nov. 6, 2020), <https://adlaw.jotwell.com/administrative-law-all-the-way-up/>.

*Progressive Textualism in Administrative Law*, 118 **MICH. L. REV. ONLINE** 134 (2020).

*Shifting Powers in the United States Government*, **PUBLIC LAW**, Jan. 2020, at 25 (peer reviewed U.K. journal).

*Rules About Rulemaking and the Rise of the Unitary Executive*, 70 **ADMIN. L. REV.** 515 (2018).

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*Scalia's Bargain*, 77 **OHIO ST. L.J.** 1155 (2016), reviewed by Chris Walker, *Kovacs on the APA's Waiver of Sovereign Immunity Puzzle*, NOTICE AND COMMENT (Oct. 28, 2016), <http://yalejreg.com/nc/kovacs-on-the-apas-waiver-of-sovereign-immunity-puzzle-adlaw-bridge-series/>.

*Pixelating Administrative Common Law in Perez v. Mortgage Bankers Association*, 124 **YALE L.J. F.** 31 (2015).

*Superstatute Theory and Administrative Common Law*, 90 **INDIANA L.J.** 1207 (2015), reviewed by William Funk, *The APA as "Superstatute" and What Does That Mean?*, JOTWELL: THE JOURNAL OF THINGS WE LIKE (LOTS) (May 16, 2014), <http://adlaw.jotwell.com/the-apa-as-superstatute-and-what-does-that-mean/>.

*Abandoning Administrative Common Law in Mortgage Bankers*, 95 **B.U. L. REV. ANNEX** 1 (2015).

*Hobby Lobby and the Zero-Sum Game*, 92 **WASH. U. L. REV.** 255 (2014).

*Eagles, Indian Tribes, and the Free Exercise of Religion*, 47 **LOYOLA L.A. L. REV.** 53 (2013).

*Leveling the Deference Playing Field*, 90 **OREGON L. REV.** 583 (2011).

*A History of the Military Authority Exception in the Administrative Procedure Act*, 62 **ADMIN. L. REV.** 673 (2010).

*Revealing Redundancy: The Collision Between Federal Sovereign Immunity and Nonstatutory Review*, 54 **DRAKE L. REV.** 77 (Fall 2005), republished in Chinese in 29 **ADMIN. ACTION AND ADMIN. LITIG.** 510 (2008).

*Accepting the Relegation of Taking Claims to State Courts: The Federal Courts' Misguided Attempts to Avoid Preclusion under Williamson County*, 26 **ECOLOGY L. QUARTERLY** 1 (1999).

*Recognizing Gay and Lesbian Families: Marriage and Parental Rights*, 5 **TULANE JOURNAL OF LAW AND SEXUALITY** 513 (1995).

### Other Publications

*Introduction to Symposium on Racism in Administrative Law*, **YALE J. ON REG.: NOTICE & COMMENT** (July 13, 2020), <https://www.yalejreg.com/nc/introduction-to-symposium-on-racism-in-administrative-law-by-kathryn-e-kovacs/> (initiated and organized symposium), *reprinted in* 45 **ADMIN. & REG. L. NEWS** 5 (Summer 2020).

*Opinion: Congress can rein in the power of the presidency by amending 1 single law*, **NEWARK STAR-LEDGER & NJ.COM** (June 1, 2020), <https://www.nj.com/opinion/2020/06/congress-can-rein-in-the-power-of-the-presidency-by-amending-1-single-law.html>.

*The National Defense of Hamburgers*, **AMERICAN CONSTITUTION SOCIETY BLOG** (May 5, 2020), <https://www.acslaw.org/expertforum/the-national-defense-of-hamburgers/>.

*Goldberg v. Kelly*, in **LEADING CASES IN ADMINISTRATIVE LAW** (ABA, forthcoming).

*Fomenting Authoritarianism Through Rules About Rulemaking*, in **THE FRONTIERS OF PUBLIC LAW** 429 (Jason N.E. Varuhas & Shona Wilson Stark, eds., 2019).

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*Did the Dissent in Gundy v. United States Open Up a Can of Worms?* **AMERICAN CONSTITUTION SOCIETY BLOG** (June 24, 2019), <https://www.acslaw.org/expertforum/did-the-dissent-in-gundy-v-united-states-open-up-a-can-of-worms/>.

*Climate Change is the Most Important Issue in Administrative Law*, 36 **YALE J. ON REG.: NOTICE & COMMENT** (June 19, 2019), <http://yalejreg.com/nc/climate-change-is-the-most-important-issue-in-administrative-law-by-kathryn-e-kovacs/>.

*In the Supreme Court: Deference to Agency Interpretations of Their Own Rules*, **AMERICAN CONSTITUTION SOCIETY BLOG** (March 19, 2019), <https://www.acslaw.org/acsblog/in-the-supreme-court-deference-to-agency-interpretations-of-their-own-rules/>.

*A Day in the Life of an Administrative Law Nerd*, 36 **YALE J. ON REG.: NOTICE & COMMENT** (Oct. 29, 2018), <http://yalejreg.com/nc/a-day-in-the-life-of-an-administrative-law-nerd-by-kathryn-e-kovacs/>.

*Getting Agencies Back Into the Game*, **THE REGULATORY REVIEW** (Oct. 29, 2018), <https://www.theregreview.org/2018/10/29/kovacs-getting-agencies-game/>.

Brief of *Amici Curiae* Takings and Federal Courts Scholars in Support of Respondents, *Knick v. Township of Scott*, No. 17-647 (U.S. Aug. 6, 2018).

*Trump v. Hawaii: A Run of the Mill Administrative Law Case*, 36 **YALE J. ON REG.: NOTICE & COMMENT** (May 3, 2018), <http://yalejreg.com/nc/trump-v-hawaii-a-run-of-the-mill-administrative-law-case-by-kathryn-e-kovacs/>.

*Getting Back to the Basics with Agency Rulemaking*, **THE REGULATORY REVIEW** (Nov. 13, 2017), <https://www.theregreview.org/2017/11/13/kovacs-basics-agency-rulemaking/>.

*A Wolf in Sheep's Skin*, **THE REGULATORY REVIEW** (June 8, 2017), <https://www.theregreview.org/2017/06/08/kovacs-wolf-sheeps-skin/>.

### Awards

American Association of Law Libraries, Joseph L. Andrews Legal Literature Award (2022).

Member, American Law Institute, elected 2021.

Fulbright, Hong Kong University, 2020. (Circumstances precluded participation.)

Chancellor's Award for Teaching Excellence, Rutgers Camden, 2019.

Fellow, American Bar Foundation, elected 2019.

U.S. Department of the Interior, Secretary's Outstanding Service Award, 2016.

New Full Time Professor of the Year, Rutgers Law School, 2012.

U.S. Department of Justice, Special Commendation for Outstanding Service, 2001, 2004; Special Achievement Award, 2002, 2005; Outstanding Performance Rating, 2006, 2008, 2009.

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### Academic Service

American Bar Association, Section of Administrative Law and Regulatory Practice.  
Managing Editor, Administrative & Regulatory Law News, 2019-2021.  
Council Member 2017-2020. Co-chair, Diversity Committee, 2020-2021.

Association of American Law Schools, Administrative Law Section.  
Chair 2021. Executive Committee Member 2017-2020.

Rutgers University Senate, Senator-At-Large, 2019-2021.  
Rutgers Law School, Faculty Development Committee Chair 2017-2018, 2019-2020, 2021.  
Career Services, Clerkships, and Professionalism Committee Chair 2012-2014.

### Education

**Georgetown University Law Center**, Washington, D.C.  
J.D. *cum laude*, 1995. Dean's List Second and Third Years.

**Yale University**, New Haven, Connecticut.  
B.A. *cum laude* in Psychology, 1990. Distinction in Psychology.

### Professional Experience

**United States Department of the Interior**, Washington, D.C.  
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management. 2022-2024.  
Supervised all rulemaking by the Bureaus of Land Management, Ocean Energy Management, and Safety and Environmental Enforcement, and the Office of Surface Mining, Reclamation, and Enforcement. Subject matter included renewable energy, fossil fuels, carbon sequestration, and public lands management. Devised and implemented strategies that enabled Bureaus to produce an unparalleled volume of rules while improving quality. Led and coordinated teams of experts from diverse disciplines. Analyzed existing and proposed policy for effectiveness and consistency with Administration priorities. Advised Department leadership. Represented Department in meetings and built partnerships with White House personnel, federal, tribal, state, and local government agencies, industry stakeholders, and the public.

Acting Director, Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement. Fall 2024.  
Led agency with nearly 900 employees and \$300 million budget dedicated to human safety and environmental stewardship of energy development on the Outer Continental Shelf while continuing duties as Deputy Assistant Secretary simultaneously. Managed all aspects of agency operations with a particular focus on wind energy development and oil and gas facility decommissioning. Determined Bureau's response to violations and other situations arising in permitted projects. Applied technical information, risk analysis, and creative problem solving to make decisions. Coordinated issues and negotiated disputes within and outside the Department. Advised leadership on existing and proposed policies and programs. Spoke at conferences and represented Bureau in external meetings. Guided litigation strategy. Shaped external communications.

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Senior Advisor to the Director of the Bureau of Land Management. 2016.  
Managed a rulemaking and production of guidance documents, reports, and memoranda of understanding on a variety of issues, including land use planning, mitigation, North Slope oil and gas development, and sage grouse. Coordinated all litigation for the Bureau. Represented the Bureau in meetings with congressional and White House personnel. Drafted correspondence and communications materials.

**United States Department of Justice**, Washington, D.C. 1999-2011.

Attorney in Appellate Section of Environment & Natural Resources Division. Wrote more than one hundred appellate briefs and presented more than sixty oral arguments in three state supreme courts, two state appellate courts, and thirteen federal courts of appeals, twice *en banc*, in a wide range of areas, including environmental, administrative, and constitutional law, both civil and criminal. Drafted briefs for filing in the Supreme Court. Prepared memoranda for the Solicitor General recommending appellate action. Advised attorneys in trial sections and agencies. Reviewed briefs by other attorneys. Mentored new attorneys and supervised summer interns.

**Baltimore City Department of Law**, Baltimore, Maryland. 1996-1999.

Assistant Solicitor. Litigated primarily Section 1983 cases raising constitutional issues in federal trial and appellate courts. Advised City agencies on constitutional and administrative law issues.

**Court of Appeals of Maryland**. Law Clerk to Chief Judge Robert C. Murphy. 1995-1996.

**Connecticut Council on Environmental Quality**, Hartford, Connecticut. 1990-1992.

Sole assistant to Executive Director of advisory state agency. Analyzed and wrote reports on state environmental policies. Mediated disputes between citizens and state agencies. Participated in negotiations on environmental legislation.

### Invited Presentations

*Regulating Energy and Land Management at the Department of the Interior*, Case Western Reserve University School of Law, Cleveland, 2024.

*Researching and Interpreting the Administrative Procedure Act*, ABA Administrative Law Conference 2021 (panel organizer and discussant).

*Moving from Practice (Back) to Law School*, ABA Administrative Law Conference 2021 (panelist).

*Kagan's "Presidential Administration" After 20 Years*, Conference on Presidential Administration in a Polarized Era, Washington, D.C., 2021 (panelist), available at <https://administrativestate.gmu.edu/events/presidential-administration-in-a-polarized-era/>.

*Executive Orders, Impeachment Procedures*, In Focus with Jennifer Lewis-Hall, PHL17 (Jan. 23, 2021), available at <https://phl17.com/in-focus/> (TV news interview).

*The Future—and Past—of the Nondelegation Doctrine*, Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting 2021 (moderator).

*Trump presses ahead with election court challenges*, NJ Spotlight News with Joanna Gagis, NJTV (Nov. 9, 2020), available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wHQVUUE80qs> (TV news interview).

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*The New Landscape of Administrative Adjudication*, Duke Law Journal Administrative Law Symposium, Durham, NC, 2020 (panelist).

*Impeachment Hearings in the House*, Del-AWARE with Allan Loudell, WDEL News Radio, Wilmington, DE, 2019, available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hGGT0zO0lZs> (radio interview).

*Challenges to Permitting and Siting Energy Infrastructure*, Edison Electric Institute Fall Legal Conference, Philadelphia, PA, 2019 (panelist).

*Managing for Multiple Use in a Changing World*, Environmental Law Institute Master Class, Washington, D.C., 2019 (panelist).

*Recent and Upcoming Federal Court Decisions That May Impact the NRC's Regulatory Program: The National Environmental Policy Act and Administrative Records*, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Regulatory Information Conference, Bethesda, MD, 2019 (panelist).

*Is There a Constitutional Right to a Clean Environment?: Barriers to Judicial Review*, Penn Program on Regulation, Environmental Law Project, Philadelphia, 2019 (panelist).

*Those Crazy Colonists! Separation of Powers in the U.S.*, University of Cambridge Law Society and Centre for Public Law, 2019 (lecture).

*Presidential Control of Administrative Agencies*, Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting, New Orleans, 2019 (panelist).

*Showcase Panel I: What is Regulation For?* The Federalist Society National Lawyer's Convention, Washington, D.C., 2018 (panelist), published as Richard A. Epstein, Philip A. Hamburger, Kathryn E. Kovacs, Jon D. Michaels, and Britt Grant, *What is Regulation For?*, 98 NEB. L. REV. 109 (2019).

*Fomenting Authoritarianism Through Rules About Rulemaking*, University of Cambridge Centre for Public Law seminar, 2019 (speaker); Public Law Conference, University of Melbourne, 2018 (speaker); Notre Dame Law School Faculty Colloquium, 2018 (speaker).

*The Burden of Unburdening: Administrative Law of Deregulation*, Environmental Law Institute Seminar, Washington, D.C., 2018 (panelist), proceedings published at 48 ENVTL. L. REP. 10,767.

*New Jersey Public Trust Doctrine: a Tool and a Warning*, Workshop on Sea Level Rise, Adaptation, and New Jersey Public Trust, New Brunswick, NJ, 2018 (speaker and moderator).

*Reform Proposals for the Administrative State*, Federalist Society Faculty Conference, San Diego, 2018 (panelist).

*Trump's Administrative Abuse and the LGBTQ Community*, Human Rights Campaign Briefing, House of Representatives, 2017 (panelist).

*Managing Our Public Lands for Extractive Uses*, The Federal Land Policy and Management Act Turns 40 Symposium, University of Colorado School of Law, 2016 (panelist).

*Mortgage Bankers: Implications for the Future*, ABA Administrative Law Conference, Washington, D.C. 2015 (panel organizer and moderator).

*Differential Deference*, ABA Administrative Law Conference, Washington, D.C. 2015 (panel organizer and moderator).

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*Perez v. Mortgage Bankers Roundtable*, Department of Homeland Security, Regulatory Affairs Practice Group, Washington, D.C., 2015 (panelist).

*Perez v. Mortgage Bankers: The Justices Answer One Question But Ask Another*, ABA Administrative Law & Regulatory Practice Institute, Washington, D.C. 2015 (panelist).

*Religious Freedoms of Native Americans Following the Supreme Court's Hobby Lobby Decision*, D.C. Bar Event, Washington, D.C. 2014 (panelist).

*Interpreting the APA—Text and Common Law*, ABA Administrative Law Conference, Washington, D.C. 2014 (panel organizer and discussant).

*Eagles, Indian Tribes, and the Free Exercise of Religion*, Chancellor's Faculty Research Day, Rutgers University, Camden, 2014 (speaker); Rutgers Department of Human Ecology Speaker Series, 2014 (speaker).

*Eagles and Religion*, N.Y.U. First Amendment and Animal Law Workshop, 2010 (speaker).

*Strategic Environmental Planning for the Department of Defense*, U.S. Navy Advanced Environmental Law course, Washington, D.C., 2005 (speaker).

*Federal Sovereign Immunity*, Marine Corps Environmental Conference, San Diego, 2005 (speaker).

*Jurisdictional Issues in Takings Litigation*, Georgetown University Law Center Conference on Litigating Regulatory Takings Claims, Miami, 2001 (speaker).

### Workshops

*Interpreting the Administrative Procedure Act*, Law & Governance, Twitter (2023) (commentator).

*The Antifascist Roots of Presidential Administration*, Law & Governance, Clubhouse (2021) (commentator).

*Presidential Administration and Political Polarization*, George Mason University, Washington, D.C. 2021 (presenter and commentator).

*Constraining the Statutory President*, Administrative Law New Scholarship Roundtable, Madison, WI, 2019; Rutgers Law School Faculty Colloquium, Newark, NJ, 2019.

*Congressional Administration of Foreign Policy*, New Voices in Administrative Law, Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting, New Orleans, 2019 (commentator).

*Administrative Common Law and Agency Exceptionalism*, New Voices in Administrative Law, Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting, San Diego, 2018 (commentator).

*Rules About Rulemaking and the Rise of the Unitary Executive*, Climate Change Works in Progress Conference, University of Oregon, 2017.

*Scalia's Bargain*, Big Ten Junior Scholars Conference, Indiana University Maurer School of Law, 2015; Ohio State Faculty Summer Workshop, Moritz College of Law, 2015; Legislation: New Voices, Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting, New York City, 2016; Rutgers Law Junior Faculty Colloquium, 2016.

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*Hobby Lobby and the Zero-Sum Game*, Junior Environmental Law Professor Workshop, American University Washington College of Law, 2014.

*Superstatute Theory and Administrative Common Law*, NYC-Area Junior Faculty Colloquium, Fordham Law School, 2012; Rutgers Law Junior Faculty Colloquium, 2013; Developing Ideas Workshop, University of Kentucky College of Law, 2013; Junior Environmental Law Professor Workshop, American University Washington College of Law, 2013; New Voices in Administrative Law, Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting, New York City, 2014; Environmental Law Workshop, University of Denver Sturm College of Law, 2014.

*Eagles, Indian Tribes, and the Free Exercise of Religion*, Junior Environmental Law Professor Workshop, American University Washington College of Law, 2012; New Scholars Workshop, Southeast Association of Law Schools Annual Conference, Amelia Island, Florida, 2012; Colloquium on Environmental Scholarship, Vermont Law School, 2012; Mid-Atlantic Law and Society Association Conference, Philadelphia, 2012; New Voices in Administrative Law, Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting, New Orleans, 2013.

*Non-human Rights and Biological Diversity*, Georgetown University Law Center Environmental Research Workshop, Washington, D.C., 2002 (commentator).

Admitted to practice in Maryland, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Supreme Court.