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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Dear Readers:

The Richmond Journal of Law and the Public Interest is pleased to present our annual fall issue. This issue focuses on the widespread implications of criminal law and procedure and the way it is both affected by and affects our society and its mores. The issue is divided into two parts: three articles written by independent authors, and two comments by University of Richmond Students.

The first article, Jason R. LaFond's *Injury-in-Fact, Justice-in-Fiction: Toward a More Realistic Definition of "Injury" in the Context of Unenforced Criminal Laws*, examines the psychological and sociological effects that unenforced laws have on human behavior. The article questions whether the violation of these unenforced laws merits Article III standing, or whether society's reactions to the often moral violation are punishment enough.

The second article, Lauren Standlee's *Lowering the Bar: In re Van Orden and the Constitutionality of the 2006 Amendments to Missouri's Sexually Violent Predator Act*, examines the constitutionality of the 2008 Missouri Supreme Court's decision in the civil case of *In re Van Orden*, in which a habitual sexual criminal was deemed a "sexually violent predator" and was committed to indefinite sexual rehabilitation, *i.e.*, a potential life sentence, without being found to be a sexually violent criminal beyond a reasonable doubt. The article, while examining *Van Orden* in detail, also paints a broader national picture by examining the stance of individual states and the Supreme Court on such laws.

The third article, Shiv Narayan Persuad's *Eternal Law: The Underpinnings of Dharma and Karma in the Justice System*, broadly examines the historical articulation of religious philosophies within legal frameworks under the lens of the Hindu philosophy of Eternal Law. The article examines the role that Dharma and Karma play in the criminal justice system, and it applies this broad examination to the manner in which Gandhi and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. embodied the

philosophies.

states and the Supreme Court on such laws.

The fourth article, Derek M. Alphan's *Changing Tides: A Lesser Expectation of Privacy in a Post 9/11 World*, discusses how the "war on terror" has and continues to reshape Fourth Amendment privacy values. It examines how natural security interests may reshape constitutional rights.

The first comment, Katie Donoghue's "*You Think He Got Shot? Did You Maybe Shoot Him By Accident?*": *Linguistic Manipulation of the Communicatively Immature During Police Interrogations*, examines the imbalanced role that interrogators possess while questioning a child or a person with limited communication skills. The comment documents officers' training in subversive linguistics and questions whether mandatory video surveillance of interrogations would counteract the imbalance.

The second comment, Hank Gates' *The Chill Bill: The Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2007 and the Forgotten Dangers to the First Amendment*, examines the potential chilling effects that the 2007 Hate Crimes Prevention Act may have on the free speech of certain individuals, who may reserve their protected viewpoints because they do not desire to be linked to a hate crime, however tenuously. The comment examines the overbreadth of the current bill and suggests improvements that Congress may make to remedy the current bill.

We sincerely hope that you enjoy reading these articles and comments in the Fall issue of the Richmond Journal of Law and the Public Interest and will look forward to the forthcoming issues.

Most sincerely,
Scott St. Amand
Editor-in-Chief