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Letter from the Editor

Katie Wallmeyer Payne

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Readers:

The Richmond Journal of Law and the Public Interest is delighted to present our annual fall issue. This issue focuses primarily on election law and the profound effect that it has on our daily lives. It is divided into three parts: two articles by independent authors, two comments by University of Richmond students, and one note selected from the Journal's summer writing competition.

The first article, Michelle C. Gabriel's *McConnell v. Federal Election Commission: The Problem of Eradicating Campaign Finance Corruption* analyzes the Supreme Court's landmark decision about money's corrupting effect on politics. The second, *HAVA's Matching/ID Requirement: A Meaningless Tale Told By . . . Congress* by Nathan Cemenska focuses on Congress's recent attempts to require voter identification during elections.

Chelsea Dunn's comment, *Protecting Virginia's Youth: Establishing a Children's Ombudsman Office* takes a hard look at the recent Virginia Children's Ombudsman legislation and suggests methods for improvement. Jeffrey D. Chadwick's comment, *Finders Sleepers: Why Recent State Regulation of Financial Intermediaries Should Rouse the Federal Government From Its Slumber*, details the current treatment of financial intermediaries in the capital-raising process and its effect on small businesses.

Finally, W. Clayton Landa's note, *Davis v. Federal Election Commission: Constitutional Right to Campaign Finance Advantage*, examines the issues presented by the Supreme Court's review of the controversial "Millionaire's Amendment." Although this note was composed prior to the Court's decision, the issues it raises remain relevant today.

In conjunction with this issue, the Journal hosted an Emanuel Emroch Lecture Series on November 13, 2008, entitled "Hard Questions About Soft Money: Campaign Finance Reform and Fiscal Freedom in Today's

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Economy.” Laura MacCleery of the Brennan Center for Justice at New York University School of Law advocated for campaign finance reform while Reid Cox, Legal Director at the Center for Competitive Politics in Washington, D.C., advocated for fiscal freedom. John Pagan, university professor at Richmond and former dean of the law school served as moderator. The event was well attended by the University and members of the public, with attorneys receiving Continuing Legal Education credit.

We sincerely hope that you will enjoy reading this fall issue of the Richmond Journal of Law and the Public Interest and will continue to check back for more issues in the future!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katie (C) Payne". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Katie Wallmeyer Payne
Editor-in-Chief