

University of Richmond Law Review

Volume 57
Issue 3 *Overlooked America: Addressing Legal
Issues Facing Rural United States*

Article 2

4-1-2023

Acknowledgments

Kelly M. Boppe
University of Richmond School of Law

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarship.richmond.edu/lawreview>



Part of the [Courts Commons](#), [Judges Commons](#), [State and Local Government Law Commons](#), and the [Supreme Court of the United States Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Kelly M. Boppe, *Acknowledgments*, 57 U. Rich. L. Rev. xi (2023).
Available at: <https://scholarship.richmond.edu/lawreview/vol57/iss3/2>

This Prefatory Matter is brought to you for free and open access by the Law School Journals at UR Scholarship Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in University of Richmond Law Review by an authorized editor of UR Scholarship Repository. For more information, please contact scholarshiprepository@richmond.edu.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The *University of Richmond Law Review* is honored to present its 2023 Symposium Issue: *Overlooked America: Addressing Legal Issues Facing Rural United States*. Each year, the *University of Richmond Law Review* hosts a Symposium for scholars and practitioners to engage with a specific area of law. In a time when our country seems more divided than ever, discussions surrounding law and policy frequently diverge not just on political lines, but on regional lines as well. Rural regions of the United States are routinely evoked in the political sphere, but rarely are the problems and disparities that exist in rural America appropriately addressed by policymakers, media outlets, and scholarly sources alike. This year's Symposium aimed to explore these underrepresented and misunderstood regions to foster inclusion of rural communities, peoples, and issues in legal scholarship.

On February 17, 2023, the *University of Richmond Law Review* hosted its first in-person Symposium since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Attending this Symposium was a group of passionate scholars, authors, and litigators who have devoted themselves to furthering discussions of rural law and policy in Virginia and beyond. Mr. Anthony Pipa, a senior fellow for the Center for Sustainable Development at the Brookings Institution and founder of the Reimagining Rural Policy initiative, began the day with opening remarks discussing policy disparities and representation in rural America. The day proceeded with keynote speaker, Professor Ann Eisenberg, who posited the idea of addressing rural America using a commons framework. Other discussions throughout the day included presentations from Professor Henry L. Chambers, Jr., who presented on electoral reform to enhance rural representation; Professor Andrew Block and Ms. Antonella Nicholas, who presented on Virginia-specific policy recommendations for rural regions within the Commonwealth; Mr. Bryson T. Strachan, who presented on the Sackler family's involvement in perpetuating the opioid epidemic in rural regions and their attempt to escape

liability via bankruptcy; Mr. Eric Eyre, Mr. Paul Farrell, Esq., Professor Patrick C. McGinley, and Mr. Rick Mountcastle, Esq., who participated in the opioid litigation panel; Professor Rebecca Tsosie, who presented on governance structures for water resources in the Colorado River Valley; Professor Patrick C. McGinley, who presented on the coal industry's degradation of Appalachian communities; and Professor Lisa R. Pruitt and Ms. Kacey Lee Klein, who presented on the treatment of, and rhetoric surrounding, rural communities in the media.

Many of our presenters also wrote Articles for publication in this Symposium issue. We thank Mr. Anthony Pipa of the Brookings Institution; Professor Henry L. Chambers, Jr., of the University of Richmond School of Law; Professor Andrew Block and Ms. Antonella Nicholas of the University of Virginia School of Law; Mr. Bryson T. Strachan of the University of Richmond School of Law; Professor Patrick C. McGinley of West Virginia University College of Law; and Professor Lisa R. Pruitt and Ms. Kacey Lee Klein of the University of California, Davis School of Law. Each piece is a thoughtful and compelling contribution to furthering legal scholarship representing rural United States.

The *University of Richmond Law Review* expresses its most sincere gratitude for the faculty and staff at the University of Richmond School of Law. First, to Professor Tobias, thank you for your constant support, encouragement, and advocacy for the *University of Richmond Law Review*. You are an invaluable member of our team. To Carl Hamm, thank you for your patience and knowledge in the technical aspects of this Symposium and even more for the support you provide to the Law School in general every day. To Mary Ruth Keys, I cannot thank you enough for the endless help you provided, for your event planning expertise, and for always helping keep us on track with putting together the in-person event. To Leigh Deignan, thank you for your thoughtful coordination of the budgetary needs of the Symposium. To Professor Joyce Manna Janto, thank you for your support and diligence in ensuring our journal secured CLE credits for the event. And thank you to Professor Chambers, not just for your excellent scholarship, but also for being a steadfast and present supporter of our event and, generally, of each and every student as individuals.

My most heartfelt thanks to Volume 57 of the *University of Richmond Law Review*. Thank you to Seneca Tsang, the Associate Symposium Editor, for your responsiveness, your support, and your

incredibly valuable event-planning knowledge—you were an essential part of making this event what it was.

To the members of the Executive Board who were instrumental in publishing this issue: Matthew Brock, Editor-in-Chief, your trust, support, and flexibility have contributed endlessly not just to the Symposium, but to the journal in general. Josh Stenhjem, Executive Editor, thank you for always providing a listening ear when any issues arose this year and for your excellent Excel spreadsheet skills. Kelly O'Brien, Annual Survey Editor, thank you for always being the sunshine of the office and an excellent editor on top of that. Drake Herring, you have kept this ship running this year as the first ever Publications Editor. Thank you for your devotion to your role and for your masterful work. Cassidy Bowling, Managing Editor, thank you for your budgeting help, for always keeping things in perspective, and providing whatever support was needed for the hectic days leading up to the Symposium. Emily Casey, Lead Articles Editor, your kindness and warmth always amaze me—thank you for your support this year and the hard work you always devote yourself to. Ryan Dunn, Senior Notes & Comments Editor, you are truly the life of the office, and your devotion to this journal is unmatched. Bridget Maas, Online Editor, your commitment to your role, to your studies, and to your friends is something I admire—I can't wait to see where you go in the future. And finally, to Zoë Jackson, I am so excited to attend your Symposium next year. I have no doubt that it will be incredible.

I extend my utmost thanks to the staff of Volume 57 for their hands-on work editing the Articles contained herein. I am very aware that this is no easy task, especially when added on to your normal workload as a law student. Your attention to detail, diligence, and hard work is what keeps this journal running, and this book truly would not be possible without your contributions.

Finally, thank you to my friends and family for their endless love and support over the past year. To my family, for always being there and for reminding me where I came from: you have kept me grounded these past three years. To my friends, Taylor Livelli and Anna Claire Wilkerson, for the same. And to Bryson, for being my rock, my inspiration, and my biggest supporter. You never cease to impress me.

The *University of Richmond Law Review* hopes you enjoy the Volume 57 Symposium Issue: *Overlooked America: Addressing Legal Issues Facing Rural United States*.

Kelly M. Boppe
Symposium Editor